

Tips on Green Screen use for Remote Teaching

What is the Green Screen Technique?

A Green Screen is commonly used by weather forecasters, where a presenter is usually seen standing in front of a large map, though in actuality it is a large blue or green background.

What is Chroma Keying

This is where you can replace the background in your video (or photo). The green screen is the background used when videoing. Chroma keying is the process where the specific colour element (chroma) is removed and replaced (keyed) with a different backdrop.



Original photo



photo with chroma removed



photo with chroma key editing

An example of a teacher using Green Screen Technology during Closure

Red Door School, Dublin <https://vimeo.com/410157760> Password: NCSE2020




Does the background have to be green?

No, other colours often work just as well including blue, pink, red, purple or yellow. Green is often preferred because it is less often in clothing.

What do I need to do this?

You need to create a green, blue, red, purple, pink or yellow background. This could be a sheet/fabric, painted wall, paper on wall etc. Alternatively, an official green screen (3.25m X 2m) can be purchased online from approximately €13.

For the technology side there are many options to choose from. Three options include

1.  **iMovies** on an iPad/iPhone (free)
2.  **Chromavid - Chromakey Green Screen afx Application** iPad/android (free for basic or 2.99 for annual subscription)
3.  **Green Screen by Do Ink** on an iPad/iPhone €5.49 (as of April 2020). This option has many options including resizing etc.

How do I actually do this? (Step by Step)



iMovies

Tip: Hold iPad/iPhone landscape rather than portrait for steps below (button on RHS)

Step 1:

Open the camera on your iPad and position the iPad so that you can record yourself talking to the camera sitting in front of your greenscreen background. Make your recording.

Step 2:

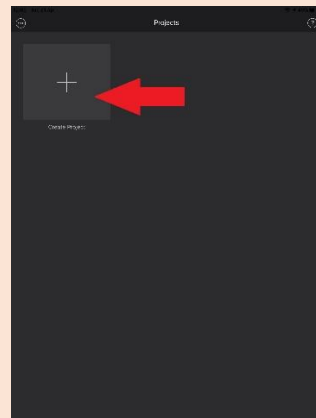
Open the camera on your iPad and take a photo of your garden/classroom/ beech/ within your 2km vicinity.

Step 3:

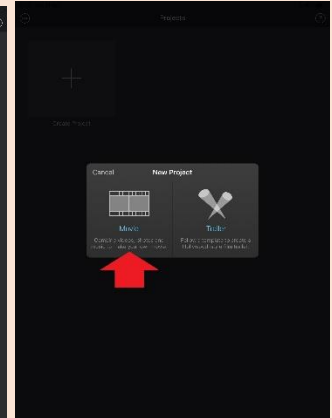
Open the iMovies App

Step 4:

Click on Create Project and click on the Movie option



(step: 4)



(step 4)



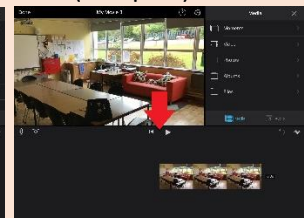
(step 5)

Step 5:

Choose the background photo you want to insert and click Create Movie at bottom



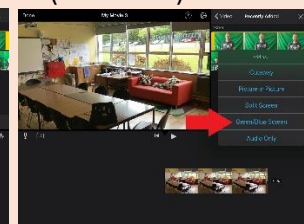
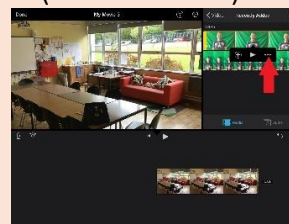
(not correct)



(correct)

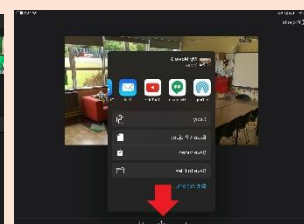
Step 6:

To proceed the time line must be corrected. See pictures



Step 7:

Click plus click on the 3 dots, click green/blue screen



Step 8:

You can now preview your video. Click on Done when happy. The bottom has an export button.



Chromavid – Chromakey Green Screen afx Application

Step 1:

Open the Chromavid App

Step 2:

Choose the background colour to be replaced (hint: usually green!)

Step 3:

Chose the replacement background (from Chromavid Gallery or your photo gallery)

Step 4:

Point camera towards person in front of green screen and start recording

Step 5:

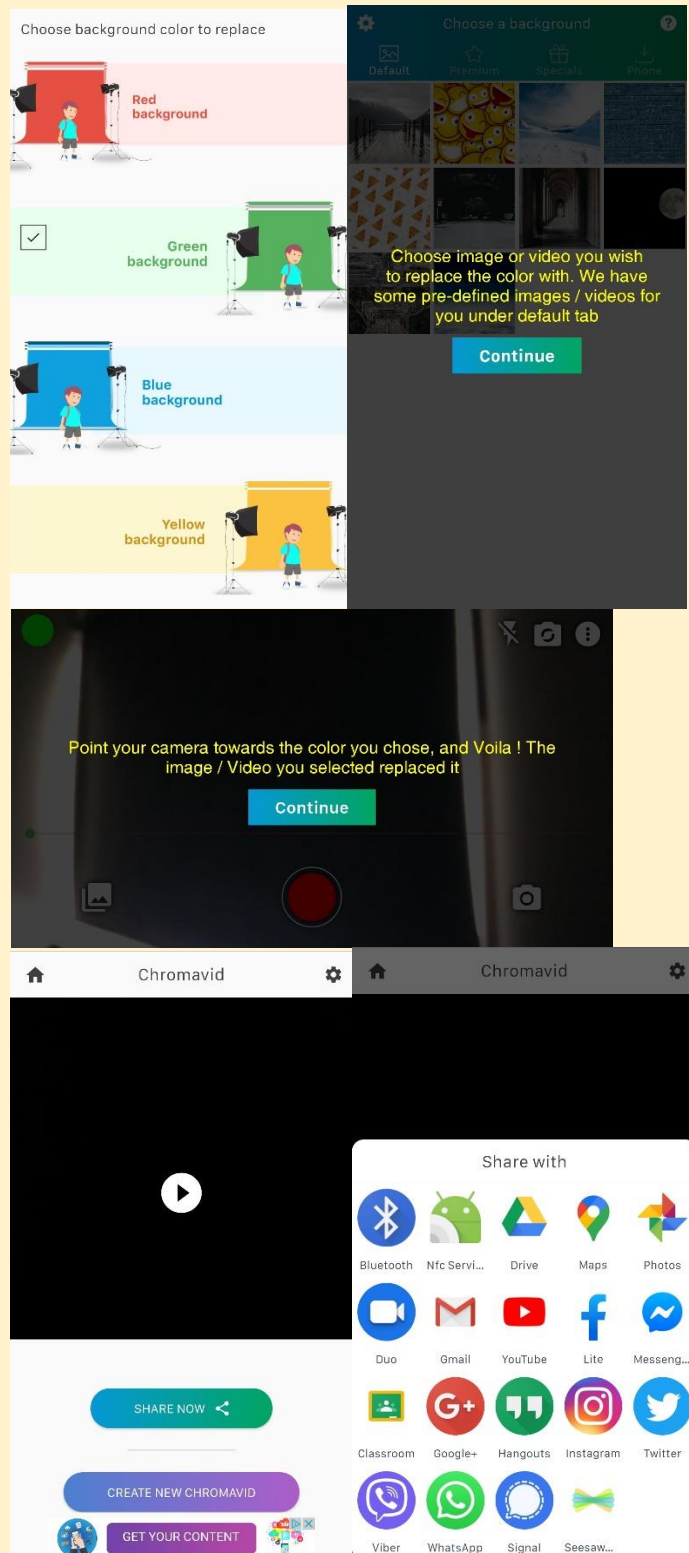
Press stop

Step 6:

Click on share

Step 7:

Click on Gmail/GDrive /Seesaw etc.





Green Screen by Do Ink

Step 1:

Open the camera on your device and position your device so that you can record yourself talking to the camera sitting in front of your greenscreen background. Make your recording.

Step 2:

Open the camera on your device and take a photo of your garden/classroom/ beech/ within your 2km vicinity.

Step 3:

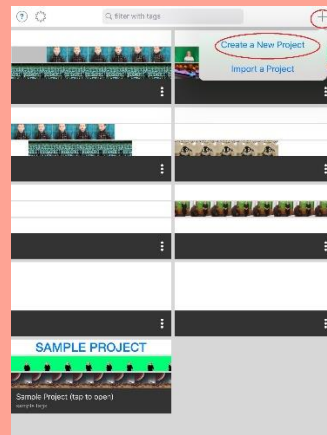
Open the Do Ink App. Click the + symbol on top right and 'Create a New Project'

Step 4: Backdrop

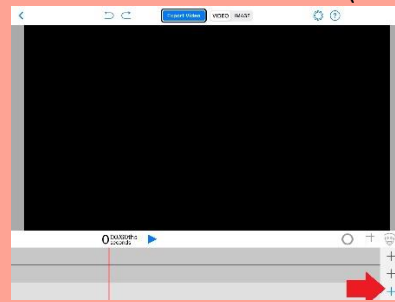
Turn your iPad to landscape. (Button on RHS). The screen will show three + symbols on the bottom right of the screen. The further down is the background. Click on the last +. Click on photos. Choose your background photo i.e. photo of your garden/classroom/ beech/within your 2km vicinity (from step 2). Click Done.

Step 5: Inserting Video

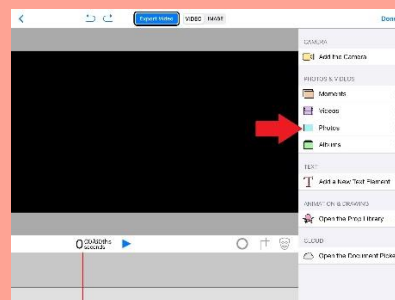
You now need to insert your video. The screen will again show three + symbols on the bottom right of the screen. The further down is the background. The middle one is the next layer, i.e. your video recorded in front of the greenscreen. Click on the + symbol second from bottom. Click on Videos. Choose your video recording.



(step 3)



(step 4)



(step 4)



(step 4)



(step 5)

Your video is complete. Click on Play to preview. Click on export at top. Then click on camera roll.

Click on show export options and click on seesaw/Gmail etc



- Consider using your own classroom/school as the inserted backdrop
- Your clothes: avoid wearing clothes which are similar in colour to the background because the clothing may be replaced with the background image/video. (unless intentional e.g., wearing a green top to make it appear that the subject has no body)
- You can also make your own green screen by using a sheet, painting the wall or use coloured paper as a background.
- Try and use a saturated colour for your screen. For instance, a rich blue will always work better than light blue or turquoise!
- Try and not have too many wrinkles in the background material. A shadow would present itself as a darker colour to the camera and might not register for replacement.
- Try and have even lighting again for avoidance of shadow issues.
- Supposedly the ideal distance between the green screen backdrop and subject is 3m!
- Play with some basic or fun examples first. Remember baby steps, and best of luck!
- With the Do Ink App you can easily resize your video to fit nicely within the background photo.