Chapter 1

Technology in Education: The History

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ABSTRACT

Education has been the cornerstone of growth and development in our society. Traditionally, parents sent their student off to a brick-and-mortar building where teachers infused knowledge into them. Mathematics, language arts, and science are some of the core curriculum in which teachers taught. However, education is continuously evolving. As we continue to develop as a society, so do our innovations in technology. Many school’s chalkboards are replaced with the newest technology called Smart Boards. Pen and paper is replaced with writing software such as Microsoft Word documents. Instead of physically submitting assignments or homework to the teacher, students now submit their assignments and test through educational software programs such as Blackboard. Technology is redefining the way in which our students are educated and knowledge is obtained. This chapter will capture the different periods in history where schools utilized the technology of the day to educate students.

TECHNOLOGY IN EDUCATION: THE HISTORY

Education has been the cornerstone of growth and development in our society. Traditionally, parents sent their student off to a brick and mortal building where teachers infuse knowledge into them. Mathematics, Language Arts, and Science are some of the core curriculum in which teachers taught (Common Core, 2017). However, education is continuously evolving. As we continued to develop as a
society, so does our innovations in technology. In many school’s chalkboards are replaced with the newest technology called Smart Boards (PLB, 2017). Pen and paper is replaced with writing software such as Microsoft Word documents. Instead of physically submitting assignments or homework to the teacher, students now submit their assignments and test through educational software programs such as Blackboard. Technology is redefining the way in which our students are educated, and knowledge is obtained. This chapter will capture the different periods in history where schools utilized the technology of the day to educate students. It will give a snapshot of the technology used and how it impacted student’s learning.

**Infancy of Technology in Education: 1600 - 1972**

Technology surrounds us and has been embedded in every fiber of who we are since the infancy of society. Therefore, it is not surprising to find technology in our classrooms. To understand technology in education we must follow the path to how technology has impacted our youth’s education. The first schools of our society emerged with English settlers. The school in that time were small wooden structures. These buildings of education allowed students of all ages to gather in one place and promote the spiritual principles that sustained the culture and beliefs of that time. The teachers utilized a technological device known as Horn-books to educate students (Purdue University, 2017). According to Purdue University (2017) the Horn-books were scull made with wood that had the lessons of the day printed on them for the students. Student learned their basic knowledge of the alphabet and their daily prayer (OurICT, 2017). According to Dunn (2011) the horn-book afforded students the ability to visualize the lesson and to reproduce it by mirroring what was seen. This taught the students writing skills. Students also learned their vowels and consonants with the use of the horn-book. This technological device allowed students to increase their knowledge in grammar and reading (OurICT, 2017). The technology of 1600’s, although prehistoric from our stand-point, started the educational revolution and directed the path to innovative teaching devices with the use of technology in the classrooms.

As technology continued to advance, new devices were invented to enhance the student’s educational experience. In the 1870’s the world was enthralled with technology. The latest innovation was pictures seen on a large screen. This ideology of seeing images on a large screen gave way to the invention of the Magic Lantern. The Magic Lantern was introduced into the educational process in 1870. (OurICT, 2017). The Magic Lantern was primordial projector that casted pictures on a glass slide of the lesson being taught (Dunn, 2011). The teacher would control how the slides was projected. The slides would contain the subject information or the topic image and the teacher would teach from the images projected on the screen.
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