

# iPads in Kindergarten

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## Charging your iPads

One small detail that often gets overlooked is how often you'll need to charge your iPads in order to make the most use out of them in your classroom. When we started our research project, nobody could have predicted how much of a challenge charging routines turned out to be. Luckily, we've picked up some strategies to share with you.



*iPads need to be charged regularly to support children's learning.*

**Tip:** Keep at least one extra charger and cable handy in case one gets lost or broken. Label each charger and cord so they don't get mixed up with personal devices and accessories.

# Starting a routine

During the beginning of our research, there were many times that the researchers arrived at the classrooms, the children were ready to go, and the teachers were eager to see how children would respond to the iPads that week. But when we'd bring out the iPads, they wouldn't turn on! The problem? Charging schedules hadn't been worked into the teachers' routines yet. It wasn't their

fault; teachers and early childhood educators are busy people! It just took establishing a routine that worked for everybody to make sure the iPads were charged and ready.



Some teachers found that plugging in the iPads as part of the morning set-up routine helped the iPads to be ready for the afternoon. Others would leave iPads charging in the locked classroom overnight on weekdays. One teacher even left the iPads by her coat so that she'd remember them! Whatever works best for you, try to keep it consistent eachh day. The children will thank you when they can play without their iPads turning off suddenly from being too low on power.

## Charging space

Some teachers found it hard to find a good space to charge all the iPads at once. Luckily, we found some tools to help. Using power bars or cubes helps to free up outlet space, so you can charge all your devices without worry.



**Tip:** Set up a charging station that has all the chargers and space you need in one consistent location.

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