

# HISTORY of CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY



Teachers teach and students learn. For centuries, that has remained constant. But the same can't be said for what they use to teach and learn. Here's a snapshot of the many educational tools used since the first public schoolhouse opened in 1635 ▶



## Horn-Book 1650

Wooden paddles with printed lessons; typically with an alphabet and religious verse to help children learn how to write.



## School Slate and Chalkboard 1890

In use for over 100 years, the school slate helped students work (and rework) problems. Its larger cousin, the chalkboard, is still used in classrooms today.

## Stereoscope 1905

First in the headline that went on to produce the View-Master, stereoscopes reinforced topics by showing kids images in eye-popping 3-D.



## Overhead Projector 1930

Originally used for police I.D. work, their expansion into schools created an interactive classroom at a minimal cost.

## Mimeograph 1940

Hand-cranked copies helped teachers spread homework to the entire class. The downside? Perpetually ink-stained fingers.



## Slide Rule 1950

Before the development of the pocket calculator, the slide rule was the tool of choice for calculations. Its run was relatively short; falling out of favor by the mid-1970s. A dark day for nerds everywhere.

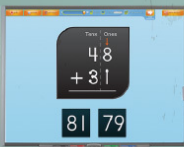
## Liquid Paper 1960

They don't want me to tell you this, but the person most directly responsible for the JFK assassination is...



## Scantron 1972

The Scantron made it simple to grade multiple-choice exams, thereby saving teachers countless hours — it also gave stumped students an excuse to draw pixelated artwork using the answer boxes.



## Interactive Whiteboard 1999

A high-tech upgrade to the chalkboard, the interactive whiteboard meshed the computer with the ability for students to manipulate lessons digitally, in real time.

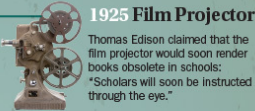


## 1870 Magic Lantern

Printed images on glass frames are projected on the walls in darkened classrooms.

## 1900 Pencil

First mass produced in the late 19th century, pencils — and their partners in crime — paper, soon replaced the school slate and gave a purpose to having an eraser.

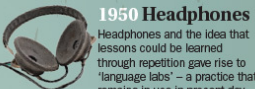


## 1925 Film Projector

Thomas Edison claimed that the film projector would soon render books obsolete in schools: "Scholars will soon be instructed through the eye."

## 1940 Ballpoint Pen

Now a go-to writing instrument with millions manufactured and sold everyday, it took over 50 years for the ballpoint pen to gain popularity. Perhaps it's because they originally cost \$9.75 each.



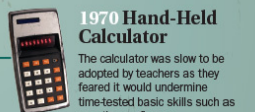
## 1950 Headphones

Headphones and the idea that lessons could be learned through repetition gave rise to "language labs" — a practice that remains in use in present day.



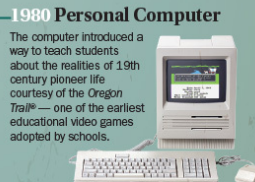
## 1958 Television

The use of film for classroom instruction became obsolete with the arrival of the television set.



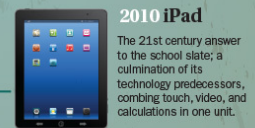
## 1970 Hand-Held Calculator

The calculator was slow to be adopted by teachers as they feared it would undermine time-tested basic skills such as counting on fingers.



## 1980 Personal Computer

The computer introduced a way to teach students about the realities of 19th century pioneer life courtesy of the Oregon Trail® — one of the earliest educational video games adopted by schools.



## 2010 iPad

The 21st century answer to the school slate; a culmination of its technology predecessors, combining touch, video, and calculations in one unit.

## Fall 2013 TouchMathAdventures

Strap in for an adventure unrivaled by any other math app on the planet! Students undertake exhilarating quests as they learn fundamental mathematic concepts. Coming this fall to iPad.

