



Tots and tech: challenges for early childhood in a digital age

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Topic: Tots and Technology – A Toxic Combination?

Biography

Dr Michael Nagel is an Associate Professor in the School of Education at the University of the Sunshine Coast where he teaches and researches in the areas of cognition, human development, behaviour and learning. He is the author of eleven books on child development and learning used by teachers and parents in over twenty countries. Dr Nagel has delivered over 300 workshops and seminars for parents and teachers nationally and internationally. Nominated as Australian Lecturer of the Year each year since 2010, Dr Nagel has been an invited guest on 'TV New Zealand Breakfast', 'Canada AM', 'Sunrise', 'A Current Affair' and 'The Project', is a member of the prestigious International Neuropsychological Society, sits on a number of education boards and committees and is a feature writer for 'Jigsaw' and the 'Child' series of magazines which collectively offers parenting advice to more than one million Australian readers.

Abstract

In a world where technology is a taken-for-granted fact of life, younger and younger children are being exposed to the alluring glow of blue screens and digital baby sitters. This keynote asks important, and arguably controversial, questions about the efficacy and appropriateness of technology in the hands of children at home and in schools. It also suggests that parents, educators and policy makers would do well to focus on developmental needs, not techno-wizardry, when making decisions regarding the use of technology with children.