

Digital Tools for Educators Recommended by Educators

This list of resources was compiled by participants during a Robertson Center webinar, “How the Pandemic Reshaped Education - Positively.” To access a recording of the webinar, please [click here](#).

Apps/Platforms

01 Kami <https://www.kamiapp.com/>

- Prep questions or assignment details in advance to use on Kami, an online annotation tool (see [video tutorial](#)).
- You can connect via Google Classroom or open on a blank page. You'll then draw/type/paste in the equation, question, or thought exercise you want to focus on, and screen share when you're ready.
- Give feedback and mark mistakes directly on each scholar's work.
- During discourse of a lesson, have a scholar walk through the work and how they annotated the problem. Share your screen and write exactly what they are saying.
- Download exemplars on Kami to share with the class.
- Download exemplars on Kami to share with your department/grade team.

02 Google Classroom <https://classroom.google.com/u/0/>

- Provide consistent topics, assignment categories, point values, and due date times.
- Be consistent with when in the lesson you direct scholars to navigate to their Google Classroom assignment. You can use screen share to show scholars what you want them to do.
- Give scholars regular feedback on their assignments. Each week, select specific assignments on which to offer feedback and provide time for scholars to review your comments.
 - [Explore how to add comments and create a comment bank](#) to make grading more efficient in Google Classroom.

Apps/Platforms

03 **Go Guardian** <https://www.goguardian.com/>

- Go Guardian is a digital platform that enables teachers to ensure student digital health and integrity.
- Through Go Guardian, teachers can monitor student activity on their devices to ensure students are 1) showing integrity, 2) avoiding digital distractions and 3) focused on learning and tasks at hand. The Go Guardian program is also on high alert for any student internet activity that appears risky or age-inappropriate and keeps teachers apprised of any unusual activity. 4) Go Guardian can be used to chat 1:1 with a student and see their progress in class.

04 **Torsch** <https://www.torsh.co/>

- TORSH Talent provides you with an exceptional framework for collaborating, performing observations, and delivering evidence-based feedback. The time-synced commenting feature allows you to mark a moment in a recorded video observation with a text or audio comment. The natural meticulousness of this feature heightens focus by documenting precisely what happened and when, creating freedom for an educator to concentrate on what they can learn from that specific event or scenario.

05 **Quizizz** <https://quizizz.com/>

Quizizz allows you to conduct student-paced formative assessments in a fun and engaging way for students of all ages. The salient features include:

- Student-paced: Questions appear on each student's screen, so they can answer questions at their own pace, and review their answers at the end.
 1. BYOD: Can be played by students using any kind of device with a browser, including PCs, laptops, tablets, and smartphones. [Learn more.](#)
 2. Thousands of public quizzes: Amazing teachers around the world create thousands of great questions on Quizizz every day! This community effort generates great content that everyone can use.
 3. Quiz Editor: The Quizizz editor is the most awesome quiz editor in the world! Well... we think so at least... do let us know if you don't agree :)
We take the hassle out of creating quizzes by allowing you to pluck questions from any quiz, easily add images from the internet, auto-save your progress and tons of other features.
 4. Reports: Our reports give you detailed class-level and student-level insights for every quiz you conduct. You can also download the reports as an Excel spreadsheet.
 5. Quiz Customization: Teachers have multiple options to customize their quiz session to toggle the level of competition, speed, and other factors. [Learn more.](#)

06 **Generation Genius** <https://www.generationgenius.com/>

- Generation Genius is a K-8 teaching resource that brings school science standards to life through fun and educational videos paired with lesson plans, activities, quizzes, reading material and more.

Apps/Platforms

07 Kahoot <https://kahoot.com/>

- Kahoot! is a game-based learning platform, used as educational technology in schools and other educational institutions. Its learning games, “kahoots”, are user-generated, multiple-choice quizzes that can be accessed via a web browser or the Kahoot app.

08 STEM Sims <https://stemsims.com/>

- Over 100 interactive simulations of laboratory experiments and engineering design projects that draw grade 3-12 students into virtual worlds that promote inquiry.
- STEM Sims place students in scenario-based, contextual learning environments where they use virtual tools to deeply explore STEM topics that matter.
- It’s not just the simulations. You get lessons, methods, video walkthroughs and more. All designed to support a robust, minds-on STEM curriculum.
- Research-based and classroom-tested, STEM Sims enable students and teachers to experience leading-edge, next-generation STEM topics in the context of real-world applications.

09 Peardeck <https://www.peardeck.com/googleslides>

- Pear Deck is an interactive presentation tool used to actively engage students in individual and social learning. Teachers create presentations using their Google Drive account. Students log into the presentation with unique access codes and interact with questions while teachers monitor student and whole-class progress. Pear Deck is a freemium service; teachers and schools can access a wide array of tools and resources for free or opt to subscribe to a premium account.
 - <https://www.peardeck.com/googleslides>

10 Gimkit <https://www.gimkit.com/>

- Use Gimkit as a formative assessment tool for all subjects. Create pretests and allow students to opt out of some introductory assignments and choose other options like research projects or multimedia presentations. If you want to share a quiz as a class, project a quiz onto your interactive whiteboard and discuss question options together. Use the data collected from student quizzes to guide instruction both individually and for whole groups. Don’t forget to take advantage of already created quizzes found on the site and available to import from Quizlet! For the live game student limit, try having Gimkit at a “center” or “station” that students rotate through over a week.

11 Grade Transferer <https://www.gradetransferer.com/>

- Grade Transferer is a chrome extension that allows teachers to seamlessly transfer data between a variety of educational platforms and their gradebook(s).

Apps/Platforms

12 Flipgrid

<https://info.flipgrid.com/>

- Flipgrid is a simple, free, and accessible video discussion experience for learners and families. Start a discussion and engage your community...together!

13 Minecraft Education

<https://education.minecraft.net/>

- A game-based learning platform that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment.

14 GoFormative

<https://goformative.com/>

- Teachers use Formative to see student work in real-time, give feedback, track student progress to learning standards, and collaborate around common assessment data.

15 Nearpod

<https://nearpod.com/>

- Nearpod helps educators make any lesson interactive whether in the classroom or virtual. The concept is simple. A teacher can create interactive presentations that can contain Quizzes, Polls, Videos, Collaborate Boards, and more. You can access thousands of pre-built K-12 standards-aligned lessons or upload your existing lessons and make them interactive.
- [10 Ways to Use Nearpod in the Classroom](#)

16 Padlet

<https://padlet.com/>

- Padlet is a digital tool that can help teachers and students in class and beyond by offering a single place for a notice board. That's at its most basic.
- This digital notice board is able to feature images, links, videos, and documents, all collated on a "wall" that can be made public or private. This means that not only can teachers post on the wall but so too can students.
- Since the interactive space is easy to use and easily accessible from nearly any web browser-capable device, it's a great resource for teachers and students.

17 Jamboard

<https://jamboard.google.com/>

- Prep questions or assignment details in advance to use on Jamboard, a digital whiteboard.
- Use the board interactively with scholars during class.
- Set expectations around keeping post-it notes/answers anonymous or asking scholars to sign their names

Apps/Platforms

- Assign the board as group work and set expectations. Examples are:
 - Each group should have designated notetakers.
 - Each group should choose who is going to present elements of their research.

18 i-Ready

<https://www.curriculumassociates.com/products/i-ready>

- i-Ready is a comprehensive assessment and instruction program that empowers educators with the resources they need to help all students succeed. By connecting Diagnostic data and Personalized Instruction, i-Ready reduces complexity, saves educators time, and makes [differentiated instruction](#) achievable in every classroom. i-Ready:
 - Provides user-friendly dashboards and clear reports with actionable data that give teachers a foundational understanding of students' strengths and areas of need
 - Enables educators to confidently determine each student's on-grade level proficiency based on state and national standards
 - Delivers online lessons that provide tailored instruction and practice for each student to accelerate growth
 - Supports teachers with in-the-moment resources for remediation and reteaching at individualized, small group, and whole class levels of instruction

19 Bitmojis

<https://www.bitmoji.com/>

- Teachers use this to create virtual classrooms

20 Edpuzzle

<https://edpuzzle.com/>

- We unlock the power of videos through simple editing tools and dazzling student data. The process is simple - find a video, add questions and assign it to your class. Watch as they progress and hold them accountable on their learning journey.

21 Google Forms

- Use to check for understanding and quickly access scholar work.
- Use to adapt writing exercises or multiple choice questions.
- Link Google Forms either in Google Classroom or in the Zoom chat.
- If you want to share data from the form, screen share it with the class.

Websites

01 **Brilliant** <https://brilliant.org/>

- Teachers use this to create virtual classrooms

02 **Amplify** <https://amplify.com/>

- Amplify Reading K-5 is a research-based, standards-aligned program that supports teachers in building their students' reading skills across key domains—underlying language skills, decoding, fluency, comprehension, and close reading. The program is adaptive and includes increasingly complex skills, content, and text.
- Amplify Reading K-5 supports students in acquiring skills via games and applying these skills to connected texts in their eReader. Texts are matched to students at the appropriate point in their development to expand fluency, comprehension, and close reading skills.
- Amplify Reading 6-8 is a differentiated reading solution focused on supporting students in grades 6–8 to acquire the close reading skills that empower them to read and understand complex text. Amplify Reading 6-8 takes the form of an interactive graphic novel called The Last Readers.

03 **Chesskid** <https://www.chesskid.com/>

- Virtual chess games, as well as coaching

04 **Blooket** <https://www.blooket.com/>

- A web-based quiz game platform for group competition or solo study.

05 **Phet** <https://phet.colorado.edu/>

- The PhET Interactive Simulations project at the University of Colorado Boulder creates free interactive math and science simulations. PhET sims are based on extensive education research and engage students through an intuitive, game-like environment where students learn through exploration and discovery.

06 **Gizmo for Science and Math** <https://www.explorellearning.com/>

- Gizmos are interactive math and science simulations for grades 3-12. Over 400 Gizmos aligned to the latest standards help educators bring powerful new learning experiences to the classroom.

Websites

07 HHMI BioInteractive

<https://www.biointeractive.org/classroom-resources>

- HHMI BioInteractive brings the power of real science stories into tens of thousands of high school and undergraduate life science classrooms.
- In addition, the BioInteractive website provides educators with [planning tools](#) to build resource playlists and storylines, and [professional learning](#) materials and opportunities to deepen their scientific and pedagogical expertise.

08 Newsela

<https://newsela.com/>

- Newsela is an online news-as-literacy platform that features high-interest articles on everything from current events to myths and legends and from literature to science. Users can choose a free account (which just features news and current events) or paid subscriptions that include daily news story updates and subject-specific products for ELA, social studies, science, and SEL. Content is updated daily, with stories from a wide range of sources (from the Associated Press to Scientific American to the Washington Post) in English and also often in Spanish.

Other

01 Audible

<https://www.audible.com/>

- Audible is an American online audiobook and podcast service owned by Amazon.com Inc. that allows users to purchase and stream audiobooks and other forms of spoken word content.

02 Overdrive

[Overdrive.com](https://www.overdrive.com/)

- Borrow and read free ebooks, audiobooks, and magazines from your library using your phone or tablet.
- All you need is a library card

03 Labster

<https://www.labster.com/>

- Virtual science lab simulations for teaching science

Other

04 JeopardyLabs <https://jeopardylabs.com/>

- JeopardyLabs allows you to create a customized jeopardy template without PowerPoint. The games you make can be played online from anywhere in the world.

05 DeltaMath <https://www.deltamath.com/>

- DeltaMath is an online math practice and learning site. Students will register with a teacher code and complete assignments made by their teacher.