



RM[™]easiteach[™]
NEXT GENERATION

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What is Easiteach?

Easiteach is a complete whole class teaching and learning application which puts you in the driver's seat for creating and delivering engaging lessons and resources. The tools are rich and powerful but also easy to use, removing barriers and allowing you to make the most of your classroom hardware tools such as interactive whiteboards, wireless slates, voting systems, and even multi-touch tables.

The software has a new and improved design, providing intuitive navigation and bringing the tools you love most to the forefront of the application. Built-in widgets and multimedia assets in a range of topic areas will help to fuel your ideas and bring lessons to life. You can create and prepare resources well in advance of your lessons or use Easiteach as a high-end narration tool to support lessons.

Easiteach comes with content of a professional standard, but you don't have to use any of our content purely as it comes – you can create your own or use your creative muscle and adapt our ideas to develop your own innovative versions of the resources.

What can I use it for?

Easiteach is a powerful and flexible software application for creating and delivering motivational, interactive lessons. It provides you with a wide range of cross-curricular teaching tools in both elementary and secondary contexts. You can use it to combine animations, video, Flash files, text or number-based activities all within a single document.

Easiteach works with all interactive whiteboards and other forms of hardware equipment used for teaching, such as wireless slates, projectors or voting devices. This means that no matter what equipment is used throughout your school, Easiteach can enable consistency for training, teaching and the sharing of resources.

Easiteach has been designed specifically for education and whole-class teaching. You can use it throughout your school and across the entire range of curriculum subjects.

Use Easiteach to do any of the following classroom-based activities and more:

Engage students in a new topic or project by including videos and animations which help to not only illustrate actual examples, but also bring the subject to life.

Test students' knowledge of a previously-covered topic by asking them to complete a sorting or linking exercise on the screen.

Demonstrate a process by taking students through it first as a class and then scaffolding them through the same process.

Create a multi-modal story using text, sound, and animation to illustrate how we absorb information.

Develop skills in numeracy by using number lines and grids to work out sequences and patterns.

Evaluate a piece of poetry as a class, highlighting key patterns and meanings and using it as a basis for structuring a class poem.

Produce a collaborative newspaper article about a whole school topic and then provide a frame as a scaffold for students to write their own article.

Technical requirements

The minimum and recommended hardware and software required to use Easiteach is:

	Minimum	Recommended
Operating System	Standalone computers using Windows® XP SP3 (32 Bit), Windows Vista™ SP2 (32 or 64 Bit) or Windows 7 (32 or 64 Bit) Mac OS 10.5.8, 10.6.4 (Intel)	Standalone computers using Windows 7 (32 or 64 Bit)
Processor	Windows: 1.8GHz+ Mac: 2GHz+	2.5GHz+
Memory	Windows: 512MB Mac: 1GB	1GB
Storage	500MB (plus 200MB per extra voice installed)	1.3GB (plus 200MB per extra voice installed)
Graphics card	64MB	256MB
Screen	1024x768	1024x768 or above

The following prerequisites are required for Windows® and (if not already installed to your computer) installed with Easiteach:

- Microsoft® .Net Framework 4 Client Profile
- Microsoft® Visual C++ 2010 Redistributable
- Adobe® Flash Player v10 for non-Internet Explorer® browsers
- Windows® Media Player 11 or above
- Windows® Media 9 Codec
- OGG Video/Audio Codec
- Microsoft® Windows® Image Acquisition Library Automation Layer

The following prerequisites are required for Mac:

- XiphQT(decoders).component v 0.1.9
- XiphQT.component v 0.1.9
- ffmpeg2theora v 0.27
- Adobe® Flash Player v 10
- Flip4Mac

Support

If you require support using Easiteach, look through this user guide to see if it provides an answer to your question. This guide can also be accessed from the 'e' menu, by selecting the Help menu option. For further help and technical support you can visit the Easiteach website or contact Support. To get online help visit www.easiteach.com/support. The website provides information in a variety of languages.

In Asia-Pacific

Email support at support@rmeducation.com.au or telephone support in English is available on + 61 1300 550 062 between 6.30 am and 5pm (Australian WST) Monday to Friday. Outside of office hours you can use the Easiteach (above) or RMAP (www.rmap.com.au) websites.

In the US

If you still experience problems, telephone support is available in English at 866-728-6758 between 9am and 5pm EST Monday to Friday. Outside of office hours you can use the Easiteach website or email support@rmeducation.com.

Alternatively, contact the company that supplied Easiteach.

Getting started with Easiteach: a guided tour

To open Easiteach, go to the 'Start' menu on your desktop and in 'All Programs' select Easiteach Next Generation. Alternatively, double click on the shortcut on your desktop.

Dashboard

The Easiteach dashboard will display, providing quick access to some of the key features. These are:



Recent documents

This tab displays the 12 most recently opened documents. Select one to open it. You also have the option to browse for a document.



New documents

This tab allows you to open a new document, choosing from five styles. To go straight to a new document in your default aspect ratio, select 'Skip'.



Video tutorials

This tab displays a series of video tutorials demonstrating the features of Easiteach.



Download center

From here you can search, browse and download resources from the Easilearn website. The most recent resources are listed on screen.



Change interface style

This option allows you to change the interface style from the default black to silver.



Change language

From here you can choose from the 32 available languages.



Show help

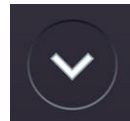
Click here to view the descriptions of the options available on the dashboard.

Easiteach menu bar

The Easiteach menu bar is the main navigation bar and appears by default along the bottom of the screen. From this menu bar you can launch different functional areas to the left hand side of the menu bar and common function buttons to the right hand side. You can flip the toolbar horizontally by clicking on the buttons at each end.



Secondary menu bars are displayed by clicking the icons on the left hand side of the main Easiteach menu bar. All secondary menu bars have a button on the far right which allows you to close them and just show the main menu bar.



Functional areas



'e' button

This button opens the 'e' menu.



Drawing button

This button opens the 'Drawing' menu bar.



Text button

This button opens the 'Text' menu bar.



Special effects button

This button opens the 'Special effects' menu bar.



Widget button

This button opens the Widget bank.



Multimedia bank button

This button opens the Multimedia resource bank.



Scrapbook button

This button opens the 'Scrapbook' window.

Common function buttons



Select mode

Clicking this button updates the mouse pointer to show you are in select mode. You can now select objects and perform actions on them. To select multiple objects, while within select mode, hold down the Ctrl key and click on the required objects.



Play mode

Clicking this button will put you in play mode. Use play mode to allow students to interact with objects without the editing tools, or to access interactive elements like widgets or Flash files more easily.



Keyboard

This option opens the on-screen keyboard that comes with your operating system.



Lock aspect ratio

This allows you to resize objects on the page while keeping their original proportions. Click to switch this on and then resize the objects as required. Click the button again to allow objects to be resized freely without constraining proportions.



Pan

Clicking this button allows you to pan around the page while you are zoomed in.



Zoom in button

To zoom in on a page, select this button which will zoom in on your current page x1. This can be selected multiple times.



Zoom out button

To zoom out after you have zoomed in, select this button which will zoom out x1. This can be selected multiple times until you can see the full page at the standard view.



Cut

To cut an object in Easiteach, you first need to have it selected and then click this button. The selected object is cut to the clipboard and the object is removed from the page.



Copy

To copy an object in Easiteach, you first need to have it selected and then click the copy button. The selected object is copied to the clipboard and also remains on the page.



Paste

To paste an object, you need to have either previously copied or cut an object. This button pastes the current clipboard item onto the page and it is only active when there

is an item on the clipboard.



Undo

To undo the last action performed on the page you can select this button. It is only active when an action has already been performed. This feature works on a page-by-page basis, so if you navigate to another page and select undo, the last action performed on that page will be undone.



Redo

To redo the last undone action performed on the page you can select this button. It is only active when an action has been performed. This feature works on a page-by-page basis, so if you navigate to another page and select redo, the last action performed on that page will be redone.



Delete

To delete an object from the page you must have an object selected. This button is only active when an object is selected. The object does not get copied to the clipboard. The object can also be dragged onto the delete icon to delete it.



Back one page

To return to the previous page in the current document you can select this button. It is only active if there is a previous page to navigate to.



View storyboard

To view your Easiteach document as a storyboard you can select this button which will display document pages in a page sorter. You can see thumbnails of all the pages in the document, add and delete pages and cut, copy, and paste pages. If you click twice on a page the page will display in full. The storyboard button updates to show you which page number you are viewing.

When you are in storyboard view, you can add pages to the document by selecting the '+' button. This will add a new page after the selected page. To delete a page use the '-' button in the same way. You may change the order of your pages by dragging and dropping them on top of existing pages. If you wish to move a page to a position which isn't currently displayed in that view (i.e when there are more than eight pages in a document), click and drag the page to the next screen area, and the view will automatically display the next set of pages. Then drop the page on top of whichever page you want it to display at and it will slot in at this spot.



Forward one page button

To progress to the next page in the current document you can select this button. The button is only active if there is a next page to navigate to. If there is no page to navigate to, this button will become an 'add page' button. Clicking the 'add page' button will add a new page directly after the currently selected page.



'e' menu functions



Within the 'e' menu the following functionality is available:

Recent documents

This option displays the most recent documents on the secondary menu to the right. Clicking on a file from this menu will open that file.



New

This option allows you to open a new document.



Open

This option displays the window to allow you to select an Easiteach document to open. You may open .etng, .etnt, .pptx or .iwb (interactive whiteboard format) files.



Save

This option saves the current document. If it is the first time you have saved the document, the window that displays will allow you to choose a location to save it to.



Save as

This option saves a copy of the current document. A window will open allowing you to choose a location to save the document to. Within the secondary menu of the Save As menu you can also save a file with the extension '.jpg', '.pdf' or as the common interactive whiteboard format '.iwb', enabling other users to view the file in other interactive whiteboard software.



Insert

This option allows you to insert an existing Easiteach Next Generation document into your current one. A window will open enabling you to browse for an appropriate file, either with the extension .etng (Easiteach Next Generation document) or .etnt (Easiteach Next Generation template). The file you are inserting will appear directly after the page you are currently viewing. You can reorder the pages while in the storyboard view, which is covered in the View Storyboard section above.



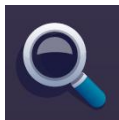
Print

This option prints the current page.



Reset page

This option returns the current page to the last saved state. This feature is useful if you want students to try completing tasks one at a time.



View modes

This option opens onto the secondary menu to display the different view modes available. To view in a particular mode, click on it to select it.



Edit mode – the default mode for editing a single page.



Storyboard mode – enables you to see thumbnails of all your pages and provides tools for copying, pasting, and rearranging pages.



Split screen mode – enables you to view two pages at once.



Full screen mode – opens Easiteach in full screen so you don't see other application menus.



Side panel – enables you to edit a single page while being able to view page thumbnails in a side bar.



Curtain reveal – enables you to hide the contents of a page then reveal by dragging the 'curtain' across using one of the four 'handles' at the top, bottom, left and right of the screen.



Grid – adds a grid to the page to allow you to align objects on the page more easily. You can change the grid settings by clicking on the button to the right of the grid icon. You can choose a different grid type, size and color. You can also choose to snap objects to the grid.



Glass mode – allows you to place an annotation layer over the top of an application and can be used to demonstrate how different programs work, annotate maps, pictures and documents and capture those annotations. Glass mode can be used while viewing Easiteach or another program, and can even be launched without having Easiteach running. To see the available options, click on the Easiteach icon which appears on the left and right of the screen.



Spotlight mode – this mode allows you to focus on specific areas of the screen. It has the same options as glass mode. You can change the spotlight to a circle or a square, and change the size of the spotlight. Move the spotlight by clicking and dragging on the darkened area. If you click inside of the spotlight you can interact with any of the elements on the page below.



Presentation mode – this mode allows you to view and interact with the activity without toolbars. Actions placed on the page can be used to activate tools and move between pages.



Dashboard

This returns you to the opening screen. If there are any open pages or activities you will be prompted to save them.



My easiteach

This option enables users to change your Easiteach application or document settings.

General settings

The **General settings** tab allows you to choose the application settings according to your needs. The aspects which can be configured are:

- Choose language
- Default save location
- Default page size
- Default page orientation
- Snap to grid
- Default font
- Default font size
- Location of main toolbar
- Default drawing colors
- Default text colors

Select 'OK' to save or 'Cancel' to cancel your changes. Next time you open Easiteach it will open with your preferred settings. When you select the 'About' button, information about your version of Easiteach will be displayed. Selecting the 'EULA' button on the About screen will display the End-user Licence Agreement.

Document settings

The **Document settings** tab allows you to choose the default settings for your document according to your needs. The aspects which can be configured are:

- Page size
- Page orientation
- Background image
- Background image stretch option
- Background image position
- Background color

Select 'OK' or 'Cancel' to save or cancel your changes. The properties of your document will be updated.

Page settings

The **Page settings** tab allows you to choose the default settings for each page of your document according to your needs. The aspects which can be configured are:

- Background image
- Background color
- Background image stretch option
- Background image position

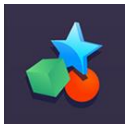
Select 'OK' or 'Cancel' to save or cancel your changes. The properties of your selected page will be updated.

Multimedia settings

The **Multimedia settings** tab allows you to choose the default multimedia elements according to your needs. The aspects which can be configured are:

- Default voice
- Default audio input device
- Default video input device

Select 'OK' or 'Cancel' to save or cancel your changes. The properties of your multimedia elements will be updated.



Activities

This opens the 'My Easiteach Downloads' folder.



Help

This opens a PDF version of this guide.



Exit Easiteach

This option closes Easiteach. If there are any open pages or documents you will be prompted to save them before Easiteach closes.

Drawing tools



The drawing tools are accessible by selecting the drawing tools button on the Easiteach menu bar. The tools available are as follows:



Pen tools

This option opens the pen tools menu.

There are 12 pre-defined pens to choose from. The bottom row of pens take their colors from those last used in the color picker.

When you click on one of the pen options the mouse pointer will update to show that a pen tool is selected and you can draw freehand with that pen. They will stay selected until you choose another tool or click the select button.



Highlighter tools

This opens the highlighter tools menu.

There are 12 pre-defined highlighters to choose from. The bottom row of highlighters take their colors from those last used in the color picker.

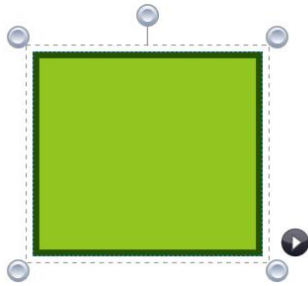
When you click on one of the pen options the mouse pointer will update to show that a pen tool is selected and you can draw freehand with that pen. It will stay selected until you choose another tool or click the select button.



Eraser

The eraser tool erases digital ink made using one of the pen or highlighter tools. To erase, select the eraser tool and move it over areas of digital ink to erase that area. The eraser does not erase other objects on the page. If you want to remove these, you will need to delete them.

Working with drawn objects



When you select a drawing using the select button, it will appear in a bounding box and can be resized, moved, rotated, aligned, sent forwards and backwards, duplicated, etc.

To resize a drawing, click any of the gray circles at the corners of the frame and drag it to the size you require.

To move a drawing, click in the middle of the shape and drag it where required. You can rotate by clicking the gray circle in the top middle of the frame and moving the object as required.



Fill tool

The fill tool allows you to fill shapes (drawn using the shape tool or pen), lines, cells in number grids and the background canvas with the color selected in the color picker.



Shape recognition tool

The shape recognition tool enables you to draw shapes freehand on the whiteboard. Easiteach then transforms them into shape objects.

To use this tool click the shape recognition button and then draw a shape on the canvas. Easiteach will try to recognize it and will turn it into a shape with sharpened edges. If the shape is not recognizable a message will display advising 'The shape couldn't be recognized. Please try again.'



Shape tools

This option opens the shape tools menu. The shapes available to choose are:

- star
- hexagon
- octagon
- heptagon
- decagon
- circle
- cross
- pentagon
- trapezoid
- speech bubble
- square
- parallelogram
- triangle
- right-angled triangle
- semicircle



The menu will display with the shapes in the color you currently have in your color picker. When you select one of the shapes, the mouse pointer will update to show which shape has been selected. You can draw the shape by clicking and dragging on the page. If you

click the page, but don't drag in any direction, no shape will display. The shape tool will stay selected until you pick something else or click the select button. As with the drawn objects, when selected the shape will appear in a bounding box and can be resized, moved rotated, aligned, sent forwards and backwards like any other object.

It is possible to draw a 'perfect' shape in two ways, either by holding shift down as you use the shape tool or by having the lock aspect ratio button activated while drawing the shape.



Line tools

This option opens the line tools menu. The lines available to choose are:

- unbroken line with arrow (at the start)
- unbroken line with arrow (at the end)
- curved line
- dotted line
- dotted line with arrow (at the start)
- dotted line with arrow (at the end)
- poly line (draws lines from mouse click to mouse click)
- elbow connector line (drawn as a shape)
- right-angle connector line
- callout line (with arrow at the end)
- unbroken line



The menu will display with the shapes in the color you currently have in your color picker. When you select a line, the mouse pointer will update. You can draw the line by clicking and dragging on the page. The start of the line is created at the first click and the end of the line is where the mouse pointer is released. The line stays selected until you pick something else or click the select button.

As with other objects, when you select the line using the select button, it will appear in a bounding box and can be rotated, resized, aligned, sent forwards and backwards, etc.

If you hold down the shift key the line tool draws lines at 45 degree increments.



Line width tool

This option allows you to preset or change the line width, by selecting a different width from the menu.



Show internal angles

This option allows you to show the internal angles of a shape.



Show dimensions

This option allows you to show the dimensions of a shape or line. Labels appear showing the length of each side or line. Dimensions are based on the scale of the page, but you can change the scale to be any length you like by double clicking the number inside the dimensions box and typing a new number. Once you update the scale of your object, other objects on the page will also correspond to this scale.

Text tools



The text tools are accessible by selecting the text icon on the Easiteach menu bar. The tools available are as follows:



Text tool menu

From this menu you can select three text tools:



Handwriting recognition tool

This button launches the handwriting recognition tool installed with your operating system. You can now write freehand on the canvas. Easiteach will try to recognize it and will create a new text box with the text inside (or add text to an existing one if you have a text box selected). Note: Handwriting recognition is not supported in Windows XP.



Create a text box

When you select the text tool option the mouse pointer updates to show that the 'create a text box' tool is selected. Click and drag to create a textbox. You can type text immediately.

If you select a textbox while in select mode, it appears in a bounding box and can be rotated, resized, aligned, sent forwards and backwards, etc. To edit the text inside the box, double click the textbox, highlight the text you wish to change and complete your changes.

If more text is contained within the textbox than can currently be seen, a 'plus' symbol will display in the bottom right hand corner to highlight this. You can view it by either making the object larger or by placing your cursor in the text box and scrolling through the text.



Create text

When you select the text tool option the mouse pointer updates to show that the 'create text' tool is selected. Click the page where you want the text to start. You can type text immediately. Press Enter on your keyboard to start a new line.

If you select some text while in select mode, it appears in a bounding box and can be rotated, resized, aligned, sent forwards and backwards, etc. To edit the text, double click it, highlight the text you wish to change and complete your changes.

The following options can be used to preset the text properties before typing. Alternatively you can highlight text or select the textbox, so the bounding box displays, and any change updates the entire contents of the textbox.



Font picker

To choose a different font click on the font picker and the menu displays with a scrollbar allowing you to search through all the available fonts. The first five fonts shown are the last ones you have used. All the other available fonts are based on what you have installed on your computer. The chosen font will appear in the font picker until you choose a different font or select another piece of text with a different font.



Font size picker

To pick a different font size, click on the font size picker and the menu displays with a scrollbar allowing you to search through all the sizes available, ranging from font size 10 to 90. Your chosen size appears in the font size picker until you choose a different size or select another piece of text in a different size.



Bold

The default state for the bold button is 'off'. To turn bold 'on' click the bold button. It will appear as 'on' until you click it again to turn it 'off' or select another piece of text that isn't bold.



Italics

The default state for the italics button is 'off'. To turn italics 'on' click the italics button. The Italics button appears as 'on' until you click it again to turn it 'off' or select another piece of text that isn't in italics.



Underline

The default state for the underline button is 'off'. To turn underline 'on' click the underline button. The underline button appears as 'on' until you click it again to turn it 'off' or select another piece of text that isn't underlined.

Advanced text tools



The advanced tools associated specifically with textboxes are accessed by clicking the arrow button in the middle of the text properties menu. This displays the advanced text tools menu showing additional options. The five most recently used items from the menu are shown in the main toolbar.



Cloze tool

This allows you to create a cloze (fill-in the-blank) activity. Click on the cloze button to activate it. The cursor will update to show that the cloze tool is active. Next, click the words you want to remove – these are removed and replaced with a standard-sized line (irrespective of the number of characters in a word, so it isn't easy to guess the answer). If you want to make the gaps bigger, just add more underscores to the textbox in the appropriate place. You must click on the cloze button again to deactivate the functionality.

The removed words are automatically added to the word wallet and can be dragged back into the textbox wherever an underscore exists.



Remove punctuation tool

This allows you to remove the punctuation from a textbox. First you must select the textbox using the select button, so the bounding box displays, and then click the remove punctuation button. Select the punctuation type you wish to remove. The punctuation is removed from the textbox and is automatically added to the word wallet. The punctuation is replaced by one space per character. The punctuation within the word wallet can be dragged onto the textbox and will snap into place in a space where punctuation previously was.



Word wallet

The word wallet is a temporary storage place for words and punctuation which can be dragged onto Easiteach pages. Words are moved to the word wallet when you use the cloze tool. To view the word wallet click on the word wallet button to display it. It will be empty when first opened, unless you have already used the cloze tool or remove punctuation tool to remove content from a textbox. *Please note, the text properties (size, color, etc.) are not shown while a word is inside the word wallet.*

Words can be added to the word wallet by typing words or characters into the input field. Once something is entered into this field, the 'Add' button will activate and it can then be clicked to add the word/character to the word wallet.

Items in the word wallet can be dragged back into a textbox and will snap into place where a gap or an underscore exists. When a word is dragged onto a textbox it will take on the properties of the text in the textbox. To remove all words from the word wallet, click the 'Clear' button. To randomize the order of the words in the word wallet click 'Randomize'.



Remove capitals from selected text

To remove the capital letters or change the case of text from upper to lower case, select a textbox, so the bounding box appears. Then click on the remove capitals button and all the capitals are removed and replaced with lower case letters. *Please note there is not an option to replace lower case letters with capitals using the word wallet.*



Read with me

This is a tool for encouraging the class to read in unison. To switch this on, select a textbox using the select tool. Then select the 'Read with me' icon. The cursor will change to identify that 'Read with me' is switched on. Now you can click anywhere in the textbox in order to move the highlight along the passage, word by word, at a pace to suit the students.



Highlight

The highlight tool allows you to highlight one or more words by clicking on them. Clicking again removes the highlight.



Subscript

The default state for the subscript button is 'off'. To turn subscript 'on' click the subscript button. The subscript button appears as 'on' until you click it again to turn it 'off' or select another piece of text that isn't in subscript.



Superscript

The default state for the superscript button is 'off'. To turn superscript 'on' click the subscript button. The superscript button appears as 'on' until you click it again to turn it 'off' or select another piece of text that isn't in superscript.



Symbol bank

The symbol bank allows you to insert symbols into your text. There are three categories of symbols to choose from, Math, Languages, and Punctuation. To insert a symbol, click on the symbol bank button to display it. Select the correct category and then click and drag the symbol you require on to the page. It can either be dragged into a textbox which has already been created, or dropped anywhere on the page to form a new textbox.



Text to speech

The text-to-speech functionality enables text on the page to be read by one of the voices installed in your operating system. To use the text to speech functionality, click on the text-to-speech button to display the menu. This contains a list of options – 'read selected text only', 'read single word upon mouse click' and 'switch off text-to-speech'. The default state is 'off'. When you select either of the text to speech options, the cursor will change to signify you have the option switched on.

If you select the 'read selected textbox only' option, then the text in the textbox you select is read. If you select the 'read single word upon mouse click' you can then click on an individual word to hear it read.



Spellchecker

To use the spellchecker, select a textbox and click on the spellchecker button. If only one textbox is selected, the spellchecker will just check that object. If none are selected the spellchecker will check the whole page. Words that are not found in the dictionary are displayed, along with alternative spellings with the options to ignore, ignore all, change or change all. All languages installed on your computer are offered in the spellchecker. When the check is complete a message will display to confirm this.



Bullets

When you click on the bullets button, the menu opens and you can select the bullet style you require. The bullets button will update to show an 'on' state and the menu closes automatically. The options available are: numbered bullets, solid dot bullets, hollow dot bullets, and square bullets.

To remove a bullet point from text, position your cursor on the line of the bullet point and select the bullet point button (the button of the style used) or alternatively you can position the cursor at the beginning of the line you want the bullet point removed from and use the backspace on your keyboard.



Text alignment

When you click on the button, the text alignment menu opens and you can select the text alignment option you require. The options available are: align left, align center, align right or justify. Your chosen alignment displays on the button until you choose a different one or select another piece of text with a different alignment.



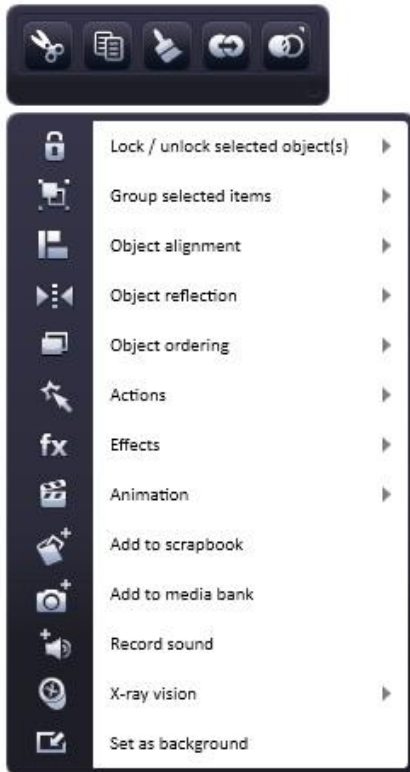
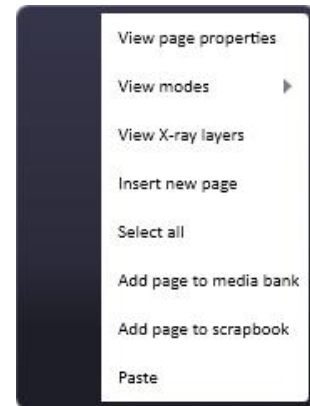
Insert hyperlink

To add a hyperlink to your text, highlight a word or phrase then click the Insert hyperlink button. A dialog box appears where you can type the web address.

Accelerator menu

The Accelerator menu can be opened at page level or at object level.

To open at page level right click anywhere on the screen and a list of page properties appears.



When an object is selected, an arrow icon displays on the right-hand side of the bounding box, which you can click on to reveal the accelerator menu, which provides you with easy access to the properties of the object selected.



Many of the properties are those available in General object properties (on the right-hand side of any secondary menu), but some are unique to the accelerator menu:

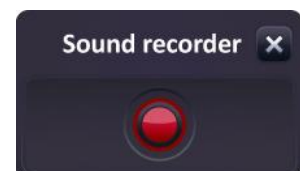
Add to media bank

Selecting this option will add the object (or page) to the media bank for future use.

This feature helps to personalise Easiteach. For example, create your own randomizer widget with student names in it and add it to the media bank so that it's easily accessible every time you have a lesson.

Record sound

This feature can be used to record a sound onto an object using a microphone. In Play mode, click on the object to hear the sound.



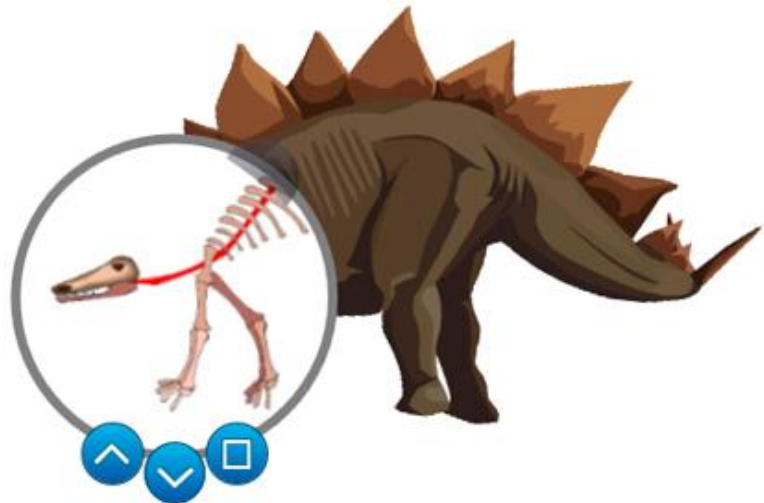
X-ray vision

X-ray vision works with the X-ray vision widget. The first step is to create up to three X-ray layers on your page. This is done by layering objects on top of each other on the page and then sending items to hidden layers.

Send an object to a hidden x-ray layer by clicking on it and selecting X-ray vision from the object accelerator menu. Choose the top, middle or bottom x-ray layer.

Once you have sent an object to an x-ray layer, it is no longer visible on the page. To view or edit the object, right-click anywhere on your page and select 'View X-ray layers' from the page accelerator menu. You will see a pop-up giving the choice of which layer you want to see. When you close the pop-up, the x-ray layers will no longer be visible.

Once in the classroom, open the X-ray vision widget from the widget bank and switch Easiteach to Play mode. You can now reveal the hidden items on your page by moving the X-ray vision widget over the page. If you have more than one X-ray layer you can show them in turn by clicking on the arrow buttons on the widget.



Special effects



The special effects tools are accessible by selecting the special effects icon on the Easiteach menu bar. The tools available are as follows:

Actions

You can use this feature to apply actions to selected objects. Only one action can be applied per object. You can see the action applied by switching to 'play' mode. The action options available are:

- No action
- Enable/disable effect
- Hide/reveal object
- Link to a page
- Link to a website
- Link to an Easibook
- Next/previous page
- Open an external file
- Open embedded file
- Play an audio file
- Select Easiteach tool/mode
- Send object backwards
- Send object forwards

Effects

You can use this feature to apply effects to selected objects. An object can only have a single effect applied. Each effect has a slider (some have two) so you can change the look of the effect. The effect options available are:

- No effect
- Swirl effect
- Wave effect
- Ripple effect
- Mosaic effect
- Drop shadow
- Standard blur
- Zoom blur
- Directional blur
- Transparent color
- Old movie color
- Monochrome color
- Invert color
- Adjust brightness/contrast

Animations

There are four simple animations you can apply to selected objects. An object can only have one animation applied at any one time. The animation options available are :

- Follow a line – the object follows a line already drawn using the freehand pen or straight line tool. (Make the line transparent after applying the animation)
- Rotate – the object rotates clockwise or anti-clockwise around its centre.
- Vibrate – the object moves along the page by vibrating.
- Bounce – the object moves along the page by bouncing.

Selecting an animation type opens a pop-up where you can select the speed of the animation, when it starts and other options specific to the animation type.

Actions, effects and animations can also be accessed via the accelerator menu.

Widget bank



Easiteach comes with a set of curriculum-based tools we call widgets. These widgets aim to aid teaching by helping you to perform a task digitally or by providing easy-to-create games and activities. New widgets are added to Easiteach all the time. For a full list of available widgets, visit the Easiteach website or search the widget bank in your version of Easiteach.

The Widget bank allows you to search for and add widgets to a page. It is accessible by selecting the Widget button on the Easiteach menu bar. You can browse widgets using the left and right arrows.



To place a widget on your page, click on the 'Add this item to the page' button on the thumbnail.



To use the widget once it is positioned on the page, click away from the widget to release the bounding box. To display the bounding box again, look for the icon in the top left corner of the widget and click on it. The widget can now be resized, rotated, duplicated etc. Widgets can be dragged off-screen, resulting in the circular select option not being shown. To reselect the widget, draw a marquee around it.

Multimedia bank



The multimedia bank enables you to search for and add multimedia assets to a page. It is accessible by selecting the Multimedia button on the Easiteach menu bar. You can browse assets using the left and right arrows. On opening, the Multimedia bank will display the Multimedia asset pack which you installed with Easiteach. All assets are displayed in alphabetical order, according to their name.

There are a number of ways you can search for a media asset to add to your page.

- **Search for items by keyword** - enter a keyword in the appropriate field and any assets which are named or tagged with this keyword will be displayed in the results window.
- **Filter items by category** - browse by topic using the filter menu which has different categories such as Animals, Geography, Music and Videos.
- **Filter items by file type** –select the relevant tick boxes to display the specific file types you require. The available file types available are Audio, Illustrations, Interactive, Photos, Video and Documents.
- **Filter items by Media bank** – filter by ‘Easiteach media bank’ which is just the multimedia items included with Easiteach or by ‘My media bank’ which is just the items you have added to My Media Bank.

Search results are displayed in a single line and you can scroll through using the left and right arrows. The number of results found is displayed at the bottom right hand side of the results window. To add an object from the Multimedia bank to your page, you can drag the thumbnail from the results window onto the page, double-click the thumbnail, or click the ‘Add this item to the page’ button beneath the thumbnail.



Import

As well as the assets provided within the Easiteach multimedia bank, you may also import files to your own media bank. This is an easy way to store assets that you might use a lot. Click the ‘Import’ button to search for assets and add them to My media bank.

Some large objects may take a few moments to import into My media bank. While this is taking place the following animation will display to show the file is being imported.



Files can also be added to the media bank by first dragging them onto the canvas (or copying and pasting) and then clicking on ‘Add to media bank’ in the accelerator menu. To delete any item in My media bank, click the x button in the right hand corner of the thumbnail. A message will display to confirm you wish to delete it.

My Files

To find assets on your computer to add to the page, click ‘My Files’. This will open a dialog window to allow you to search your computer. Once you have found an asset, click ‘Open’ and it will be added to your page.



Screen recorder

This feature can be used to create a recording of what happens on your screen. Click the screen recorder button and a pop-up appears with a record button. Clicking the record button starts the recording. Select whether to save the new file to the 'My media bank' folder or a folder of your choice.

The screen recorder panel is minimized to the tool tray. Double-clicking on this will stop the recording.



Record sound

This feature can be used to record a new sound using a microphone. The new sound file will be saved to the 'My media bank' folder for future reference. If an appropriate device cannot be detected, an error message will display.



Record video

This feature can be used to record a new video using a video camera. The new video file will be saved to the 'My media bank' folder for future reference. If an appropriate device cannot be detected, an error message will display.



Capture image

This feature can be used to capture a still image using a document camera or scanner. The new image will be saved to the 'My media bank' folder. If an appropriate device cannot be detected, an error message will display.



Tagging

Files which are imported to your media bank can be tagged with keywords and re-named – click on the 'Add tagging information for this item' button on the thumbnail.

Embedding documents

Easiteach allows you to embed the following documents to your page:

- Microsoft® Word
- Microsoft® Excel
- Microsoft® PowerPoint
- Adobe® PDF
- RM Dance to Advance
- RM Easiteach
- RM Easirespond
- RM Podium
- RM Textease
- Whiteboard files
- Flipchart files

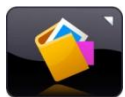


This is a great way of adding additional information to your document without duplication. Select the 'My Files' button and within the new window browse to the document you require and select it. Once on the page, you can launch the file by double clicking the icon and the document will launch in the program it was created in.

Interactive files

As interactive objects often have interactive areas to click on, there is a different way to select them in order to move and resize them. Look for the circular icon in the top left corner of the object, as mentioned at the beginning of this section, and click on it to get the bounding box. The object can now be resized, rotated, duplicated, etc. Click away from the object to release the bounding box and access the interactive areas.

Scrapbook



The scrapbook is an object transfer facility. You can add any individual object or group of objects from your page to the scrapbook and transfer it to another page or Easiteach document. Scrapbooks can even be saved for later use. Objects in the scrapbook retain all of their properties, so this facility can be used to prepare personalized widgets, so they can easily be included in documents or pages. Think of it as your 'favorites' list of objects and widgets.

Objects can be added to either the Page or Session scrapbook by clicking on the 'Add to scrapbook' option in the accelerator menu of the object and then moving the asset from the Page scrapbook using the appropriate button. To remove a scrapbook asset click on the x in the top right hand corner of the item.

The Page scrapbook allows you to store objects which are specifically for use with the current page. It works like the word wallet, but for objects, which means you can create a labelling activity, with the labels stored in the Page scrapbook rather than on the page which will avoid it looking messy.

The Session scrapbook works in the same way, but the objects stored are only available while you have the session of Easiteach open. If you want to save the Session scrapbook for another time, click Save scrapbook. To load in a previously saved scrapbook click Load scrapbook.

General object properties

The general object properties buttons are always present on the right-hand side of any secondary menu. Some of these properties can be applied to multiple, as well as single objects. To select multiple objects, hold down the Ctrl key and select each object in turn or draw a marquee around the objects you want to select.



Lock / unlock

This allows you to lock the position of an object on a page to prevent editing by mistake. Clicking the lock object button will lock the selected object in the position it is located on the page. An object cannot be moved when it is locked. When the button is clicked for a second time, the object is unlocked and can be moved around the page once more.



Lock and allow copies

This allows you to lock the currently selected object and turn it into an infinite cloner. This means that when you click and drag the object, a copy will be created automatically. This feature is useful when creating drag-and-drop elements on your page.



Locking to a plane

This allows you to lock the currently selected object so that it can just be moved either horizontally or vertically. This is useful for creating interesting hide and reveal pages. You cannot resize the object once it is locked to a plane.



Group / ungroup

This allows you to group selected objects together into a single object. You can ungroup objects again by clicking the ungroup option on the same menu.



Object alignment

You can use this feature to align the currently selected object to other objects on the page. The alignment options available are:

- **Align left**
- **Align right**
- **Align top**
- **Align bottom**
- **Align center (horizontal)**
- **Align center (vertical)**
- **Space evenly (horizontal)**
- **Space evenly (vertical)**



Object ordering

You can use this feature to adjust the layering of the currently selected object, which allows you to send it forwards, backwards, to the front and to the back. Select an object and click one of the options from the object ordering menu.

- **Send forwards** - sends the object one step forward.
- **Send backwards** - sends the object one step backward.
- **Send to front** - sends the object to the topmost layer.
- **Send to back** - sends the object to the bottommost layer.



Object reflection

You can use the object reflection feature to create a mirror image of the currently selected object, including all its properties. *Please note, this feature does not flip the selected object; it creates a new object and the selected object remains on the page.*

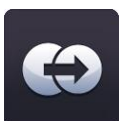
Select an object and click one of the options from the object reflection menu.

- **Reflect above**
- **Reflect below**
- **Reflect to the left**
- **Reflect to the right**



Object transparency

To make an object transparent, select it and then click the object transparency button. A slider will display, which allows you to adjust the transparency settings. Click the button again to close the slider.



Duplicate object

To make a duplicate copy of an object, select it and click the duplicate button which will create an exact duplicate of that object, including all its properties.



Color picker buttons

Two color picker buttons appear on the Easiteach menu bar. The left hand button launches the color picker for the fill/font color and the right hand button launches the color picker for the stroke/border color. Both buttons update to display the color that is assigned to the currently selected object or tool.

Click on a color button to display the color picker. This enables you to change the stroke or fill color of the currently selected object by using the pre-set colors or by selecting a new color using the color map. There is also an eyedropper tool to select a color from an object already on the page. Once you have the color you want to apply to your object or tool, click the 'tick' button to apply it or the 'cross' button to cancel and close the color picker menu.

If you want the stroke or fill color to be transparent, select the transparent option on the color picker.

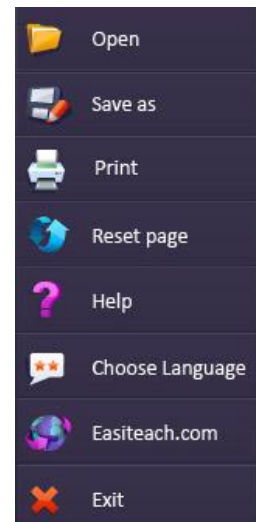


Easiteach Lite

Easiteach Next Generation Lite is a standalone application that allows Easiteach files to be viewed and added to. It is a scaled-down version of the main application. You can navigate, interact and add to the file with simple drawing tools. Objects on the page are not editable but objects can be moved around the canvas. Double clicking on text will make text boxes editable, but text will retain formatting.

Within the 'e' menu the following functionality is available:

- Open file button - opens a system file browser to allow a file to be selected and opened in the player.
- Save as - The Easiteach file open in the player can be saved as a PDF document.
- Print - prints the current page.
- Reset page – reverts the page to the last saved state.
- Help - opens a PDF version of the user guide.
- Choose Language – allows you to change the language.
- Easiteach.com link - links to the Easiteach website.
- Exit button - closes Easiteach Lite.
- Recent documents - displays a list of recently-opened documents.



The other options are:

- Drawing tools - four predefined pen tools can be selected to draw on the canvas in the following colors: red, blue, green and black. There is also a highlighter pen, a straight line tool and an arrow line tool, and an eraser.
- Word wallet - if the page contains a cloze activity, words will appear in the word wallet for you to add to the page.
- Scrapbook - if the page contains a labelling activity, objects will appear in the scrapbook for you to add to the page.
- Add image - clicking the add image button will open a dialog box. Select an image file and click 'OK' to add the image to the canvas in front of any other objects on screen.
- Generic tools - play mode, zoom in, zoom out, undo, redo and delete. These function in the same way as in Easiteach.
- Page navigation - pages are navigated through with the next and previous page arrow buttons.



Special characters

Easiteach offers a wide range of keyboard shortcuts that gives you quick access to special characters. Below is a selection of characters available

To add a special character while typing firstly, make sure that the NumLock is activated on your keyboard. Then hold down the Alt key and type one of the number sequences listed below on the right hand keypad. Do not use the numbers on the QWERTY keyboard. The desired character will appear in the textbox when you release the Alt key.

Special characters can also be found in the Symbol bank. See 'Advanced text tools' for further information.

French		German		Spanish		Swedish	
â	0226	ä	0228	Á	0225	Å	0197
Â	0194	Ä	0196	Á	0193	å	0229
à	0224	ö	0246	é	0233		
À	0192	Ö	0214	É	0201		
é	0233	ü	0252	í	0237		
É	0201	Ü	0220	Í	0205		
è	0232	ß	0223	Ó	0243		
È	0200			Ó	0211		
ê	0234			Ú	0250		
Ê	0202			Ú	0218		
ë	0235			Ñ	0241		
Ë	0203			Ñ	0209		
ï	0239			¿	0191		
Ï	0207			¡	0161		
î	0238						
Î	0206						
ô	0244						
Ô	0212						
œ	0156						
û	0251						
Û	0219						
ù	0249						
Ù	0217						
ç	0231						
Ç	0199						
«	0171						
»	0187						

Keyboard shortcuts

There are many shortcuts in Easiteach which can help you move around the application easily and quickly. Some of these include:

Ctrl A	Select all
Ctrl B	Bold
Ctrl C	Copy
Ctrl I	Italics
Ctrl N	Opens a new document (will prompt to save existing document)
Ctrl O	Open
Ctrl P	Print
Ctrl S	Save
Ctrl U	Underline
Ctrl V	Paste
Ctrl X	Cut
Ctrl Y	Redo
Ctrl Z	Undo last action
Ctrl (while clicking objects)	Select multiple objects

Activities

From the Download center on the main menu you can search, browse, and download thousands of activities from the Easilearn website. The activities include lessons, interactives, and templates..

Many activities are aligned to every state and NCTM standard via the RM Education website (<http://www.rmeducation.com>). To access the standards correlations select “Standards Correlations” from the Resource tab on RM’s website where you can then select state, grade level, and subject area from a drop down box. Upon making a selection the entire strand of standards will appear. You can view which standards have content aligned by selecting the blue link “materials correlated to this standard”. Upon selecting that link, you will be presented with the activity(s) aligned to that specific standard and you can then go back into the software and teach that activity with the knowledge that it is aligned to your teaching criteria.

Easiteach.com and Easilearn.com

The Easiteach website at <http://www.easiteach.com> provides many helpful resources for getting the most from the software including video tutorials, the latest news on software updates, FAQs, and a link to Easilearn <http://www.easilearn.com>, a community site where you can share lessons with Easiteach users around the world.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Windows

1. I received a pop-up notification stating that an update is available for download, but now the notification is not coming up. How do I update Easiteach Next Generation?

Answer: The pop-up update notifications are designed to stagger downloads for best performance. This means the notification will not be displayed on each launch of Easiteach Next Generation. To download the update on demand, please visit <http://www.Easiteach.com/usa/upgrade>

2. I have successfully downloaded the latest update for Easiteach Next Generation, but at the end of the extraction process, I'm receiving a 'non-7z archive' error message. How can I install the update?

Answer: The updates for Easiteach Next Generation are self-extracting executable files. On some environments, they are unable to extract and it is necessary for a decompression utility to be installed. We recommend 7 Zip from <http://www.7-zip.org>; as it is free, quick, and an industry standard tool.

3. I have Easiteach 3.x, but I've been instructed to upgrade to Easiteach Next Generation 1.x. Why is the version number lower even though it is a newer version?

Answer: Easiteach Next Generation is actually a brand new product. This is why Easiteach has moved on from the 3.x series, and has assigned 1.x to Easiteach Next Generation. It is possible to continue running Easiteach 3.5 side-by-side with Easiteach Next Generation on the same computer. It is also possible to update Easiteach 3.5 to 3.6; which adds the ability to 'Save as .iwb'. Older Easiteach 3.x files can be converted to .iwb in order to open in Next Generation, or other interactive software products.

4. Easiteach Next Generation is installed and running on my computer. I would now like to import lessons I have made with Easiteach 3.5, SMART Notebook, or another interactive technology software. How can I use content I've created on other platforms with Easiteach Next Generation?

Answer: The supported method for opening 'non-.etng' files with Next Generation is to convert them to the Common File Format (CFF). For older Easiteach .et files, this is accomplished by updating Easiteach 3.5 to the 3.6 version (available by clicking [here](#)). Open the desired file, and then choose: File/Save as, and select '.iwb' from the file type drop-down menu. The ability to save from SMART Notebook as .iwb is available starting with version 10.7, released in early 2011. This should be a free upgrade for anyone with a SMART Notebook license. It is as easy as choosing : File/Export/CFF, and then go to 'Open' in Easiteach Next Generation and choose the .iwb file.

5. Is it possible to install Easiteach Next Generation on multiple computers over our network?

Answer: Yes. The Easiteach Next Generation Installation DVD includes the required files for network deployment. The implementation of this process should be handled by the site's Information Technology department, as there are pre-requisite installations, and other network considerations. It is recommended that the Network Installation Instructions be obtained from support@rmeducation.com before beginning work on network deployment.

6. Is it possible to install Easiteach on a server, and have client workstations run the application remotely?

Answer: No. Easiteach Next Generation is designed to be a local installation. However, it is possible to host a shared Multimedia Bank on a server and allow client workstations to pull content from that centralized resource. This is covered in the Network Installation instructions.

7. Why is the Handwriting Recognition tool grayed out in my Text Toolbar?

Answer: Handwriting Recognition is only supported on Windows Vista, 7 and Mac OSX 10.5.8 or higher. It is normal for the feature to be grayed out in Easiteach Next Generation when working on Windows XP. If the feature is not available while working on Windows Vista or 7, please check that the Tablet PC Components are enabled in 'Control Panel – Programs and Features - Turn Windows Features On and Off'.

8. Why is Text-to-Speech not working?

Answer: When first using Text-to-Speech, it may be necessary to go into the MyEasiteach/ Multimedia Settings and select a default voice. Even if there is a selection displayed in the drop-down menu, choose another option and test again. If this is confirmed to be working, the voice selection can then be changed to the desired voice.

Macintosh

1. The widgets and other Flash-based features of Easiteach do not run. How can I fix this?

Answer: There is a file called **awesomium.log** that gets installed with Easiteach. Users need to have read&write privileges to this file in order to run Flash in Easiteach.

To test this:

- Log in as an administrator.
- Click the hard drive icon and find the awesomium.log file.
- Select the file and choose "Get Info" from the File menu.
- Give everyone Read&Write privileges to the file.
- .Run Easiteach. Make a new file.
- Click the widget bank icon (green power cord). Drag a widget such as the clock onto the screen.

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