

# Telling Our Stories... Literacy for All!

iPad Webinar Presenters:

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During this webinar, we will focus on apps that promote/support literacy skills by targeting shared reading experiences, exposure to print, phonemic awareness, sight word recognition, recall of main ideas and details, and vocabulary development.

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Our main purpose for this webinar is to show how you can create endless activities centered around one theme/book.

The activities will range from before > during > after a literacy experience.

This will become a formula that you can use with ANY theme/book.

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### The apps highlighted during this webinar include:

- Go Talk Now
- Our Story
- Doodle Buddy
- Popplet



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## Go Talk Now



Go Talk Now is an app traditionally used for creating communication boards to help assist those that are non-verbal or have decreased intelligibility. Although this is a great tool for that purpose, we will discuss a feature within this app that allows the creation of digital books.

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## Go Talk Now



- To create a digital book:
  - Add a new book to your communication books.
  - Title your book and select it.
  - In EDIT mode, select the red + sign (lower right corner of the tool bar).
  - Select blank scene page near the bottom.
  - In the lower right corner of the blank scene page there is an icon (shapes) to set the background image.
  - Select an image for that page, then select the icon in the lower left corner to add one or more "HOT SPOTS" with recorded sound/message.
  - Continue until book is complete.

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## Go Talk Now



- Button pages can also be used to make boards that relate to your literacy lesson.
- Text, word wall words, sight words, etc. can be programmed within cells so students can formulate sentences by sequentially selecting cells comprised of text or text with pictographs.
- Students can activate the cells for instant feedback.
- Non-verbal students can use button pages in this app to contribute to a story within another app, Our Story. They can be “heard” as well as their peers are by recording their unique message. An example of this will be featured later in the session.

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## Our Story



- Our story is a free app that allows you to create, read and share a personal story using digital pictures from your iPad's camera roll.
- You can also recreate a favorite book digitally with this app.
- You can add sound/voice and text to the digital pictures. After you create the story, it can be read, printed or sent to others by email.
- If coworkers, parents and/or caregivers have Our Story installed on their iPad, you can send them a story and it will be added to their “Existing Stories.”

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## Our Story



- Getting started:
  - Before starting within the Our Story app, be sure to collect any and all images that you wish to include in your story in your iPad's camera roll (e.g. student photos, photos of an event, photos of target vocabulary items, photos of pages in a favorite book, images of environmental print, etc.).
  - In addition, as the app allows recording of sounds and/or messages, be sure to have any and all tools needed to record. Examples may include pre-programmed single-switch speech-generating devices (SGDs), multiple-cell SGDs, sound effects collected from the internet, and visual supports for students who can relay a spoken message.

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## Our Story



- Create a story:
  - Select (or have students select/identify) pictures in a specific sequential order to tell the story.
  - Click on each picture to type text. Typing the text in real time allows students to work on phonemic awareness, reading of sight words, sounding out novel words.
  - Select the microphone icon to record sound/message. Here is another opportunity to have students read from visual supports and or sequentially select sight words and/or other symbols to create and express a message.
  - Once all pictures have been selected and text and recordings are complete, **SAVE YOUR WORK!**
  - Once a story is saved, you can print, send as PDF, or send to another Our Story user.

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## \*F.Y.I.\* Story Creator



Story Creator is another free app that allows you to create personal stories.

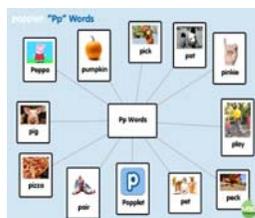
Story Creator differs from Our Story in that it offers more opportunity to personalize a story by changing font color and or adding drawings. Another difference is that text is highlighted as the words are “spoken,” promoting attention to text and highlighting the 1:1 correspondence between the spoken word and text.

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## Popplet



- Note: there is a free version of at the app, but it has limitations. The cost of the full version is 4.99.
- Popplet provides an organized visual support on your iPad that can be used during individual instruction or in small group sessions.
- During larger groups you can project Popplet visual from your iPad to a WhiteBoard.

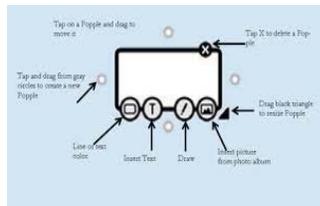


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# Popplet



- Getting started:
  - When creating a popplet you can either draw or select an image from your camera roll.
  - To get started, select the “make new popplet” button.
  - A box will appear prompting you to name your popplet and to select a background color.
  - A new popplet page will appear with one “popple” in the center.

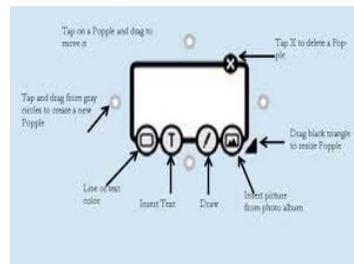


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# Popplet



- Tap once and a toolbar will appear.
- You can change the boarder color, add text, draw or add a photo from your camera roll.
- To add a new popple, tap and drag from gray circles to add a new popple. You can adjust the position and size and shape as you add more popples to your popplet.



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## Popplet



- Examples of Poppets that will promote/support literacy skills include:
  - Pre-lesson brainstorming comments about the book's topic/theme
  - Post-lesson inclusion of additional comments
  - Categorizing
  - Building word webs
  - Phonemic awareness
  - Rhyming/word families centered on a key word in a story
  - Recall of main idea and/or details
  - Visual support for recipes during cooking activities

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## Popplet



- Accommodations for students who are non-verbal communicators include creation and use of communication boards, pre-programmed SGDs (such as Go Talk Now on the iPad or other devices) to assist them in participating and making comments related to the topic.
- To promote initiation of comments from AAC users, try having them “race” peers to see who can relay their message first. They love seeing their comment projected after they use their “voice,” especially before the verbal students in the classroom have the chance to blurt out their comments.

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## Popplet



- It is noteworthy that Popplet may not involve “bell and whistles,” as it does not offer sound or recording of sounds/messages, nor does it offer moving pictures... But, students are engaged with and reinforced by seeing their ideas “come to life” before their eyes.
- Popplet also allows more flexibility than a static, paper “word web.” Paper word webs require the instructor to come prepared with all words and/or picture supports that he/she can anticipate the students offering as responses. This limits the possibility to include a response NOT anticipated by the instructor.
- Popplet and the iPad with internet connection allow an instructor to quickly access the internet to retrieve an image of a unanticipated response offered by a student for inclusion in the popplet.

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## Popplet



- Popplets can be easily shared by selecting the “export” button in the upper right corner.
- Select either “email PDF,” or “email jpeg” (picture).
- This allows sharing and carry-over of vocabulary and concepts with teachers, parents and caregivers.

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## Doodle Buddy



- Doodle Buddy is a free app that allows one to draw and/or create works of art using stickers (with sound effects) and background images from a provided library AND from your iPad's camera roll.
- The fun nature of this app promotes student engagement with color and sound.
- Literacy can be targeted with Doodle Buddy through the completion of related worksheets shown as background images that students complete by drawing upon (i.e. circling, crossing out, connecting with lines) or by marking with in-app stickers.

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## Doodle Buddy



- Getting started:
  - Before starting within the Doodle Buddy app, be sure to collect images of worksheets by either taking a photo with the iPad camera or by taking a screen shot of an image from the internet.
  - Open Doodle Buddy and select the "Tic Tac Toe" icon on the bottom, then select "Photos," which takes you to your iPad photo library. Select the image of your worksheet.



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## Doodle Buddy



- Once the worksheet becomes the “background image,” allow students to either respond by drawing (select the “chalk” icon along the bottom) or by marking with a sticker (select the “stamp” icon along the bottom).
- Be aware that the stickers/stamps have sound effects associated with them.



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## Doodle Buddy



- Examples of Doodle Buddy “worksheets” that will promote/support literacy skills include:
  - Comprehension sheets with “wh” questions regarding main idea and details.
  - Recall of details by having students circle items that were covered/discussed in the story.
  - Identification of rhyming words related to the story by having students draw a line to connect pictures/words in opposing columns.

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## Other Apps to Explore

- ToonTastic
- Sentence Magic
- Sentence Maker
- StoryBots Books

