

Lesson Blueprints: Apps in the Classroom

Lesson Title: Activity/Lesson/Project Ideas

Grade Level: Elementary School

- **Commercials:** Students can highlight a product or idea or promote a social issue through the app character.
- **Newscast:** Students can have app character report on a topic. This is an opportunity to incorporate current events.
- **Character/Famous Person Monologue:** Students can show their understanding of a character from a book/video/article or a period of history by producing a monologue for an app character.
- **Poetry:** Using the app character, students can recite poems they wrote or one they have learned. This is particularly helpful for students who are anxious about standing up in front of a group or English language learners who might appreciate the ability to use many “takes” to get the presentation just right.
- **Stories:** Students can prepare their app character to read a short story they have written.
- **Reports:** Encourage students to use pictures of the person/animal/item they are researching as the character that presents their research. This will also encourage them to create a unique voice for the character.
- **Interviews:** Have students research a historical character and create an app character to conduct the interview or be interviewed.
- **Vocabulary:** Students can create a character that uses/discusses/defines new vocabulary words.
- **Personal Introductions:** Have students create an app character that introduces themselves to the classroom and describes their thoughts on a topic.
- **Famous Pieces of Art:** Ask students to use pictures of historical pieces of art and voice the artwork to interpret their meaning and explain their historical context.
- **Book Commercials:** Have students talk about what the author may have been thinking when they wrote a poem or literary piece.
- **Present politician platforms:** To incorporate current events, have students present a political figure’s stance on a topic through an app character.
- **Posters:** Using any of the apps that incorporate drawing and/or writing, students create a poster or a collage based on the theme being studied.
- **Speaking Flashcards:** This may be helpful for English Language Learners as they put audio clips of vocabulary words with images or pictures of the typed words.
- **Photo-enhanced interviews:** Students create a presentation using audio clips and photos or videos from an interview.
- **Animated short film:** Students write and set up scenes about current events, SEL topics, etc. and then record in cartoon, sock puppet, or stop animation movie.
- **Opinion Pages:** Students use screen shots or photographs of news articles or current events and write their thoughts and opinions.