

External Online Resources

Overview

We’ve curated dozens of educational resources available for free online. These sites offer valuable and engaging articles, instructional videos, interactive games, and much more to supplement learning at home.

Benefits

Parents, students, and teachers can access a wealth of information and interactive learning experiences for research and inquiry, as well as to supplement coursework, deepen understanding, and foster further exploration.

Using External Resources

Many of these resources are available without an account. Sometimes, parents must set up a free account to use the resource.

Parents should preview resources to ensure suitability for their students.

Accessing External Resources

Kindergarten to Grade 5

Applied Design, Skills, and Technologies: Design Thinking and Making	
Curiosity Machine	Design challenges across various subject areas
Design Squad Global	Compete to create solutions to engineering challenges
Instructables	Learn how to make anything, one step at a time.

<u>Little Inventors</u>	Design challenges and resources that encourage children to think up and draw great invention ideas.
<u>Makers Empire</u>	3D design tool to create, download, and print original or community-based objects
<u>The Tech at Home</u>	STEM and design challenge activities for K-12 learners
<u>The Young Inventors</u>	Challenges designed to demonstrate how inventions can improve people's lives
<u>Tinkercad</u>	Three workspaces where students can design: 3D Design, Codeblocks, and Circuits

Arts Education

<u>8notes.com</u>	Sheet music and resources for musicians, including tuners, chord charts, and lessons
<u>Blob Opera</u>	Create your opera-inspired song; no music skills required
<u>GarageBand</u>	Music creation studio with a complete sound library
<u>Institute for Arts Integration and STEAM</u>	Arts-integrated online learning experiences for students that include videos and lesson plans
<u>MetKids</u>	Whimsical, kid-friendly intro to the wide art world with videos and interactive activities
<u>PBS Learning Media's Arts Education</u>	Resources, videos, and interactive lessons in dance, music, theatre, and visual arts
<u>TedEd Visual Arts</u>	Instructional videos with comprehension and guided discussion questions
<u>Art For Kids Hub</u>	Online YouTube videos teaching young children to draw

Career Education

<u>Bankaroo</u>	A virtual bank for kids where you can teach them about the value of money in a safe environment
<u>EVERFI</u>	Standards-aligned, research-based digital lessons to teach students to thrive in an ever-changing world.

<u>Thrively</u>	Guides students through a student-centred journey to discover their strengths, increase their self-awareness, set goals and track progress, build skills, and learn real-world problem-solving
<u>SignalHill</u>	Life-building teaching tools to help you inspire and equip your K-12 students

Communication & Collaboration

<u>Lino</u>	A sticky-note tool to organize and collect information and can be shared with parents and teachers
<u>Screencastify</u>	Empowering students to demonstrate and share their learning
<u>Seesaw</u>	Students share their learning with others through digital portfolios
<u>Wakelet</u>	Save, organize, and share any content from across the web

Computer Science

<u>Code.org</u>	Hundreds of computer science activities and tutorials
<u>Codeable Crafts</u>	Animate stories with accessible drawing tools and coding blocks
<u>CS First</u>	Makes coding easy to teach and fun to use
<u>Scratch</u>	Code, share, and remix stories, games, and animations
<u>ScratchJr</u>	As above, for ages 5-7

Digital Literacy and Wellness

[Be Internet Awesome](#)

[Protect Kids Online](#)

[Common Sense Media](#)

[Media Smarts](#)

[LIVING WELL IN A DIGITAL WORLD - A Guide for Students, Schools and Families](#)

English Language Arts

<u>National Novel Writing Month (NaNoWriMo)</u>	Draft an entire novel in just one month in motivational virtual spaces
<u>Quill</u>	Free writing and grammar activities and tools
<u>ReadWorks</u>	Differentiated reading passages designed to improve comprehension
<u>StoryJumper</u>	an easy way for students to write, narrate, and illustrate their stories. Find informative, expository, collaborative, narrative, and creative writing project ideas, suggestions on topics to write about and digital storytelling ideas. Your students can then use our tools to create and narrate a book, print it on-demand, and publish a book they can hold and hear
<u>Storyline Online</u>	read-along books read via video by actors and authors. Each book includes a supplemental curriculum a credentialed elementary educator developed to strengthen comprehension and verbal and written skills for English-language learners
<u>Whooo's Reading</u>	a website with a clear mission: to help students think more critically about whatever they read through open-ended rather than multiple-choice reading quizzes.

Indigenous Education

[Canada's Original Place Names](#) - Indigenous Peoples named many places in present-day Canada.

[Indigenous Peoples Atlas of Canada](#) - Four books: Truth and Reconciliation, First Nations, Inuit, Metis

[The Great Bear Sea](#) - Curriculum resources based on the film The Great Bear Sea: Reflecting on the Past, Planning for the Future by Green Fire Productions can be used to engage students in an inquiry-based, educational journey through the Great Bear Sea exploring a variety of themes such as Indigenous Knowledge, collaborative science, marine planning, biodiversity, sustainable resource management and marine stewardship.

[SignalHill](#) - Life-building teaching tools to help you inspire and equip your K-12 students

Mathematics

Didax – virtual manipulatives and downloadable activities for PreK – Grade 12.

Khan Academy – provides interactive lessons and instructional videos; students practice at their own pace, first filling in gaps in their understanding and then accelerating their learning.

Legends of Learning – provides an engaging educational experience for at-home learning. Kids will love the educational games on the platform, and parents will love the data that comes out as they automatically progress.

MathAntics – FREE math videos and additional subscription-based content!

Math Learning Centre – easy-to-use math apps for web browsers, Apple devices or Chromebooks.

Math Snacks – educational animations, games, and interactive tools that help learners in grades 3 – 8 better understand math concepts.

Zearn – an online math curriculum with supplemental skills practice activities for K – 5. Parents and teachers must set up their own accounts and assign lessons to their students.

Multi-Subject

Choosito – a smart search engine that safely searches the web for resources based on your student's reading level.

CK-12 – free Math, Science, Social Studies, English and more courses for grades 1-12.

Collabrify Productivity Tool Suite – educational productivity Apps. In real-time, two or more students, each on their own computing device, co-constructing text documents, drawings & animations, KWL charts, and spreadsheets.

Easy Peasy All-In-One Homeschool – a free online Christian homeschool curriculum.

Khan Academy Kids – a free, award-winning app for children ages 2 – 7 that engages kids in core subjects like early literacy, reading, writing, language, and math, while encouraging creativity and building social-emotional skills.

Learning Hero Roadmap – an interactive guide with videos/tools to help parents support grade-level math and reading as well as social-emotional development. Informed by what parents need, developed by leading content experts.

Newsela – great nonfiction articles with 5 options for levelled reading.

[NOVA](#) – compelling videos, simulations, teacher guides, and other activities.

[PBS Kids](#) – a wealth of educational content and valuable learning resources covering various topics.

[PBS LearningMedia](#) – PreK-12 digital media service. Search and browse thousands of learning materials, including videos, interactive lesson plans, media galleries, and more.

[Quarto Classroom](#) is a free video library on **[YouTube](#)** of Quarto’s creators using their books as teaching tools in educational spaces.

[Smithsonian Learning Lab](#) – an interactive platform for discovering millions of authentic digital resources, creating content with online tools, and sharing in the Smithsonian’s expansive community of knowledge and learning.

[TED-Ed](#) – supports kids’ sense of wonder with outstanding short video lessons.

[Wonderopolis](#) – short, interesting informational texts. Each text has vocabulary practice, a comprehension quiz, and activities for further learning. The Immersive Reader tool increases text accessibility with read-aloud, picture dictionary, translation, and more.

Physical and Health Education

[GoNoodle](#) – movement and mindfulness videos created by child development experts.

[KidsHealth](#) – easy-to-follow articles, slideshows, videos, and health tools designed to help kids and teens learn, grow, and be their best.

[PBS Learning Media’s Health & Physical Education](#) – resources that provide essential lessons on physical, mental, and emotional health.

[SignalHill](#) - Life-building teaching tools to help you inspire and equip your K-12 students

Science

[100 Fun Science Experiments / Science Fair Projects for Kids](#) – amazing collection of science experiments and science fair projects that you can try with your kids and students at home or school.

[Climate Kids](#) – this kid-friendly, expert site by Nasa explores key climate issues through videos, games and activities.

Google Earth – search for specific locations or quickly manually manoeuvre across the globe, zooming in to show detail to the level of parked cars and even pedestrians. Many world areas can be viewed in 3D, allowing students to see cities, the countryside, and famous landmarks in three dimensions.

Inquiry in Action – K-5 science lessons about physical science and chemistry in everyday life

Legends of Learning – provides an engaging educational experience for at-home learning. Kids will love the educational games on the platform, and parents will love the data that comes out as they automatically progress.

Nasa STEM @ Home – videos, interactive multimedia, hands-on activities and more categorized by grade range.

National Geographic Kids – stunning photos, in-depth stories of Earth's peoples and wildlife, and a large collection of multimedia resources that teach students about animals, habitats, countries, and cultures.

Ocean School by the National Film Board of Canada. It's bilingual, free and has aboriginal content! A YouTube channel and an app on iOS. It uses video, virtual reality, interactive and 360-degree video, augmented reality, newsreels, toolkits and assessments. Brings powerful storytelling techniques, immersive technologies and interactive media to your home. Explore the ocean with documentary footage of real scientists, 360 videos, AR, and VR.

Science Buddies – K-12 STEM resources, including 160+ hands-on STEM activities and videos. Our activities cover different STEM concepts, can be done in an hour or less, and use materials easily found at home.

Smithsonian Science Education Center – curriculum & resources searchable by type, grade and topic.

The San Diego Zoo – An interactive site featuring videos, games and activities.

Second Language

The ASL App – Learn American Sign Language right from your phone.

ASL Kids – ASL learning app for Beginners & Kids.

Boukili – Help your students and children love reading in French.

Curious Learning – apps for learning to read in 48 languages.

Duolingo – a science-based language education platform that has organically become the most popular way to learn languages online.

Fingerspelling – Learn the ABCs in ASL with machine learning.

HandsOnASL – Learn to fingerspell with sign language.

Oh Noah! – offers students a multi-pronged approach to learning Spanish vocabulary. With its funny, story-based interface, kids are encouraged to take an easygoing, just-try-it approach to learning languages.

OnlineFreeSpanish – dozens of games, colouring pages, and interactive activities by level can be accessed anytime on tablets or desktops.

Sign School – Learn American Sign Language

Social Studies

Canada's Museum of History – videos, activities and online resources.

Canada's War Museum – videos, activities and online resources.

Canadian Museum For Human Rights – Join our guides on video tours of the Museum's galleries and architecture. Check out Museum exhibits and stories about human rights defenders and history. Discover our many special online experiences.

DOGO News – a diverse, kid-friendly news site enriched by visual and bilingual elements. Articles are separated into various subjects and reading levels.

Google Earth – search for specific locations or quickly manually manoeuvre across the globe, zooming in to show detail to the level of parked cars and even pedestrians. Many world areas can be viewed in 3D, allowing students to see cities, the countryside, and famous landmarks in three dimensions.

Historica Canada – Programs you can use to explore, learn and reflect on our history and what it means to be Canadian.

National Geographic Kids – stunning photos, in-depth stories of Earth's peoples and wildlife, and a large collection of multimedia resources that teach students about animals, habitats, countries, and cultures.

Our Country, Our Parliament – Learn about the Canadian Parliament through a downloadable book and interactive resources.

Parliament: An Overview - Learn about the Parliament of Canada

Smithsonian's History Explorer - Lessons, activities, interactives, engaging media and more. Resources can be filtered by grade range, resource type, historical era and cross-curricular connections.

Teachers Zone: Canadian History In Your Classroom

Time for Kids - a digital news magazine for kids with age-appropriate stories kids are excited about and information just for kids that explains the world around them.

Touchable Earth - experience the world in the first person and access 25 communities worldwide.

STEAM

100+ STEM and STEAM Resources Livebinder has a variety of tools, videos and resources for you to browse.

Check out **Teachers Pay Teachers** for design thinking worksheets and find art lessons **here**.

Crayola STEAM Lesson plans.- Put the art into your STEM and make it STEAM with these creative ideas.

Design Squad Global - Interactive learning fun.

Engineer Girl: Engineer Girl shares positive role models and what they do.

Get Caught Engineering - STEM for Kids

Going from STEM to STEAM is a prezi sharing STEAM creatively.

Government of Canada **lesson Plans** - STEAM resources

How to Smile - A site that houses wonderful math and science activities.

Let's Talk Science: - STEAM at Home

NASA Middle grades STEM lesson plans and free webinars for students!

PBS STEM Resource is a phenomenal site with lessons for K-12 in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math as well as professional development for teachers.

Planting T's is a website dedicated to promoting design thinking in K-12 education.

SF MoMA Teacher Resources - This section of the San Francisco MoMA site for teachers is a goldmine of articles you can select and read with students, video interviews, project ideas and an entire section dedicated to STEAM.

STEAM Education Lessons provide several high-quality STEAM lessons that you can browse through. **The STEAM Academy** is a terrific site for advocating and sharing authentic STEAM projects and efforts.

STEAM Starters: Tinkering for Early Learners - A new collection of online learning modules offering starting points, practical resources, and reflection tools to introduce tinkering into your early childhood classroom or care setting. **Explore lessons by subject.**

Teach Engineering - The engineering design process emphasizes open-ended problem-solving and encourages students to learn from failure. This process nurtures students' abilities to create innovative solutions to challenges in any subject! Fully aligned to engineering and STEM standards.

Tynker **STEM lesson plans** - Sign in to the subscription through the school for access.

We are Teachers: **10 Innovative Projects that Take Learning from STEM to STEAM**

Working in Scratch: Putting STEAM into Cross-Curricular Collaboration is a prezi that gives practical applications for using the computer program SCRATCH in the arts classrooms.

Virtual Field Trips and Tours

British Natural History Museum - Virtual Museum: 14 ways to explore from home

Canadian Farm Food Virtual Tours - Learn how things are made and how animals are raised.

Discovery Education Virtual Field Trips - Promising amazing places and remarkable experiences, Discovery Education has many different cost-free tours available.

Great Lakes Virtual Field Trip - Learn about the science, diversity, and ecology of these large freshwater lakes.

Hall of North American Mammals (Grades 3-5) - Explore habitat dioramas to learn how animals must be adapted to an environment in order to survive in it.

Royal Tyrrell Museum Park - Visit Canada's only museum dedicated exclusively to the study of ancient life from home.

Slime in Space – This video field trip shows how slime acts in space. Watch astronauts play ping pong with it!

Smithsonian: National Museum of Natural History – Virtual Tours

The Butterfly Conservatory (Grades K-2) – Observe butterflies and compare their patterns.

The National Aquarium – Explore one of the best aquariums in the country in this interactive self-guided tour.

Virtual Tour of the Great Wall of China

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