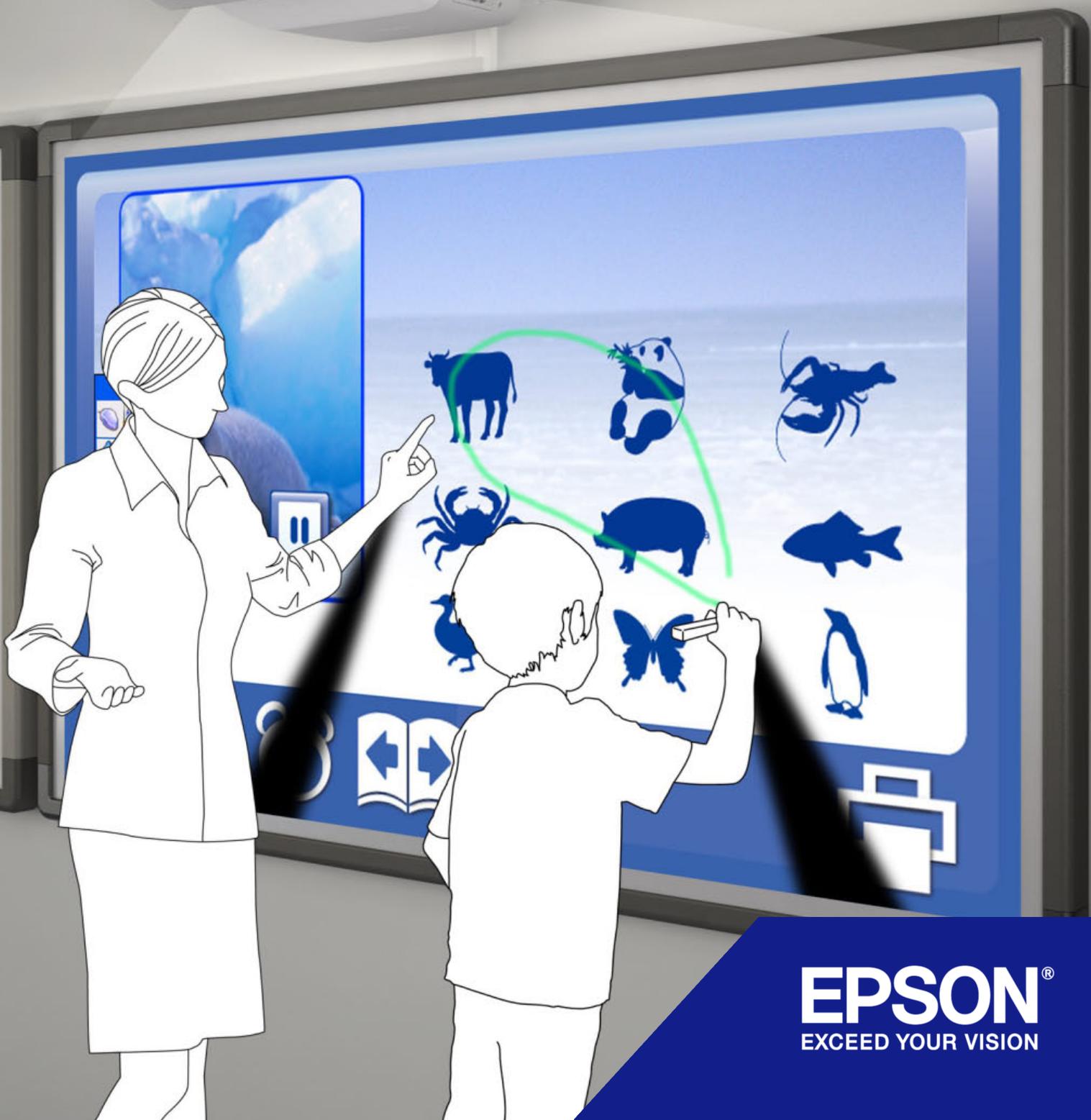


WHY INTERACTIVE PROJECTORS ARE GREAT FOR EDUCATION



INTERACTIVE PROJECTORS ARE ALL ABOUT ENCOURAGING COLLABORATION.

Epson's interactive projectors are all about making learning more engaging. With a lot of experience producing interactive education projectors, it's no wonder that education institutions are abandoning interactive whiteboards in favour of Epson's interactive projectors.

Better value and more versatile, an interactive projector provides a fuss-free all-in-one solution that makes education a more collaborative and fun process than ever before.

Encouraging collaboration

Interactive projectors are all about encouraging collaboration. Take Epson's popular EB-485Wi projector; it uses two interactive pens, which allows a teacher and a student – or two students – to write on the same screen at the same time. Responsive and easy to use, these pens also have a 'hover' function that accurately detects when they are not in contact with the projection surface. It's features like this that have persuaded the Abu Dhabi Education Council to take 3,000 units of Epson's EB-485Wi as part of an investment in state-of-the-art education technology throughout the Emirate.

The Abu Dhabi Education Council has taken full advantage of the unique capabilities of the EB-485Wi projector to create new possibilities for both students and teachers around collaborative learning. The interactive features of the projector motivate students to be more participative in class.

Smart apps & tablet integration

Epson's ushering-in of a new era of interactive projectors goes beyond collaboration to achieving an advanced smart learning platform for schools. Using the Epson iProjection app for tablets and smartphones, a teacher can annotate the onscreen image from a mobile device, and so can students. Not only can you project content from smart devices, but the PC-free annotation whiteboard mode means that teachers don't even need to power up their computers.

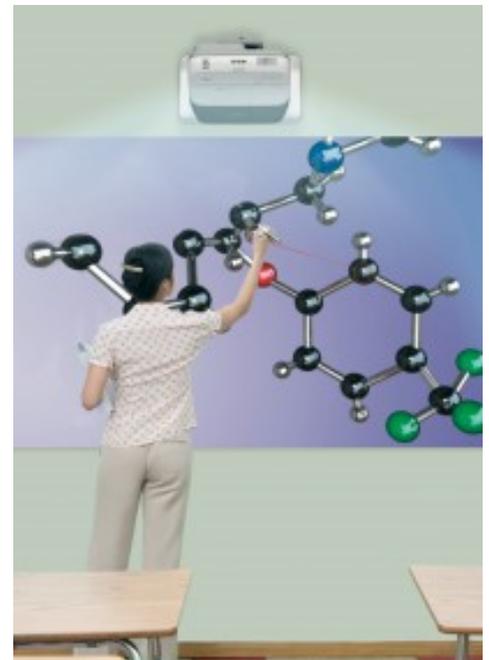
"With an active tablet that forms part of the whole system in the classroom, the student can write on the board from behind his or her

Veurs Lyceum school in the Netherlands

"We get compliments from teachers on the quality and operation of the Epson projectors and a number of the younger teachers maintain that they could no longer give lessons without projectors. So I'm curious to know what surprises Epson has in store for us in the next few years."

Frank van Leeuwen

Maths teacher



desk,” says Patrick Verver, Systems Manager at Veurs Lyceum, a modern small-scale school in the Netherlands providing secondary education and vocational training.

For more information, visit
www.epson.eu

Show video & films in class

Another string to the interactive projector’s bow is its ability to annotate directly onto videos in class, which is an increasingly important part of the content mix in schools and colleges. “When ICT started to play a role in education, we saw a growing need for our teachers to be able to make presentations and show films in class,” says Verver.

“The use of audio, video and educational software just makes lessons more interesting for both teachers and students,” says Rob Delissen, Head of IT at Minkema College in Woerden in the Netherlands, adding, “Interactive projection is necessary in order to use learning resources to their best effect.” Minkema College now has an Epson EB-485Wi interactive projector in 57 teaching rooms.

Making use of existing whiteboards

“The good thing about Epson's interactive projector is that it projects onto a whiteboard you can simply write on with a pen too,” says Delissen, who has paired each EB-485Wi interactive projector at Minkema College with a folding five-surface whiteboard. The EB-485Wi projector creates its image on the middle section, while the wings can be written on using regular whiteboard pens. “This way the teacher doesn't have to write the homework assignments on the part of the board that's being projected onto,” says Delissen.

For many institutions a big advantage of installing interactive projectors is that no other upgrade is needed; existing whiteboards can stay because interactive projectors can project an image onto any surface. So exciting, yet simple is the technology that it's likely that, at first, many students will want to see exactly how their classroom's new interactive projector works. Says Frank van Leeuwen, a Maths teacher at Veurs Lyceum, of students' initial reaction to the interactive projectors: “They would come and look at the interactive surface from close up, but came to the conclusion that there was no technology in the board, it all came from the projector.”

Bright & detailed images

Epson's expertise in projection, and the development of its own powerful 3LCD system, means that image quality from these products is second to none. So much so that the Herakleidon Museum, situated at the foot of the world-famous Acropolis in Athens, uses a fleet of EB-485Wi interactive projectors to project images of the works of M.C. Escher, Leonardo Da Vinci, Victor Vasarely and Kandinsky as part of its educational programs. Projecting a White and Colour Light Output of 3,100 lumens, images are crisp, vibrant and colourful – and, crucially, remain so even in bright daylight. Epson’s 3LCD technology ensures

high-quality images with equally high White and Colour Light Output, and three times brighter colours than competitive projectors¹.

Such exacting images are so important for an art museum, but they also apply to schools and colleges that have classrooms, lecture halls and other spaces with lighting that many other projectors would find too challenging. For highly-lit spaces with a lot of ambient light, these high-lumen and ultra-short-throw interactive projectors offer the ultimate performance.

Ultra short-throw projection

The ultra short-throw EB-485Wi can project images from a distance of just a few centimetres, allowing teachers to interact with students without shadows or distracting reflections to contend with. “We don’t have the same space available in every room, so these projectors enable us to project from a short distance,” says Verver.

The versatility of interactive projectors stretches to a wide choice of connectivity too, which allow teachers to make all the changes they need while teaching. That's crucial for teachers that need to use a wide variety of content from multiple sources; swapping the projected image from a laptop to a tablet and onto a DVD player is far easier and quicker when performed by a touch of a button on the remote control. “We highlight the excellent connectivity of our Epson interactive projectors, which enables us to change the video input source immediately and without fail,” says Fe'lix Hernando, director of new technologies at the Madrid-based San Pablo CEU University Foundation, which has over 70 Epson interactive projectors at work.

Easy to install

Interactive projectors are simple to install as they convert any (probably existing) standard whiteboard into an exciting interactive surface merely by projecting an image upon it; it's the projector itself that does all the work. As there's no need to install a separate interactive whiteboard, installation costs and disruption are minimised. Having everything provided in one integrated solution reduces the overall cost of ownership. “You certainly save costs in man hours when you compare it with a projector and a whiteboard,” says van Leeuwen. “We get compliments from teachers on the quality and operation of the Epson projectors and a number of the younger teachers maintain that they could no longer give lessons without projectors. So I’m curious to know what surprises Epson has in store for us in the next few years.”

A new characteristic of Epson's upcoming new EB-595Wi projector (on sale April 2014) builds on an exciting trend for finger-touch interactivity. When an infrared curtain over the projected image is broken by a finger, the projector can calculate the exact point that a user is touching, and annotate the image accordingly. No pens required!

Increasing engagement

A learning experience that's more involving and more fun is always going to increase students' motivation and produce better results. Hugely versatile interactive projectors help achieve this by broadening the possibilities for teachers' classroom methods. "Epson interactive projectors have delivered ease of use and sparked greater attention and interactivity for pupils in class," says Hernando, while van Leeuwen appreciates the chance to involve students more in the lesson. "Before we had the interactive projectors, I sat behind my computer, which was a more distant and, for me, less pleasant way of teaching," he says. "If you stand in front of the board you can interact with the students. Apart from that, students are accustomed to interaction. It's what they do." Driverless installation and auto-calibration makes it even easier to get started, so there's no wasted teaching time.

The use of this exciting new technology can bring impressive results. Nicholas Kondoprias, managing director at Herakleidon Museum, thinks that students on its art and mathematics programmes have benefitted hugely from Epson's interactive projectors. "Our staff mathematicians often comment that students who are usually quiet come out of their shells and participate in the lessons, while the advanced students open their wings thanks to the interactivity provided by Epson."

Epson's interactive projectors are rapidly being adopted throughout education, and the reasons are as simple as the products' design and features. Is there any more exciting use for new technology than to help encourage collaboration and engagement in learning?

1 - Compared to leading 1-chip DLP business and education projectors based on NPD data, July 2011 through June 2012. Colour brightness (Colour Light Output) measured in accordance with IDMS 15.4. Colour brightness will vary depending on usage conditions. For more information please visit www.epson.eu/CLO