

**From print to pixels:  
making the most of  
your digital book**

**MACMILLAN  
TEACHER TRAINING**

***From print to pixels: making the most of your digital book***      ***Age 8-12 years***

Digital materials are becoming more and more common in today's classroom. When used well they can add variety to our lessons and help us engage and motivate our pupils. Here are some activity ideas for use with digital books, and some handy tips for effective classroom management.

**Tip 1: Be prepared**

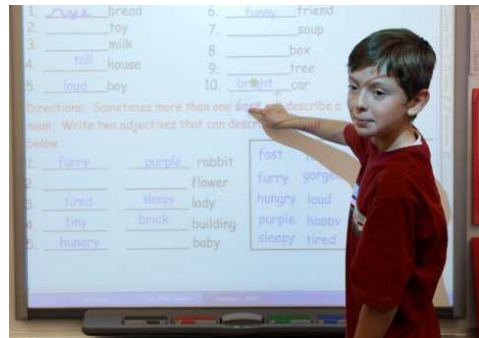
Sometimes your computer can be slow to start up or to connect to the internet. Give your class a task to do in relation to your first activity, e.g. a vocabulary review like pass the paper/mini whiteboard.

Extra: If your digital book is available to download, having it on your PC will save you time and avoid possible connection problems.



**Tip 2: Tell me where to go**

When using the spotlight tool, have the pupils tell you where to move the spot. This way you can exploit the activity for extra language practice as well as arousing pupils' curiosity. Have pupils come out to the board and hand over the teacher's role to vary interaction and make activities more



learner-centred.

Extra: Don't forget the  button which activates the full screen mode.

**Tip 3: Tell it again**

After reading the story, see how much the children can remember by having them re-tell the story with just the images. You can either remove the text or cover it with the curtain or pen tool.



#### Tip 4: Curtain cover

The *curtain*- also called *blind* or *screen*- is a handy tool not only for covering and slowly revealing images but also for guiding pupils when reading a text and helping them focus on individual lines. The curtain is great for working with example grammar sentences or dialogues.



#### Tip 5: Freeze/memory/ flash

The remote control can do a lot more than just switch the projector on and off. The *Freeze* button is handy as it freezes the image on the screen so the pupils can carry on working while you prepare the next activity. Use the *AV Mute* button to flash the image on and off or make it disappear and see how much the pupils can remember.

Extra: Use a digital timer on activities to increase pupils' motivation and maintain a lively pace. You can find one online or in your IWB software.



#### Tip 6: Write on

Use the text tool or if you have a digital board, the pen, to make notes on the text. Good not only for highlighting key language but also for incorporating pupils' ideas or questions into your class, for example, *What do we want to know?*



### Tip 7: Handy links

Have you found some extra online activities for further practice or a handy video to add variety to your class? When planning your class, save a link on the page for easy access.


Extra: Use [quietube](#) to remove everything except the video from a youtube page.



### Tip 8: Screen time

Add variety to working with videos by playing them with the sound off. Encourage pupils to guess what's happening. Alternatively, play the video without the image, perhaps using the *AV Mute* button. You can also ask observation questions to see what pupils notice and remember.



Extra:  is a handy website for recording video presentations and interviews. Free to use and only requiring a webcam, pupils can email their videos to their teacher, classmates or family.



Tip 4: Tell it again


**SHARK**  
Attack!




Tiger Team 3 by Carol Read and Mark Ormerod Macmillan 2013



Tip 8: Write on




5 Lesson 5 **CLIL** Natural Science 

12  Listen and read. Answer the audience questions.


# SHARKS

**KWL**

- Kill people?
- Eat other sharks?
- Live long?
- Come out of water?

**Amazing fact**  
Many fish can swim forwards and backwards. Sharks can only swim forwards!

**Amazing fact**  
Sharks sometimes attack people, but many more people die from bee stings every year. 

Sharks are more than 300 million years old – older than dinosaurs! There are sharks in every ocean, all over the world. There are sharks in some rivers and lakes, too.



Sharks are fish, not mammals. They have got gills to breathe. They have got scales (denticles) on their bodies. Shark scales are like sharp teeth and protect them. Sharks haven't got bones, they've got cartilage. We've got cartilage in our noses. Cartilage is more flexible than bones.

Sharks have also got lots of teeth! There are about 350 different types of shark. They are carnivores - they eat meat. All sharks eat fish. Many sharks eat sea mammals, like seals and dolphins. And some sharks eat turtles and even seagulls.

Some sharks lay eggs and other sharks give birth to baby sharks. Baby sharks are called 'pups'. Sharks don't help their babies when they are born. It is dangerous for a pup in the ocean. Other sharks eat them!

**13 Read and say 'True' or 'False'.**

- 1 A shark has got gills.
- 2 A shark has got lots of bones in its body.
- 3 Some sharks eat seagulls.
- 4 All sharks lay eggs.

**Online Quest**  How many teeth can a shark have in its lifetime? 

Quest 5 by Emma Mohammed, Macmillan 2012

## **Further viewing/reading**

### **online-stopwatch.com**

Digital counter great for setting time limits.

### **quietube.com**

Removes everything except the video.

### **mailvu.com**

Video messaging tool for presentations and interviews.

### **macmillanelt.es/teachers-corner**

A range of lesson activity ideas, articles and videos.

### **bilingualbyme.com**

Great CLIL materials, activities, news and more.

### **lyricstraining.com**

Popular music videos with interactive gap fill activities

***400 Ideas for Interactive Whiteboards***, Sharma, P. et al Macmillan 2011