

Teacher story

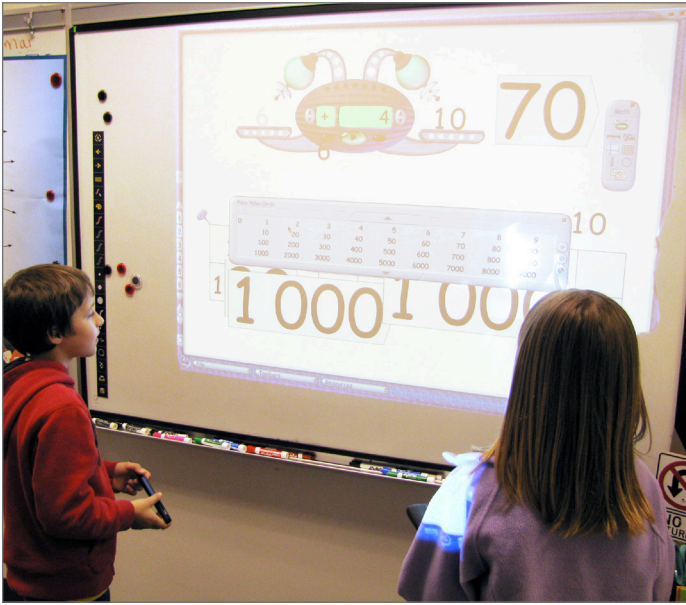
Developing lifelong learners with ēno[®] click

Riverbend Elementary School, Springfield, OR



Developing lifelong learners with ēno click

Riverbend Elementary School, Springfield, OR



The challenge

Third grade teacher and technology integration specialist, Eva LaMar, faced the common challenge of working with limited technology to prepare students with learning and behavioral disorders to meet ever-rising academic standards.

The solution

Riverbend Elementary made the decision to utilize Eva's classroom as the pilot for a PolyVision® ēno™ click interactive whiteboard and Qwizdom® student response system.

The benefits

ēno click by PolyVision increased student focus and participation in lessons, motivating even the most inattentive students to improve their behavior and find interest in becoming lifelong learners.

Overview

Riverbend Elementary School, located in Springfield, Oregon is a high-poverty school with a student population of 500. Eva LaMar serves dual roles as the school's technology integration specialist and a 3rd grade teacher with 22 students. As the technology integration specialist, Eva is responsible for implementing new and existing technologies effectively, and sharing best practices with her peers. As an educator, Eva's limited resources and classroom of special needs students challenges performance to meet increasing academic standards.

The challenge

At the end of the school day, many of Eva's students go home to unstable family environments that are afflicted with drug use, poverty and neglect. The emotional support and structure that her students so desperately need is often lacking at home. Eva explains, "Many of my students' parents did not complete high school. The parents struggle with providing a structured environment that helps their children finish their homework or get enough sleep." She continues, "Several of my students have severe behavioral disorders. Since their parents have not set up or enforced clear rules at home, it is not surprising that those students

act out in the classroom. My students are often so angry at life that they can hardly function in school."

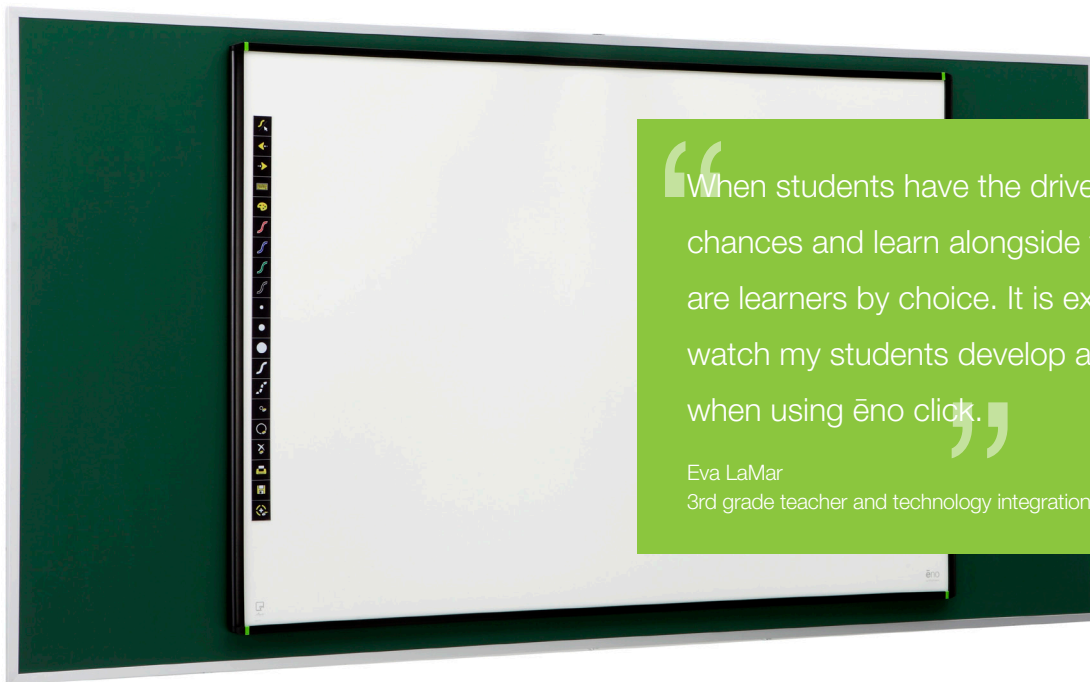
Another challenge that Eva faces is the school district's focus on high-stakes standardized tests that are written far above her students' reading level. Eva says, "Some of my students can't read due to severe learning disabilities. How will they build self-confidence when they are required to take three online reading and math state assessments each year? And, how do I stay enthused and motivated as a teacher when the resources I have aren't working?" She continues, "An overhead projector and transparencies simply do not provide the interactive opportunities needed to engage my students. When you only have access to a laptop for two hours a week, it is nearly impossible to teach a classroom full of digital natives." Combine disinterested, behaviorally challenged students with limited resources and rising standards, and the potential for teacher burnout significantly increases.

The solution

Since Riverbend Elementary is faced with limited funding, the staff was focused on finding a solution that was cost-efficient and simple to implement. Schools can utilize on-site resources to install

Why Riverbend Elementary School chose ēno click:

- Easy to install and move to other classrooms when needed
- Unsurpassed simplicity and durability
- Creates a cable-free, safe learning environment
- Versatility of three boards in one



“When students have the drive to explore, take chances and learn alongside their teacher, they are learners by choice. It is extremely motivating to watch my students develop a thirst for knowledge when using ēno click.”

Eva LaMar
3rd grade teacher and technology integration specialist

ēno click immediately—during the school day—versus having to schedule and wait for costly contractors. Another factor needing consideration was the durability of the interactive whiteboard. They were intent on finding a solution that would stand the test of time, despite daily use in the toughest of classroom settings. The staff felt confident about partnering with PolyVision when they learned that ēno click's Forever Warranty™ ensures the board's e³ environmental ceramicsteel™ surface will last a lifetime. Eva decided to use her classroom as a pilot for PolyVision's interactive technology. Her classroom is equipped with an ēno click interactive whiteboard with RM Easiteach® software and a Qwizdom student response system.

The benefits

When ēno click was installed in Eva's classroom, she was intrigued by the physical simplicity of the technology. By simply magnetically attaching ēno click to the existing whiteboard within minutes, the solution is cordless and wireless, creating a safe learning environment that is free of cables. ēno click enables students with physical disabilities and behavioral problems to successfully interact with the board without worry of tripping, falling, or getting tangled up in wires. Eva was also impressed by ēno click's durability. She says,

“ēno click is as indestructible as any dry-erase whiteboard. The board's ability to endure the continuous wear and tear of classroom use is an important feature because it allows my students to explore without restriction.” She continues, “Since we only have one ēno click in our school, the board's mobility is also a key feature. ēno click can easily be lifted from an existing chalk or dry-erase board and quickly moved from room to room. With limited resources, this ability to share technology is a huge benefit.”

Unlike other interactive whiteboards, ēno click effectively provides three boards in one—traditional dry-erase board, magnetic surface and interactive whiteboard. Eva and her students can transition easily from writing on the board with markers to attaching documents with magnets to interacting with multimedia, without fear of damaging the surface. “The power of ēno click lies in the versatility. I can utilize RM Easiteach's dynamic interface to personalize the learning process based on the various needs of my students. The ability to customize lessons enables me to connect with an entire class of different types of learners at one time.”

To make learning more engaging for the video game generation of students in her class, Eva uses ēno click to integrate interactive web 2.0 tools and applications into lessons. With Google Lit Trips, she

Developing lifelong learners with ēno click

Riverbend Elementary School, Springfield, OR

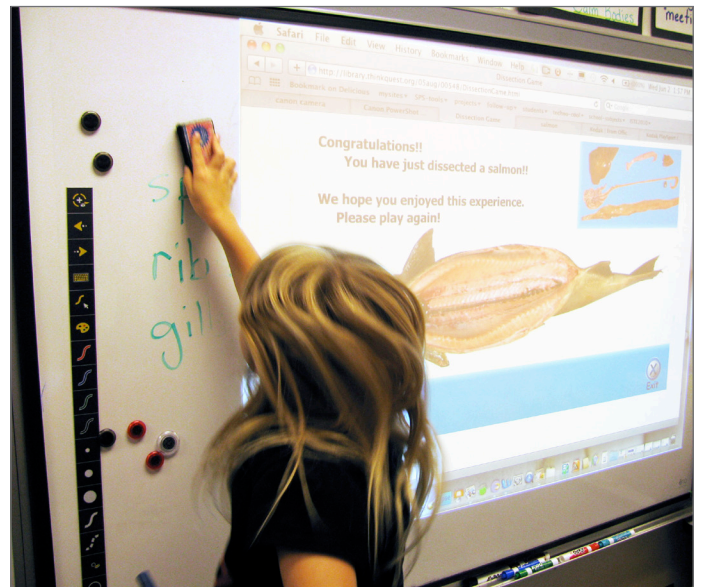
“The board’s ability to endure the continuous wear and tear of classroom use is an important feature because it allows my students to explore without restriction.”

Eva LaMar

3rd grade teacher and technology integration specialist

takes her students on virtual expeditions that pair the exploration of geography with literature. By bringing text to life in full-color imagery, students are better able to visualize the characters and settings of stories. Eva finds that students who were intimidated by reading assignments have a renewed excitement towards literature now that they can interact with it. She said, “We are experimenting with a variety of ways to share interactive learning experiences with ēno click. Our class is currently working on a global collaborative project, ‘Salmon in Peril’, with a Canadian school by video chatting, screen sharing presentations and utilizing collaborative writing tools.” Eva continues, “The ability to share video and images on-demand with a class located in another country is exciting. Students can lead small groups and interact with one another to accomplish a goal. Self-confidence is improving as students gain ownership of their projects.”

Eva has noticed a drastic change in her students’ behavior since implementing ēno click in her classroom. She says, “When I begin teaching a lesson using ēno click, my students sit up straight and some even lean over their desks toward the board. Rather than passively listening, they want to play an active role in the learning process.” Eva continues, “The student response system has



encouraged even the most reluctant students to eagerly participate in activities with their peers. Students who used to act out because they did not understand lesson content are now volunteering to create and help teach interactive activities.”

Eva is confident that her students’ renewed desire to interact with lessons will evolve into a lifelong passion for learning. She concludes, “When students have the drive to explore, take chances and learn alongside their teacher, they are learners by choice. It is extremely motivating to watch my students develop a thirst for knowledge when using ēno click. That is the main reason why I became a teacher—to share the love of learning.”

eVision PolyVision is committed to move toward sustainability in all areas of environmental stewardship—to protect people, replenish natural resources, and restore the communities in which we work and live.

©2011 PolyVision Corporation. All rights reserved. Trademarks used herein are the property of PolyVision Corporation or of their respective owners. PolyVision Corporation reserves the right to make changes in product design, construction or detail, and to discontinue any product or material without notice.
052611

PolyVision®

www.polyvision.com | info@polyvision.com
1.800.620.POLY