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## Desktops

## **Q&A: Nicholas Negroponte, founder, One Laptop Per Child**

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Comment Why not see OLPC for yourself?

On blogs.zdnet.com 22Nov2006, Adrian Kingsley-Hughes explains how to download and run the One Laptop Per Child (OLPC) software image on Qemu or VMWare.

The OLPC uses a form of Linux, but children will be using its applications, not its operating system.

Who worries about the operating system embedded in their mobile phone?

The OLPC project is "as well as" rather than "instead of" all the other projects which aim to widen access to IT technology & the Internet, using new or refurbished hardware, often also based on Linux.

I'm not entirely convinced about the educational benefit of this technology but "developing countries" are very diverse and conditions vary greatly even within such countries.

The \$250M that Libya is spending on the OLPC project certainly sounds much better value than the 225M+ Pounds that Blair is spending on the highly intrusive "UK Children's Database."

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