

SMART introduces first interactive table for primary school students

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SMART Technologies announces the SMART Table interactive learning centre, a ground-breaking learning display designed specifically for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children (ages 4 to 11). The new product is a brightly coloured table with a touch-sensitive surface where groups of students can simultaneously interact with digital content. Working together to complete interactive lessons, play educational games and solve problems, students think the interactive learning centre is fun and easy to use, and their teachers find it educational. The SMART Table provides a learner-centric experience for small groups that allows students to select or move objects, draw or write on the screen simultaneously, and work together to find answers to preset questions. The interactive learning centre is an ideal complement to the whole-class learning opportunities provided by SMART Board™ interactive whiteboards. For example, a teacher can introduce a concept on an interactive whiteboard and then ask students in small groups to explore it further on a SMART Table. The SMART Table's touch technology builds on SMART's DViT™ (Digital Vision Touch) technology, which enables multiuser and multitouch functionality. The product reflects the company's leading role in touch interaction technology, particularly as it relates to interactive whiteboards and interactive displays.

The SMART Table (patent pending) is ready to use right out of the box, containing a customised PC and a projection system that are turned on with a single button. It has a built-in 27" (69-cm) screen (on the diagonal) that can read simultaneous input from virtually unlimited number of fingers or pen tools. At 29" (73 cm) wide and 25" (65 cm) high, the SMART Table is ideal for small groups to work around without crowding. It ships with a standard set of interactive learning applications, interactive lesson activities and educational games, and also supports SMART Notebook software through the SMART Table toolkit. A toolkit is included with every unit and allows teachers using a PC or Mac to create their own customised lesson activities and content, which can then be easily loaded onto the table with a USB key. Independent software and content developers have already recognised the potential of the SMART Table and are creating additional content for it, which will be available with the product in spring 2009.

"Technological innovation in education over the past two decades has enriched student learning and made it a more effective, learner-centred experience," says Nancy Knowlton, SMART's CEO. "The SMART Table interactive learning centre builds on that success by giving students a 21st-century tool they will understand and use to further their own sense of collaboration, discovery and excitement."

Image

To download an image of the SMART Table, go to www.smarttech.com/table

Features

Multitouch – Accepts simultaneous input from an virtually unlimited number of fingers or pens

Multiuser – Accepts simultaneous input from many users

SMART Table toolkit – The toolkit is a stand-alone application that runs on teachers' computers so they can customise SMART Table applications, or create personal content in SMART Notebook software and load them on the SMART Table's customised PC using a USB key

Audio support – Supports applications with audio

Gesture recognition – Supports object scaling (pinching the sides of an object to control the size) and object rotation (putting two or more fingers on an object to rotate it)

Customisable – Offers a wide range of images and backgrounds to make activities more engaging for specific topics

Convenient size – Approximately 29" (73 cm) wide and 25" (65 cm) high with a 27" (69-cm) screen (on the diagonal), making it ideal for young children in small groups

Wide viewing angle – Ensures viewers can clearly see the information on the screen from any angle

Precision touch – Direct, precise touch control for accurate data selection and interaction

No calibration – Ready to use; take it out of the box and plug it in

SMART Table product package – Ships with a standard set of interactive learning applications, interactive lesson activities and educational games

Pricing and availability

The suggested price for the SMART Table interactive learning centre is UK £5,499 + VAT. The product will be available in Spring 2009. For more information and specifications, visit www.smarttech.com.

About SMART

SMART Technologies invented the touch-sensitive SMART Board interactive whiteboard in 1991. It was just the first of many innovative, easy-to-use products that have earned SMART worldwide recognition and made it the undisputed global leader in the interactive whiteboard product category. Its strategic alliance with Intel® Corporation and strong commitment to research and development has accelerated SMART's growing line of technology solutions. SMART's ever-expanding line of powerful technology solutions has given educators the ability to transform learning for over 20 million students around the world.

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Please note that SMART is written in all capital letters.

