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As part of our Mobile Learning Project my group and I created an app that promotes mobile learning. Mobile learning is defined as “learning across multiple contexts, through social and content interactions, using personal electronic devices” (M-Learning, 2012). Mobile learning coincides with the ACEI standard 3.5, Communication to foster Collaboration. This standard states that candidates use their knowledge and understanding of effective verbal, nonverbal, and media communication techniques to foster active inquiry, collaboration, and supportive interaction in the elementary classroom. Book creator is an app that can be used in many different subject areas for various tasks. This app has many features that would allow it to be effective in the classroom with the right amount of balance between technology and traditional teaching methods. Book Creator has many features that make learning fun and engaging for young students. Some of the features include the option to add one’s own pictures or pictures form the Internet, the ability to draw/write with the use of a stylist or own finger, the option to add text by typing, and even the option to add a voice recording. With all of the features of this app, students are able to complete assignments in the form of a story that they can later publish to iBooks and share with their teacher, classmates, or parents. As a group we found that having the option to publish the book when finished would make students more engaged in their learning because in the end they can have a product that they feel is important. Overall, this application is extremely user friendly and can be used as a form of differentiation in the classroom to modify learning needs of all students. Book creator relates to ACEI Standard 3.5, Communication to Foster Collaboration because through the app students are able to think and express their ideas creatively through the use of technology. The students are able to use their own personal devices, such as Ipads, to create their own stories to share with the class or at home with their families. With the help of the teacher to implement technology into the curriculum, the app also allows students to learn across multiple contexts such as social studies, math, science, and language arts. Also, this app can work collaboratively with other applications such as QR codes and reader to make the learning more engaging across the core context areas. With the advancements of technology in the world it is important for teachers and students to become familiar with the new technological resources. Many of these new applications that are available for teachers and students can be used to get the students, teacher, and families involved in the classroom learning experiences through the use of technology. Overall, creating a Book Creator app has helped my group and I become familiar with how technology can foster collaboration through communication and learning in the classroom.

References:

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