# **Y4 TinkerCad Maze Project - Key Takeaways**

## **Technical Setup**

* Set up TinkerCad classroom through Google Classroom = mixed results
* All students logged in eventually but username/password issues common
* Class share links sometimes redirected to Autodesk/ClassLink pages
* **Recommendation:** Skip Google Classroom for login; go straight to TinkerCad
* Use Google Classroom only for deploying resources, not login

## **Hardware Challenges**

* Students didn't have mice (trackpads only)
* Big transition learning keyboard and mouse controls
* Trackpad navigation especially challenging

## **First Session Focus**

* Dedicate first full session to controls and shortcuts
* Cover: changing perspectives, rotations, grouping, trackpad navigation
* Build foundational skills before content creation

## **Project Flow**

* Strong start with good buy-in
* Students remembered skills initially
* Early lessons successful when working from direct specifications
* Struggled when personalizing (draw tool, different sized walls, varied rotations)

## **Design Strategy Idea**

* Have students create **two versions:**
  + Simple maze (for printing)
  + Complex maze (for DelightEX)
* Save simple maze first, then duplicate to create complex version
* **Concern:** Possible confusion about which file to work in during lessons

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## **Timeline & Engagement Issues**

* Interest dropped after 4-5 weeks
* Busy term with interruptions (holidays, Moon Festival, No Tech Day)
* Gaps between lessons = forgotten skills
* End of term = lots of stop-start during DelightEX deployment

## **DelightEX Deployment**

* It worked but was "hard, hard work"
* End-of-term timing made it challenging

## **Fast Finisher Solutions**

* Research different maze types (not just square)
* Design alternative maze shapes
* Explore maze design variety and attempt to recreate in TinkerCad