



Lesson Plan by Epic! Master Teacher Jen Auten in California

Introduce Students to Epic! and Individualized Reading

Objective

Students will:

1. Customize their profile.
2. Understand what they can see in their profile.
3. Set-up their preferences in Epic!
4. Learn how to browse for books and videos.
5. Learn how to search for books and videos.
6. Understand what they can see in their “my library” tab.
7. Understand how to use the mailbox.
8. Available features when reading a book.

Materials

1. Epic! app or web app

Preparation

1. Create an Educator Account on Epic!
2. Create individual student profiles for each student.
3. Load Epic! onto tablets or computers.
4. Create and assign at least 1 collection.

Lesson Procedure

1. Project a sample student Epic profile on the whiteboard or interactive whiteboard while students have a device open to Epic! As you demonstrate each step they follow along on their own device. If students are sharing devices have them work in teams to complete each step for each

profile or have them complete for 1 profile and give them time later to review Epic! by completing the steps for the other profile(s).

Customize and Understand Their Profile

2. Tap on the profile icon in the top left corner once logged into Epic! account.
3. Tap on the “customize” button and modify. I usually set a time limit of 3 minutes for students to complete this step and they are not allowed to change their profile name. Additionally, making changes to the profile is off-limits except at the beginning of each trimester so that students focus on reading when they’re using Epic! At this point I have students close their devices and direct their attention to the “sample” student I have displayed that contains reading data.
4. Explain that they can “level up” as they spend more time reading and they can see how many books they’ve finished, how many pages they’ve read, and how many hours they’ve read. I impress upon students the importance of reading and understanding instead of flipping pages without paying attention and I let them know that I have a dashboard that shows me their activity in Epic!
5. Show and discuss the reading log and badges. I usually spend several minutes highlighting some of the badges that were popular to earn the previous year.

Set-up Preferences

6. Ask students to open their devices again and follow along on their screens as you demonstrate.
7. Tap on the “browse” button on the left.
8. Tap on the “preferences” button on the middle right of the screen.
9. Select the appropriate age.
10. As appropriate explain the different book format options as well as the different interest categories. I usually give students about 3 minutes to set-up. At this point I have students close their devices and direct their attention to the “sample” student I have displayed that contains reading data.

Browse

11. Demonstrate how to browse and when this would be appropriate. Show the different dropdown categories. The books and videos that appear in the “recommended” dropdown meet preference criteria while books that appear in other dropdown menus don’t necessarily meet those criteria. This might be especially important for younger readers due to reading level difficulty of some of the books.
12. Point out that preferences can be changed at any time and can be accessed from different screens.

Search

13. Tap on the “search” button on the left.
14. Show students how to search by title, author and keyword. Demonstrate the ability to narrow by format (books, read-to-me, etc.) and the different sort by categories. It would be helpful to talk to students about Lexile/AR level either as a whole class or individually so they can leverage this information for themselves.
15. Show students what happens if they search for a book or author not available in Epic!
16. Tap on the “search options” button in the top right corner to demonstrate advanced search options.

My Library

17. Tap on the “my library” button on the left. Show students what shows up in the favorites and recent tabs as well as how to make books available offline. Making books available offline may or may not be beneficial depending on device storage space and Wifi strength.
18. Tap on the “mailbox” button on the left.
19. Explain to students that this is where you will put assignments for them to read. The mailbox shows how many books and videos are in a collection and how much of that the student has finished.

Reading a Book

20. Tap on any book cover. Point out the reading level and reading time information, how to alter brightness, how to flip pages, how to make available offline if appropriate, how to check progress toward finishing a book, and how to make full screen.
21. When a book is finished demonstrate how to rate it and favorite it if appropriate.
22. Set expectations for using Epic! during free choice reading time instead of choosing a book from the class library.
23. Allow students time to explore the app.