

Five practical ideas for teacher videos



1. Simply set up your camera, iPhone or iPad in front of your white board, hit record, and start explaining a concept as you would normally do. Although this may be a little daunting at first, this quickly subsides – and many teachers find that this is the simplest and easiest way to create video content, as topics they’ve covered hundreds of times just roll off the tongue (and into the camera!)
2. Get adventurous! Video allows you to do things that you otherwise couldn’t do if you were stood in front of a class – such as a geography teacher taking his camera to the beach to explain tidal processes by drawing diagrams in the sand. Make it engaging, and the learning will ‘stick’ so much more!
3. Why re-invent the wheel? Check online to see if somebody else has created a great video that explains a concept – and with permission, use it with your class. Or join forces with other teachers in your school/district/the world and work together to create a bank of video content for the benefit of everybody’s students. Knowing that your content has helped another teacher is incredibly rewarding!
4. Have outside experts create videos for students. Reach out to experts on subjects in the local community, and ask if they’d be happy to record a five minute video for your students. This way, your students benefit from the knowledge of experts in their fields – and because the experts can create the videos on their own terms, it’s much easier than trying to schedule them to give talks in school. Plus, you can re-use the videos with future classes too.
5. Have students create the video! After they’ve covered a concept, have your students create a video that explains it to younger students in school. This gives them the opportunity to demonstrate their learning in a very ‘real’ way – and it fosters a sense of pride, as they’re helping others to learn too!

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