

ShowMe app

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2. District: William Floyd School District
3. Grade: 9-12
4. Subject: English
5. CCLS Standard Addressed: 9-10.SL.4, 9-10.SL.5, 9-10.SL.6
6. Website/Location of app: <http://www.showme.com/>
<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/showme-interactive-whiteboard/id445066279?mt=8> (iTunes app store link)

7. Description of application: *ShowMe is a very simple 'whiteboard'-type app that allows students to record a presentation quickly and easily: just find/upload an image, then add audio and text, and save. The projects can be embedded in blogs/websites, accessed through various social media (such as Facebook and Twitter), kept private (accessible only to those that have the link), or made public (viewable/searchable by anyone in the ShowMe community). However, as of now, there is no option to email a finished project; if the teacher is able to project the ipad screen onto the whiteboard, then the project could be viewed that way. The app does not have many 'bells and whistles', but that makes it quick and easy to use. Any standard format image can be used (i.e. png, jpg); the audio recording (using the ipad mic) can be paused at any time and then restarted seamlessly. Any stylus that works with an ipad can be used to draw on the image and there is a basic choice of colors and pen widths. The length of the recording is unlimited, though there is no way to add additional images to the file; you need to start a new ShowMe. Another drawback is that there is no way to edit your 'ShowMe', so you need to have a good plan/notes going into the recording process.*

8. Incorporation explanation: *Students can use the app to demonstrate understanding -- of a text or image -- via a multi-media presentation. For example, CCLS recommends the use of close reading in order to aid in the comprehension of complex text -- instead of just a written response, the student can verbally explain their thinking as they annotate the text in real time. Students can be 'teachers' of material, explaining the reasoning behind their responses. Collaboration is also easily incorporated as the screen can record multiple voices and pen strokes concurrently. Since the basis of the ShowMe is an accessible image, students have freedom to create their own image, find a common use image, or take a photo with the ipad camera. Once the app is downloaded, no other equipment/tools are necessary, making its use quick and easy. Basic annotation/explanation of a text after a close reading is one way this app could be used; however, there are many other possibilities: how about discussing the plot of Romeo and Juliet as if it were a football play -- diagramming the various offensive and defensive plays the characters employ and showing the evolving relationships? ShowMe could also be a great way to show thinking as thoughts are evolving -- a teacher could supply a student with a problem which they could grapple with as the app is recording their thought process (something that is hard to get access to in a usual classroom setting). Lastly, it is also a way to 'flip' a classroom, albeit in a very simple/basic format.*