

Interactive Learning with ACTIVboards



What is an ACTIVboard?

An ACTIVboard is an interactive whiteboard that comes with special software, ACTIVstudio, that has been developed to allow students and teachers to click on, write on, highlight and move objects around on the ACTIVboard. The ACTIVboard was first introduced in 1991 by Promethean and is becoming an increasingly integral feature of classrooms, particularly as educators strive to educate students born in the digital age.

How does an ACTIVboard work?

An ACTIVboard is connected to a computer and the computer is connected to a projector. The projector displays to the ACTIVboard anything that is found on the computer. The computer is controlled by touching the board with a wireless electronic pen-the ACTIVpen. The software, ACTIVstudio works hand-in hand with the ACTIVboard and features flexible tools for all user levels and curriculum levels.

How is an ACTIVboard different from the regular chalkboard or dry-erase board?

Regular chalkboards and dry-erase boards can be written and drawn on. The ACTIVboard can also be written and drawn on but the difference is that the ACTIVboard allows teachers to create electronic lessons in the form of interactive flipcharts, display and highlight items on Internet websites, run and write on educational software, show video as well as exhibit backgrounds, pictures, shapes, text, sounds, tickertape and includes interactive power tools such as an interactive ruler, compass and protractor. The big difference is that the ACTIVboard engages students in interactive learning.

Why use an ACTIVboard in the classroom?

The ACTIVboard encourages more varied, creative and seamless use of teaching materials. It increases enjoyment and motivation for learning. It facilitates student participation through the ability to interact with materials on the board. It makes the subject they are studying come alive and actively involves the students.

What grade levels benefit from the ACTIVboard?

ACTIVstudio, the software that comes with the ACTIVboard, supports all grade levels K-12 and includes built-in activities on all grade levels. The software includes many interactive flash activities on all grade levels. The Promethean website provides K-12 flipcharts that have been created by classroom teachers throughout the world. Many of these K-12 flipcharts are correlated to the Tennessee state skills. You can search by TN state skills. Flipcharts can be found at the following Internet address:
<http://www.prometheanplanet.com> To find out more about the ACTIVboard go to <http://www.prometheanworld.com> and choose North America. To view these flipcharts go to [prometheanplanet.com](http://www.prometheanplanet.com) and click on Support>Viewer. Download the appropriate viewer for the computer platform you are using.