The iPod Touch: A lively sketchbook

Image from Apple patent filing
...I noticed that a repeated theme in many discussions of the iPhone in education was that it was "only" good for "notetaking."

This, however, struck me as missing a key point—and one that predates any introduction of computer technology into the classroom. As any serious writer, visual artist, or musician knows, one of their most important professional tools is a good notebook or sketchbook. I know no choreographer or theater director that would take a step outside their home without a way to take notes in hand. And as any scientist would be happy to confirm, the "good bits" and insights of the research process are to be found in lab notebooks.

In short, prefacing "notetaking" with "only" completely misses an essential dimension of the creative process: fundamental parts...of the act of creation occur as "notetaking."

—Dr. Ruben R. Puantedura’s Weblog: “The Lively Sketchbook”
A pocket computer useful in fieldwork?

- Documenting
- Communicating
- Observing
- Interpreting
- Calculating
- Recording
- Referencing
- Outlining
Swarthmore has ITS has 20 iPod Touches configured with these lively sketchbook apps.

Contact ITS/Media Services to reserve them for your class to use for in-class activities or fieldwork.
Evernote helps you remember information: notes, ideas, snapshots and recordings.

Key features of Evernote:
● Create text, photo and audio notes
● Auto-synchronize your notes to your Mac, PC, and Web
● Magically makes text within snapshots searchable
● All notes include geo-location information for mapping and search

Cost for 20 copies:
FREE

http://www.evernote.com
Instaviz

INSTAVIZ is diagram sketching for your iPhone. Sketch some rough shapes and lines and Instaviz turns them into beautifully laid-out logical diagrams.

Cost for 20 copies:
$100

http://instaviz.com/
Sketchbook

Use Sketchbook to digitally capture your ideas as napkin sketches or produce artwork on-the-go.

http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/pc/item?siteID=123112&id=13872203

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Create a digital story in three simple steps:
1. Choose images/videos
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http://www.spacetime.us/iphone/
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• HTML webarchives
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http://www.goodware.com/goodreader.html
Voice recognition allows you to dictate text or email messages.

Hi John, call me when you get this e-mail. I'm running a little bit late.
Facetime

Apple’s face-to-face video calling application.

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Bretford PowerSync Case for 20 iPods.

Secure, carry, charge, and sync up to 20 iPods at a time. Each iPod is secured and protected in high-density padding. Each iPod has its own dock connector cable LED indicators show the charging status of each iPod. High-impact hardshell case for maximum protection. Works with Mac OS X and iTunes. Supports iPod touch, iPod nano, and iPod classic. Includes a 5’ USB cable for syncing all 20 at once. Syncing is only supported using a Mac running Mac OS X 10.4.10 or higher. Plugs into standard 120VAC wall outlet.
Popplet is great for sharing visual ideas
Mix text, video, and images onto a board to create mindmaps, storyboards, collages.

Cost for 20 copies:
$90

http://popplet.com/