One Laptop per Child

Internationalization

Lookaside & click-to-translate

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Click-to-translate

- Demo!
  - Code: http://dev.laptop.org/git/users/cscott/click2trans
The Big Idea

• Every element of the GUI can be translated on-the-fly
• Everywhere text appears, you can request translation aids
• User's “Local” translations augment (and overwrite) system translations
• Share, merge & enjoy!
  – Local translations -> “official” translations
Switch!

- Multilingual kids should be able to compare UI in the “official school language” with their native language
- Learn a new language!
Beg, borrow, and steal

- Mac OS X: mouse over word, Apple+Control+d
  - http://niquimerret.com/?p=72
Translation lookup

• Google AJAX Language API
  – http://code.google.com/apis/ajaxlanguage/

• Works for connected machines – a good start?
How to find a good translation

• Multiple languages, multiple places
• For each of: Quechua, Spanish, English...
  – Look in local, then activity, then system translation area
• Multiple separable translation packs
  – Security?
Implementation

• Gettext shim, or patch, for multiple languages, multiple locations
  – Both C library and python, since python doesn't use C gettext

• Gtk shim or patch for legacy support

• New “Translatable widgets” which specify pre-translated string directly