

## Teacher Sheet: "Book Creator"

**Software:** Book Creator is available for free (In-App purchases) in the AppStore (iOS 9.0). The school version (Book Creator for iPad, \$ 4.99) removes the In-App purchase options and allows online publishing only by the teacher (= control).

**Description:** Book Creator is a software for the creation and sharing of eBooks on the iPad. It allows the user to add texts, photos, images, videos, layouts and music to a fixed book layout<sup>1</sup> and includes a pen-drawing and voice-recording function.

### Possibilities for teachers

- ✓ **Work book supplements:**  
create and share additional (multimedia) material for your students' textbook or motivational worksheets
- ✓ **Product based approaches:**  
design authentic eBooks and content with your students` and reflect on genre, layout, target audience, structure, register, ...
- ✓ **Recording stories:**  
enable speaking, listening and pronunciation training in a fun and low-threshold environment
- ✓ **Digital security:**  
through the teacher-controlled cloud you control what you students work on and where
- ✓ **Layouts features:**  
wide variety of layouts for story planning, comic production, ...
- ✓ **New and easy digital teaching:**  
drawing features or drag-and-drop text allow for new ideas on how you create your worksheet

### WHAT SETS IT APART

- **BOOK-PLAY FEATURE:**  
ENJOYABLE FOR PRESENTING AND REVIEWING
- **PROFESSIONAL LAYOUT**  
MAKES IT HIGHLY MOTIVATIONAL
- **DIGITAL SECURITY CONTROL**  
BY THE TEACHER

### Possibilities for students

- ✓ **Web-research:** students can search for information online
- ✓ **Language help:** variety of scaffolding features (dictionaries, spell-checker, etc.)
- ✓ **Cooperative learning:**  
creating books together
- ✓ **Motivational nature:** possibility of online publishing (as a class)
- ✓ **Creativity:** Individual production
- ✓ **Recording and 'enactment':**  
own stories set in motion

### Conclusion:

Book Creator offers a variety of features that can be a great addition to the EFL classroom, but keep in mind that the App is of more use to the teacher (especially for creating material) than the students themselves. One major drawback is that it discourages from writing longer texts with its fixed-layout.<sup>1</sup> It seems unsuitable for higher grade students as it does nothing that could not be similarly archived with Word or PowerPoint, which have application as work-life skills. However, for lower grade EFL-learners the intuitive layout, the high amount of data security and teacher control together with the motivational aspect of eBook creation are certainly valuable aspects to be considered implementing.

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<sup>1</sup> A fixed-layout does not allow for text to flow from one page to the other as it treats each textbox as an individual element.