

Digital Learning Resources 6-8

The following resources can be used to bridge the gap in student learning as we face school closures due to Covid-19. In an effort to help students maintain their academic and social connections, we encourage teachers to reach out to families; even emails and messages that are “checking in” rather than academic expectations provide families with a sense of normalcy in these trying times. As students are in upper grades and have more access to media, encourage parents to monitor news sources and articles that they are reading. When it is appropriate, talk to students about what they are reading, clarify misinformation, and reassure them of work being done to alleviate this issue. Encourage parents to maintain some structure or routine within the home to help students adjust to these unexpected changes. Below are sample schedules that parents can use with their children.

Breakfast to 10 am: Play inside

10 am to noon: Group project

Art, cooking, jigsaw puzzle, work assigned by the school

Depending on how self-sufficient the children are, this may be an opportunity to work part of the time, or it could be some designated face time with your kids so you can disappear behind your office door later in the day.

Noon to 12:30 pm: Lunch

12:30 to 2:30 pm: Alone time for everyone

Books, educational tablet time, coloring, crafts, infuriating Zoom call with Steve from accounting

2:30 to 4:30 pm: Outside play

Depending on the age of your kids, you can keep an eye on what’s happening but only get involved as needed

4:30 pm until dinner: Regroup time-TV, video games, books

COVID-19 DAILY SCHEDULE

Before 9:00am	Wake up	Eat breakfast, make your bed, get dressed, put PJ's in laundry
9:00-10:00	Morning walk	Family walk with the dog Yoga if it's raining
10:00-11:00	Academic time	NO ELECTRONICS Sudoku books, flash cards, study guide, Journal
11:00-12:00	Creative time	Legos, magnetiles, drawing, crafting, play music, cook or bake, etc
12:00	Lunch	
12:30PM	Chore time	A - wipe all kitchen table and chairs. B - wipe all door handles, light switches, and desk tops. C - Wipe both bathrooms - sinks and toilets
1:00-2:30	Quiet time	Reading, puzzles, nap
2:30-4:00	Academic time	ELECTRONICS OK Ipad games, Prodigy, Educational show
4:00-5:00	Afternoon fresh air	Bikes, Walk the dog, play outside
5:00-6:00	Dinner	
6:00-8:00	Free TV time	Kid showers x3
8:00	Bedtime	All kids
9:00PM	Bedtime	All kids who follow the daily schedule & don't fight

by Jessica McHale Photography

Resources for Discussions and Direct Connection with Classes

- *Elementari* (<https://www.elementari.io/>). This platform allows teachers to create a class with up to 30 students. Students can complete writing assignments and use coding to illustrate, add sounds, and features to their writing. Teachers are able to track their progress and have a class “library” of their writing. Schools can get free access until May 2020
- *Flipgrid* (<https://info.flipgrid.com/>) – This platform allows teachers and students to create and share short videos. Students can view and reply to videos. This is a free tool.
- *Edmodo*- (<https://go.edmodo.com/distancelearning/>) Teachers can share messages and class materials as well as upload videos or provide live videos for students. Students can submit responses to assignments and each other. This is a free tool
- *Adobe Connect*- This tool allows teachers to create a digital classroom for video sharing, polling, answering questions, etc. **Adobe is offering a 90 day free trial to promote online learning for closed schools.
- *Google Hangouts*- This tool can be used on a PC or through an app. It has the ability to have 10 individuals on a group at a time which would make this ideal for assigning group work or discussions. Students can login at specified times to complete group activities such as a book discussion group. This is a free tool but requires a Google Login.
- *Pronto*- (<https://pronto.io/>). Teachers can create classroom chats, video calls (with up to 10 individuals), and post videos. Students can discuss assignments in class chats. This program is currently being offered for free
- *NowComment* (<https://nowcomment.com/>) This site allows teachers to upload documents or videos. Students can then access the content and comment/ have a live discussion by annotating the content.

Resources to Assign Specific Activities

With these resources, you can create classes and logins for each student. Students will be able to login and complete activities provided by the website. These resources have limited ability for teacher’s to upload their own materials.

- *Ascend Math* (<https://ascendmath.com/coronavirus-offer/>)- Using this site, teachers can create math study plans and assignments for students. This site is currently offering free services until the end of April.
- *BrainPop* (<https://www.brainpop.com/>) This site allows students to access content videos, activities, and games in all subjects. The company is currently providing free access to any school closed by COVID-19.
- *IXL* (<https://www.ixl.com/>). This site provides students with interactive questions and games to support different subject areas. This is a paid service but can accessed with a free month trial.
- *Khan Academy* (<https://www.khanacademy.org/>). Teachers can assign specific videos and assignments to students as well as track their progress. This is a free service and is also available as an app.

- *Newsela* (<https://newsela.com/>) – Teachers can select topics for students to read about. This site provides a wide variety of articles and differentiates based on reading level. This service will be free for the remainder of the school year.
- *Read IQ* (<https://www.readingiq.com/teachers>) This is a digital library program that provides books, magazines, comics, etc. to students ages 2-12. Teachers can assign specific texts or have students pick from their own interests. Teachers can monitor student usage and reading time. This program is currently being offered for free for closed schools.
- *Scholastic* (<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>) Scholastic has put together daily content programs for students Pre-K-8. Each day is structured with a content theme and has read alouds, videos, articles, and activities to correspond to the content. This program can be accessed by creating a free account.

Resources to Share for Family Use

These resources can be used at any time at parent’s discretion. These educational apps and websites have a variety of activities for students to complete independently. Parents can choose an educational program, video or app in lieu of free use screen time.

Websites

- BreakoutEdu (<https://www.breakoutedu.com/funathome>) Students can compete in a digital “escape room.” Rooms are designed using grade appropriate content (options for K-12). The company has opened access to a variety of rooms in each grade level for free.
- Code Academy (<https://www.codecademy.com/>) This site provides students with lessons and practice in coding. It is a free service but parents may opt to pay for the “Pro” version.
- Code (<https://code.org/learn>). This site provides students with different games and short instructions to learn code. This is a free service