S. Hayes Oakley
Eastport South Manor School District
Art, Grades K-12
App: 30 Hands

CCLS Standard Addressed:

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.4
Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.6
Use technology, including the Internet, to produce and publish writing and to interact and collaborate with others.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.7
Conduct short as well as more sustained research projects based on focused questions, demonstrating understanding of the subject under investigation.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.CCRA.W.9
Draw evidence from literary or informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research.

CCSS.ELA-Literacy.W.9-10.3c Use a variety of techniques to sequence events so that they build on one another to create a coherent whole.

Website/Location of App:

Found on I-tunes App Store.   App = Free.

Description of App:

30 Hands is an application that allows you to create and organize a slideshow and then record audio narration over each slide. You can also add animated annotations over each slide, or you can use the program to make stop motion videos.

For your slideshow, you can either take pictures directly with the i-pad, itself, or you can upload images from your camera roll. You can also draw slides from scratch with basic drawing tools. These same tools allow you to edit existing photos in the slideshow.

Incorporation of App into the Classroom:

In art class, 30 Hands can be used in a variety of ways.   For example, the app can be used to showcase student artwork. The students can record their voices over each slide, perhaps explaining their process or giving information about the piece.

Teachers or students can use the app in lieu of PowerPoint to give an oral/visual presentation on any subject.   The motivation of using this app is the integration of technology in combination with the fun of recording one's voice in order to present information in a new way.

In my class I used 30 hands for an art history presentation. After using the Internet to research a list of iconic artists from art history, each student chose an artist to focus on. Once they chose their mentor artist, they created a piece of art utilizing that artist's style or preferred subject matter. We took pictures of their completed projects with the I-pad. The students also used the I-pad to upload images from the web: photos of their artists, their artists' work, and other related images to inform viewers about their chosen artists. All of these were added to the slideshow.   In the slideshow, we grouped the artist-related images to the students' original art pieces.   We put all of the images in chronological order. The students were then able to voice over the slideshow, relaying information about the artists they chose and giving background information about how they came to create their original work based on the artists.

In the past, I may have had students stand up and give mini-presentations on their artists, but the incorporation of 30 Hands allowed us to organize all of the disparate artwork into one single presentation as a singular final showcase of the project.

One difficulty of using the app is that it is challenging to move around and reorganize the sequence of slides. One simple part of using this app is that you can easily edit the voiceover part of the slideshow, and each slide maintains its audio file even after moving all of the slides around.