MATCHING TECH TOOLS WITH LEARNING STYLES

There are more tech tools available than ever. But what should your school use? And when? Let’s explore the benefits of teaching and learning with the stylus and the mouse!

**Use a Stylus when...**

**Active learning**
No need to stay seated! With a stylus and tablet or Chromebook, students and teachers can get up and move, doing anything from rotating small groups in history class to an outdoor bug hunt in science.

**Creative expression is key**
Do your students like to draw and annotate? A stylus helps students tap into visual learning, whether that’s illustrating concepts, taking notes or showing the steps of an equation.

**It’s time to work together**
Collaborative activities like brainstorming are made seamless with a stylus. Students and teachers can easily share notes and ideas, as well as write on each others’ devices without pairing.

**Students need to show their work**
A stylus supports the development of fine motor skills and handwriting with precision. When using a touchscreen device, students can often express themselves more easily and more accurately with a stylus than with a finger - a key factor to consider during testing!

**Navigating and exploring content**
A mouse is often considered essential for navigating and exploring content. It’s especially helpful for multimedia projects like coding, podcasting, research and design.

**Spending longer periods on a device**
Research shows using a touchpad or finger all day can actually tire out the body. An ergonomic mouse — one that is designed to fit the human body — helps reduce fatigue and discomfort while learning.

**Developing fine motor skills**
Students in elementary and middle school are still developing their fine motor skills. Providing a mouse can be an accessible solution, building confidence in students who find it challenging to navigate and use devices with ease.

**Use a Mouse when...**

**LET STUDENTS HAVE A SAY**
When schools provide multiple input tools like a mouse and a stylus, this helps ensure a student’s work is truly reflective of their efforts and not of their ability to use a laptop or tablet.

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