

# Smartphones

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TURNING A COMMON DEVICE INTO AN EDUCATIONAL RESOURCE  
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# Smartphones are everywhere!

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[More than 90 percent of adults now have a cell phone](#), according to the Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project. For people under the age of 44, that number is closer to 97 percent.

In 2015, about 64% of adults had a Smartphone, up from 35% in 2011.

Of U.S. adults who own a smartphone, 7% are “smartphone-dependent,” meaning that they do not have home broadband service and have limited options for going online other than their mobile device.

<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/04/01/6-facts-about-americans-and-their-smartphones/>

# Discussion

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How do these statistics from the Pew Institute jive with your knowledge/perception of Smartphone access/use in your student population?

Is access an issue?



# Increasing access

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Eligible students can acquire a Smartphone through various government sponsored programs, such as Lifeline

Typically, a student would have to demonstrate need through one of the following:

- Federal Public Housing Assistance or Section 8
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Medicaid
- National School Lunch Program's free lunch program
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

<http://smartprepaidcellphones.com/free-government-smartphones/Criteria> to be eligible for a free government Smartphone

# Pros and cons

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## Pros

- Obviously, they get a phone!
- Access to voice mail, call waiting, caller ID, text messaging
- Ability to use the device for multiple purposes

## Cons

- Application process, usually through one of the government cell phone providers such as Assurance Wireless, ReachOut, SafeLink
- Limits on the number of free talk minutes and text messages
- Limits on choice of phones
- Coverage area and roaming fees
- Possible other restrictions

<http://smartprepaidcellphones.com/free-government-cell-phones/>

# Discussion

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How do you use your mobile device?

How has it changed your behavior—what can you do now that you couldn't do before owning a Smartphone?



# How are Smartphones being used?

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- Text messaging
- Voice/video calls
- Internet
- Email
- Social networking
- Take photos/video
- News
- Watching video
- Games
- Maps
- Music



<http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/04/01/6-facts-about-americans-and-their-smartphones/>

# What are your concerns about letting Smartphones in your classrooms?

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- Devices ringing, chirping or other annoying sounds
- Bored students tune out
- Technology a distraction
- Cheating





# What are the potential positives?

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- Engagement
- Relevance
- Background knowledge
- Just in time, not just in case learning
- Explore sophisticated concepts
- By-pass some literacy issues (visual, touchscreen driven)
- Personalize learning
- Creativity
- Collaboration

# There's an app for that

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Communication tool

Organizational/ Productivity tool

Assessment tool

Assistive technology

Window on the world-access to content



***\*Many of these categories overlap!!!***

***PLEASE BE WILLING TO SHARE YOUR FAVORITES AND EXPERIENCES AS WE LOOK AT SOME  
OPTIONS***

# Communication tool

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Communication implies back and forth interchange

Address concerns about privacy, boundaries, appropriate use

Students can speak to the teacher or each other (live, real-time)

Facetime <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204380>

Texting

ClassParrot <http://classparrot.com/>

Blogs (for feedback)

Twitter (create, consume, reply) <https://twitter.com/?lang=en>

Voicethread <http://voicethread.com/>

# Collaboration tool

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Google Docs <https://www.google.com/drive/?authuser=0>

Class Wiki <http://www.wikihow.com/Start-a-Wiki>

Class Facebook page

Padlet <https://padlet.com/>

Today's Meet <https://todaysmeet.com/>



# Organizational/productivity tool

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Remind 101 <https://www.remind.com/>

RE.minder <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/re.minder/id395529341?mt=8>

Dropbox <https://www.dropbox.com/>

Evernote <https://evernote.com/?var=c>

MyWritingSpot <http://www.mywritingnook.com/iphone>

Nature Music <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/nature-music-helps-to-relax/id409754239?mt=8>

PocketLife Calendar <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/pocketlife-calendar/id352743549?mt=8>

Calculator, stopwatch, timer apps



**Dropbox**



**EVERNOTE®**

# Assessment tool

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Polleverywhere <https://www.polleverywhere.com/>

eClicker Polling System

Socrative <http://socrative.com/>



**Poll Everywhere**

# Assistive technology

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Voice recorder (built in or app: <http://www.androidauthority.com/best-voice-recorder-apps-for-android-615332/>)

Google Translate <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/google-translate/id414706506?mt=8>

Dragon Dictation <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/dragon-dictation/id341446764?mt=8>

iTalk recorder <https://griffintechnology.com/us/italk-premium>



# Content

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## The World Wide Web!

- Need to address searching strategies and reliability of information

YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/>

News Services (broadcast, print media)

Content specific sites (experts, authorities)

- Discovery Education <http://www.discoveryeducation.com/>
- Smithsonian Museums <http://www.si.edu/>
- Library of Congress <https://www.loc.gov/>
- National Geographic <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>
- Various online encyclopedias, almanacs
- Wikipedia (with appropriate cautions) <https://www.wikipedia.org/>
- TED.com (thought-provoking) <https://www.ted.com/talks>





# Issues to resolve

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## Access/equity

- Do students have or can get access to a device?
- Can they share?
- Are there any data use issues? How much of your student's data will you use?

## A signal/network connectivity

- Will students be able to get a reliable signal? -reception
- Is the service sufficient for the task? –bandwidth, speed/load

## Keeping it academic/rules

- Is there a policy, set of shared expectations or contract for acceptable and unacceptable use of the devices?
- How will this be enforced?
- Will classes have a designated “no-use” time?

# Reflection

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Take stock of your own beliefs about Smartphones: are they an asset or liability?

Think about students' experiences with Smartphones: they need to see them as an educational tool not just social

Be creative about using devices and connecting

Don't let fears or lack of experience hold you back: wonderful opportunity to model learning together skills



# Questions and Feedback

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Please take a few minutes to provide feedback on this session:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ECAAdultEd1516>

Sign up for other technology, GED Science, GED Social Studies and teacher evaluation workshops at [www.edadvance.org/atdn](http://www.edadvance.org/atdn)

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