

RESOURCES FOR ONLINE INSTRUCTION DAYS

Disclaimer: Although many of these resources have been reviewed recently, the links may not work when you try them. (If that happens, try typing the name of the site into *Google*.) Websites must be checked frequently to make sure they are operational. Many educational websites are free, but not all. Some features are limited with the free version or during a trial period. You may not have access to all the features or activities unless you subscribe. Some websites allow advertising. Be sure to check this before you send any students to that site. You may want to have parents sign a permission slip regarding the students' use of the Internet. Include 1) a disclaimer that some sites may have advertising, since schools won't have control of that, and 2) state that while the school will provide links to specific and safe educational sites, as well as can be expected, it is the parents' responsibility to supervise computer use, and have safeguards or filters on their home devices.

GENERAL RESOURCES: These have multiple subjects and grade levels. You will need to search for your specific topic as you navigate the site. They are all slightly different.

Common Sense Media <https://www.commonsensemedia.org/>

Find teacher-written reviews of thousands of educational tools, apps, and programs with Common Sense Media. The site also offers ready-made lesson plans, webinars, videos, and more. Plus it's a great site to have parents use at home.

Crash Course – <https://www.youtube.com/user/crashcourse/playlists>

A collection of short videos that students can watch on YouTube (High School probably). Includes traditional subjects such as literature covering *Great Gatsby*, *Romeo and Juliet*, etc., but also some interesting options such as Media Literacy, Computer Science, Study Skills, and Intellectual Property

Cybrary Man's Educational Web Sites - <https://cybraryman.com>

Tremendous collections curated by a long-time educator. Choose "Educators" and then you can search by Level or Subject. When you choose a subject, then each is broken down by specific topic. For example, start with a subject like Language Arts, then choose Shakespeare or Parts of Speech, etc. Easy to navigate.

EdHelper – <https://www.edhelper.com/>

Graded resources, most are printable. May come in handy when looking for additional reading, spelling, math by grade level. Even grade level reading books. Middle School and High School supplemental materials as well, by grade and subject.

Ed Shelf – <https://edshelf.com/>

A socially curated discovery engine of websites, mobile apps, desktop programs, and electronic products for teaching and learning.

HippoCampus – <https://www.hippocampus.org/>

Free educational resources for middle school and high school. 7000 video resources in 13 subject areas.

National Geographic – <https://www.nationalgeographic.org/education/classroom-resources/>

National Geographic has a site dedicated to teachers and students. It is searchable by resources, grade, and subject. It contains many things for history as well as science.

Open Educational Resources Commons <https://www.oercommons.org/>

Thousands of resources that can be searched by type, subject, level, and standard.

PBS Learning – pbs.org/teachers

Curated FREE, standards-aligned videos, interactives, lesson plans. Search by subject or grade.

Primary Sources - <https://www.schrockguide.net/primary-sources.html>

There are millions of digitized primary source materials from museums, libraries, and personal collections found on the Web. Learn how to use these materials to support lessons across the curriculum. There are general ports, super sites, and some organized by specific subject area.

Smithsonian Learning Lab – <https://learninglab.si.edu/discover>

More than a million multimedia resources

Smithsonian Kids – <https://www.si.edu/Kids> Fun stuff for kids online.

TeacherTube - <https://www.teachertube.com/>

TeacherTube is one of the best sources for instructional videos in a safe environment. From enlivening math with teacher raps to sharing table manners videos with parents, TeacherTube has it.

SCIENCE, INCLUDING VIRTUAL LABS:

Biology labs - https://learningcenter.nsta.org/mylibrary/collection.aspx?id=ldPT0Qtby/w_E

ChemCollective <http://www.chemcollective.org/>

Students can review and learn chemistry concepts using our virtual labs, simulations, and tutorials. This is organized by a group of faculty and staff.

National Science Foundation - <https://www.nsf.gov/news/classroom/>

Welcome to Classroom Resources--a diverse collection of lessons and resources for teachers, their students and students' families. Materials are arranged by subject area.

National Science Teachers Association - <https://learningcenter.nsta.org/>

Explore All Resources, choose “Free” but you must be an NTSA member. The National Science Teachers Association site is a goldmine for classroom teachers who may not feel as comfortable teaching geology and astronomy as they do reading and arithmetic. You'll find journal articles, experiment ideas, and a roundup of the latest science stories in the news.

Online Labs <http://onlinelabs.in/chemistry>

A collection of virtual labs and resources for teaching, aims to serve as a comprehensive, encyclopedic reference about online labs in a variety of subjects, particularly virtual laboratory simulations for science education.

Physics labs - <http://onlinelabs.in/physics>

SOCIAL STUDIES:

EDSITEment - <https://edsitement.neh.gov/>

This fantastic site, developed by the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Trust for the Humanities, offers lesson plans as well as primary sources, videos, and photos for a wide range of humanities topics.

Virtual Field Trips

National Parks - NationalParks.org

Provides students with electronic field trips that provide students the opportunity to go to parks they may never otherwise get to visit. The National Parks Service offers free [ranger-guided virtual field trips](#) on a first come first serve basis.

Did you know that you can watch tons of 360° videos on Youtube? You can search through tons of [360° videos](#) (or “*360-degree videos*” and your topic) on almost anything.

9 Great Virtual Field Trips –

<https://www.waterford.org/resources/3-great-virtual-field-trips-for-early-learners/>

For example, The San Diego Zoo Kids site offers thousands of resources for educators, including lesson plans, games, live feeds of animals, and detailed information on a variety of species from the African dwarf crocodile to the Western lowland gorilla.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/science-virtual-field-trips/>

These 3 longer field trips are amazing. Desserts and grasslands of Africa, The great forest of China (and pandas!), and the marine life of the coral reefs of Pulau. (About 35-40 minutes each)

Do a web search on the place or topic you would like to visit and see if there is a virtual field trip for that. Volcanoes? Panning for gold? Virtual field trips come in all lengths. Be careful not to use one that is so long that you don't have time for follow-up activities. Or have students watch one on one day and respond the next day.

LANGUAGE ARTS:

NoRedInk <https://www.noredink.com/>

An online tool used for teaching grammar, usage, mechanics and style to students in 4th through 12th grade. ... The majority of NoRedInk's offerings are free to users, however the company does offer access to upgraded features through a paid subscription to NoRedInk Premium.

Purdue Owl - https://owl.purdue.edu/owl/purdue_owl.html

Helps, tutorials and many videos on various aspects of writing, including research and citations. See the link Purdue Owl Vidcasts on the left side of the page.

Readworks - <https://www.readworks.org/>

This website is available for K-12 teachers online and free. Teachers have access to an extensive library of articles. This website supplements the literature with reading comprehension questions, vocabulary lessons, formative assessments and teacher guidance. What is most beneficial about this website is the amount of assistance provided to both students and teachers in the form of supplemental materials and assessments.

ReadWriteThink <http://www.readwritethink.org/>

Along with hundreds of engaging language arts interactive tools and resources for students, you'll find lesson plans, activities, professional development resources, and apps for students K–12. Searchable by level.

Turnitin - <https://www.turnitin.com/>

Turnitin provides instructors with the tools to engage students in the writing process, provide personalized feedback, and assess student progress over time. It is especially helpful to prevent plagiarism and cheating. Can facilitate collaboration among students. (Subscription based)

TOOLS FOR TEACHERS:

Kathy Schrock's guide to teacher tools can be found on <https://www.schrockguide.net/>. While this doesn't have subject materials to be used with students, it has hundreds of thousands of links for teacher tools for everything! Start there for tools. Below are just a couple of examples.

Assessment and Rubrics - <https://www.schrockguide.net/assessment-and-rubrics.html>

Resources on assessment and rubrics. Lots of examples and articles to help you get started and NOT recreate the wheel.

Intellectual Property - <https://www.schrockguide.net/intellectual-property.html>

Copyright, and Understanding Fair Use in a Digital World...It's Different! Resources for teaching plagiarism, citations, etc. Copyright free photos available.

Multimedia Tools (video and screen capture)

- **Jing** - <https://www.techsmith.com/jing-tool.html> Simple and FREE, Jing is the perfect way to enhance your fast-paced online conversations. Create images and videos of what you see on your computer screen, then share them instantly!
- **Loom** – <https://www.loom.com/> Screencast tool to help you create simple, short tutorials. Easy to use.

- **ScreenCast-O-Matic** - <https://screencast-o-matic.com/> A screencast tool which has both web-based and desktop versions. It's very easy to use and will run so long as you have Java installed on your computer.

Multimedia Tools (Student Presentations/Collaboration)

Glogster - <https://edu.glogster.com/>

Glogster bills itself as a tool for making interactive posters, or glogs, containing pictures, text, video, links, and animation. A glog on *The Three Little Pigs* might contain links to various retellings, a read-aloud, images, standards, and more. Fun!

Another option is Prezi.com (free for 14 days), Google Classroom has Google Slides. Decide what is important to you and search for some "Alternatives to PowerPoint for students." There are many. Some are free. They all have different strengths and attributes.

Seesaw <https://web.seesaw.me/>

Is a platform for student engagement and collaboration. Teachers can empower students to create, reflect, share, and collaborate. Students "show what they know" using photos, videos, drawings, text, PDFs, and links. Includes digital portfolio.

Padlet - <https://padlet.com/>

Make beautiful boards, documents, and webpages that are easy to read and fun to share with others. Allows collaboration online.

CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT, LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS:

Google Classroom <https://classroom.google.com>

With several education tools, Google Classroom has revolutionized the way teachers manage their classrooms in brick and mortar schools as well as blended learning. It allows teachers to distribute, collect, and manage projects of all types. Include docs, sheets, and slides (similar to Microsoft Office applications) and Gmail. Probably the easiest to get started if you have limited technology background.

Moodle - <https://moodle.org/>

Free and open-source learning management system (LMS) Moodle is used for blended learning, distance education, flipped classroom and other e-learning projects in schools, universities, and workplaces in about 250 countries. Requires a fairly savvy technology person for the initial set-up.

Schoology - <https://www.schoology.com/>

Has developed over time into a full LMS, complete with resource folders, tracking systems, and communication programs. Schoology accounts are free for parents, teachers, and students; however, a license is required if a school wants to link data from the platform with its other programs. May be needed if you want to use this for attendance.

QUZZING, POLLING, ASSESSMENT:

- **Quizlet**– <https://quizlet.com/> Flashcards students can do individually or in groups. Many sets exist by subject. Students can enter their own material for review.
- **EdPuzzle** <https://edpuzzle.com/> was created to help you add quiz questions to video segments of any type. Find a video, add questions and assign it to your class. Watch as they progress and hold them accountable on their learning journey.
- **Socrative** – <https://socrative.com/k-12/> Quizzing, polling, and exit tickets from the classroom along with many other activities. Free version and a Pro version (\$\$) with additional features.
- **Survey Monkey** (<https://www.surveymonkey.com/>) and **Zoho** (<https://www.zoho.com/>) built for surveys and polls.
- **Moodle** and **Google Classroom** have their own polling mechanisms.

ARTICLES:

<https://globalonlineacademy.org/covid-19> – **Nine helpful articles for teachers and leaders, such as 15 Strategies for Online Learning When School is Closed, and 10 Strategies for Leading Online When School is Closed.** The page has other resources as well.