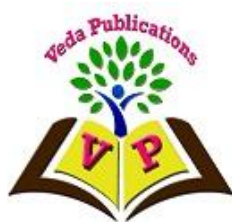


## SMART INTERACTIVE BOARD: CREATING A SMART AND INTERACTIVE FUTURE

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### ABSTRACT



The use of interactive boards in today's classrooms especially in the secondary and higher secondary level is highly important. When students are involved in the learning-process themselves, it becomes a more importance aspect in their lives. Furthermore, when students are asked to design their own presentations, the creativity and the approach is so much different compared to the teachers and can bring new light into the subject. This allows students to do research and gather information in their own way and present as they see it. Interactive classrooms increase the creativity of the students. This paper will research on the use of Interactive Smart Boards in classrooms across the world with the help of research papers, and try to analyze and compare them with other teaching methods. This research paper aims to see how student-centered learning has far better benefits compared to the traditional teaching methods, and that it will have an impact on the thinking and interactions in the future.

**Keywords:** *Smart Board, Education, Student-Centered Teaching Method, Technology in Education.*

An interactive smart board is a new technological advancement made in teaching learning process. After the invention of the Interactive Smart Board in the 1990s, it has gradually made itself into classrooms all over the world. An interactive Smart Board or Interactive White Board is a large display that usually replaces the traditional black-board from classrooms. These interactive boards are touch screens, and the display is given through a projector. Although these boards were initially designed for the corporate world, they slowly made their way into schools and classrooms. Today, over fifty percent schools in Europe use or have access to the Interactive Board. This technological advancement in teaching in time made its way into the East and the Asian markets in the early 2000s and has remained an important part of classrooms in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century today.

The use of technology in classrooms is a fairly new concept. Education was always sacred and there was a certain way to go about in different educational institutions. The first time any type of technology was used for teaching learning purposes, was in the mid-1600s with the invention of The Magic Lantern, which is considered the first projection device. In the 1700s, teaching space were mostly based on chalkboard and textbooks until the use of typewriters began in schools in the late 1800s. In the early half of the 1900s, projectors, radios, headphones and mimeographs (an old concept of a photocopy machine) soon made it into schools and the educational institutions. During the 1970s, the invention of the personal computer by IBM was perhaps the leap into modern technology. The concept and idea of using technology began soon after in the 1980s, when many schools began introducing computers in classrooms for the purpose of learning. By the late 1990s this concept was recognized by many institutions worldwide. A survey conducted in 2011 showed that over 90% schools worldwide had access to the internet and above 60% were using technology in their classrooms.

The question we may pose here is how can students be made more effective with the use of technology and how can it be used as a bridge to the future? The main objective of this paper will be to

analyze data of different classrooms worldwide with the help of already existing research papers and surveys. This paper will see how we can integrate the use technology in classrooms and everyday lives to provide good education to students.

Many schools worldwide still follow traditional teaching methods and take it in a way that technology is bad and should not be used in classrooms. It is safe to say that we today live in the age of technology and the advancements it has made possible in the past decades, we have seen with our own eyes. Today, many research has shown that use of technology is the future of not just education but the advancement of the human race as a whole. The use of technology in the classrooms provides both teacher and student with an infinite number of options in learning and sharing acquired information.

Various papers will studied and surveys will be referred to in order to gather evidence on the use of technology in classrooms. Both the ease of students and teachers will be kept in mind and results will be shown based on these research papers.

In the survey conducted by Ukwueze Frederick in Nigerian Schools revealed that students learning with the smart board scored higher than those that were not. Responses from student and teachers also specified more originality in the students involved in Smart Learning. They were enthusiastic, and undertook more part in classroom presentations. "This implies that the smart board approach was more positive and effective in enhancing and facilitating students' achievement in word processing than the chalk board method." (Frederick, pp. 137)

Similarly, in a study by Nitza Davidovitch & Roman Yavich, a vast positive linking was found between level of clarity and level of curiosity in students involved with technology in classrooms. "The higher the interest the higher the clarity." (Davidovitch and Yavich, pp. 63) In their study, more than focusing on the students, more focus was given to the teachers and their efficiency to teach using a Smart Board. The effects were then measured on the students. They confirmed that there was indeed a positive change in the students and their

involvement in classroom activities. Their research showed that at different age groups different degree of learning took place and if they were involved with smart learning since an early age there was an ever larger growth. This growth mainly took place between 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> standard for boys, and a few years earlier for girls, during maturity. Their research showed that during the time of maturity, the level of understanding was much higher and the students then tried to involve themselves in smart learning.

Fatih Saltan and Kürşat Arslan, in their study reveal the perspectives of the teachers using the interactive boards in their classrooms to teach the students. The focus was given to how the teacher has accepted the technology in their classrooms, the attitude towards the technology, and the ease of use according to the teachers. The findings revealed that the teachers agreed upon the use of Interactive Smart Boards and many more also claimed that it has made things easier than before. However, many too replied that integrating the smart boards and technology in most subjects were very difficult.

The use of technology in classrooms is a rapidly changing trend since more than 90% schools around the world have some kind of technology involved in their curriculum. In regard to the studies chosen above, they reveal three crucial facts. The first, the Interactive Boards helps the students score better marks and maintain good interaction and classroom participation. The second, students become more involved in learning themselves, thus increasing creativity and other skills. The third fact was that the teachers who were involved in teaching with the help of the Interactive Boards, too believed that students were able to concentrate more and performed better than in comparison to traditional teaching methods. The findings of these research all point to positive development of the students and the enhancement of their socio-personal skills and other creative skills when technology was integrated into education.

The studies prove that technology in classrooms have indeed very positive effects, and that all schools should in due time include Interactive Smart Boards in their classrooms. The students who are involved in learning with the Smart Board will be

eager to learn about the device themselves. The students must be allowed to produce presentations and lessons of their own that can be used in these settings. Most often, when the creativity of the students are put into play, the results are simply astounding. When both teachers and students are involved together in the learning process, a well-balanced education takes place as the students are able to establish a bond with the teachers. In the 21<sup>st</sup> century the children are exposed to technology in the form of mobile phones, gaming consoles, computers, and others since early childhood. The child exposed to technology at such a young age tends to stick with technology throughout his or her life. The 21<sup>st</sup> Century has clearly been established. Similarly, the schools and other education institutions worldwide should also integrate technology in the classrooms to teach students.

This research, however, only looks at the use of technology in classrooms and how it is useful for the children growing up to be the future citizens of the world. More research can be done on the impacts or challenges that the use of technology brings out in classrooms or other learning spaces. Use of technology in daily household and offices can also be another interesting topic to base a research on. Also, this research may not be considered valid on several grounds as it looks at very limited number of papers and surveys and thus may be considered not having enough evidence to support said claim. However, this paper does look at the changing trend in education from both the facts of the use of technology and personal experience of both a teacher and a student in recent years.

In this advanced and fast growing community of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, technology has become a vital part of survival. In the modern world, technology and machinery is involved everywhere and in daily activities. Having a technologically advanced classrooms will allow the students who are involved to have an advantage in the future world compared to those who are not exposed to technology in classrooms. In fact, the curriculum of every nation must now change to somehow integrate technology in the teaching learning process since it has become so important. As the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is

clearly the century of technology. It has allowed people to view stars million light years away and will allow people to land on Mars in mid 2020s. technology has come a long way to be an important part of daily life and depriving the children of it would not be a wise decision.

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