

iPads in Kindergarten

Protecting your iPads

You've purchased your new iPads, the children are excited, and you're ready to get started. There's just one thing: those shiny iPads you bought are starting to look very, very vulnerable in the busy room. What can you do? Cases and screen protectors are key to keeping iPads safe.



There is a wide range of cases available to protect your iPads.

Tip: Choosing a sturdy case with handles can make it easier for little hands to carry iPads through the room.

Choosing a case

There are many options when it comes to buying cases for those brand-new, expensive iPads. You can get hard or soft cases, leather, rubber, cases with keyboards, stands...the list goes on



and on. The biggest piece of advice we can give is to get a cover that has a snug fit and covers as much surface area as possible. Children drop things often, so a semi-hard case can help to absorb the impact. Think about how often you'll need to wipe down the iPads too; a bumpy texture may feel wonderful, but it could be harder to remove bits of debris from the surface. Any material that's too absorbent could also make it hard to remove stains.

Screen protectors

Many cases already come with built-in screen protectors, but if the one you like doesn't, you'll need to buy the screen protector separately. You can get glass protectors or adhesive film precut to the shape of your iPad model. In our research project, we bought adhesive screens in bulk online. The great thing about screen protectors is that they take the brunt of damage from scratches and sticky fingers that would make the actual screen much harder to replace. Depending on your class, you can probably get away with replacing your screen protectors annually.



Tip: If you're good with crafts, there are many guides online to making your own screen protectors. This inexpensive option is great if you have the skill and you're on a budget.

2This project is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council

Storing your iPads

Once you've got your covers and screen protections sorted out, it's time to think about how you'll store the iPads themselves. The last thing you want after investing in your iPads is to have them stolen or lost!

Here are some suggestions for places to safely store your new iPads.

- Dedicated space in a storage room
- Locked cupboards in your classroom
- Filing cabinets
- Chests and other lockable storage units



Tip: If you've got the space, consider having a subcompartment of your storage dedicated to keeping chargers, cables, and other accessories for your iPads. You could even keep a stash of extra screen protectors for when you need them!

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