Foundational Training Series

- Understanding the mission and vision of the iiTablet Tshomiz programme
  - We explain the history of the programme and some of the results we have received so far.
  - We explain the importance and usefulness of Numeracy skills and why we have chosen it as a meaningful intervention. We have chosen it because foundational Numeracy skills are typically weak in South African schools, it is feared and there are significant knowledge gaps. Numeracy skills are essential for obtaining decent work and participating meaningfully in the economy. It also includes problem solving skills, strategic and logical thinking and improves accuracy and efficiency.

- Who is a facilitator
  - We emphasise self-awareness of the important role the facilitator plays in the programme.
  - The facilitator is a person from the community, who cares about our community, cares about our schools and our children and their futures. A facilitator wants to create a safe and encouraging space for learning and curiosity. Facilitators are dependable, reliable, timeous, positive, happy and motivated and they care. Facilitators feel and are supported and feel comfortable learning alongside a learner and comfortable to ask questions if they are unsure.

- Facilitation techniques
  - The facilitator facilitates learning. They have goals for their learners, ask their learners questions and equip them with the tools or strategies to find the answer.
  - Our facilitators are trained in various strategies to help their learner find the answer. For example, encouraging children to use their fingers and eyes, the efficiency of counting in groups, using physical objects and other teaching aids.
  - Our facilitators are also taught how to play various games with their learners that stimulate various different mathematic techniques. These games become an essential part of a technology programme, as if the technology fails us (for whatever reason) then we are armed with a productive learning “plan b”. More detail on our teaching aids and games can be found here.
  - Language assistance, translation and exposure to English are important skills for the facilitator. Creating a bilingual learning environment of exposure to English and translation removes language as a barrier to learning and improves the learner’s confidence in English.
  - Knowing how to detect challenges and encouraging mastery.
Comprehensive training on the tablet and the MathsBuddy programme