

50 Education Technology Tools Every Teacher Should Know About

Social Learning			
TOOL	CLASSROOM USE	EASE OF USE AND LEARNING CURVE	RELIABILITY
Edmodo	Edmodo can be used for a multitude of purposes in the classroom. It can be used as a monitored network where students and teachers can share multiple resources and collaborate with one another.	Edmodo has multiple tutorials and is similar to many other social networking sites, making it simple to master.	Edmodo has multiple apps that can be added to the site which makes this a very reliable site.
Grockit	8th Grade students can use this site to prepare for the ACT preview test they need to take.	The site is simple to use.	I did not create an account and do not yet know how reliable it is.
EduBlogs	Edublogs can be used for students to collaborate with one another and practice their writing. Students can write about many different topics including fiction and nonfiction.	This site has a dashboard where teachers can locate everything they need. It takes some practice at first but the site offers many videos and tutorials to assist with this.	Since this site is created by Wordpress, a very reliable site, Edublogs can be trusted for its privacy and functions.
Skype	Students can connect to another class in a different part of the country or world at anytime using Skype.	Skype is simple to use and is similar to any other web based calling app.	Although Skype has excellent tools, it can often disconnect during calls.
Wikispaces	A class can use this as a class site or as a tool for resources.	Wikispaces is very straight forward. All of the material is separated into pages and content is easy to edit because it has a WYSIWYG (What you see is what you get) format.	This site has been around for a very long time and has not seen many issues.
Pinterest	This is a great bookmarking sites for resources that the class is using.	This site is so easy that it is addictive. Users need simple click “pin” to save something.	Pinterest is consistently improving their site for reliability.

Schoology	This is a Learning Management System that is similar to Edmodo. It offers the ability to save and share information, connect with others and create quizzes.	Schoology contains many tools each separated by its appropriate tabs. Users can grade students, send them work and assign them badges easily.	Schoology can be relied on and the site offers a lot of assistance should a user need it or have an issue.
Quora	Quora can be used for students to read about trending topics to blog about or discuss.	Quora is loaded with information and can be daunting to get through.	Since anyone can edit this site, it is not very reliable.
Ning	This site can be utilized to teach students to create their own social network.	Because this site has so many options and tools it can be overwhelming.	I have never heard of this site and am not sure of its reliability even after researching it.
OpenStudy	This is a site for students to study with one another. This is like Educanon but allows for collaboration.	To use this site a student needs to simply choose the topic and choose another peer to study with.	Although the site is helpful, it may not be as reliable since a student never really knows who they are learning from.
ePals	Students no longer need to write letters to pen pals using pen and paper. Students can now use modern tools to connect with students across the country.	Teachers can easily select a class using many factors including country, language, age and class size. The site also offers ideas on projects to connect students.	The site is reliable and can be trusted for young students to use.
Learning			
Khan Academy	Khan Academy can be used to flip a classroom, add additional support or even differentiate the class.	After finding a topic, each lesson is easy to maneuver as it goes through step by step.	The site supports the student privacy pledge making it reliable.
MangaHigh	MangaHigh can be used to reinforce math skills for students and keep them entertained.	For students the site is simple to maneuver. Challenges are available as well as games. For teachers, it takes some time to get accustomed to locating challenges after they are assigned.	The site is organized and assigned according to common core math so teachers can be reassured that students are working on applicable math.
FunBrain	The site can be used for students to practice their math and reading skills	It is easy to locate the games but sometimes the instructions for games can	The site is safe for students.

	while playing a game. These can be used as an addition to instruction or for free time.	be difficult for students to follow.	
Educreations	Educreations is an excellent tool for flipping a classroom and adding further instruction for students to view after or before class.	Since this is only available as an iPad app, it is not as accessible. However, it is simple to use with just a few clicks on the screen. It is easy to use your own content and share easily.	The site has no additional ads and has no distractions for students.
Animoto	Animoto would be an excellent tool for digital storytelling.	Creating a video can be done in just 5 easy steps.	The site is used by professional photographers and the business world which assumes it is a trusted site.
Socrative	This is another assessment tool that can be used in class.	The site is easy to set up unique tests and assess students; however, locating public tests are bit more tedious as they are not located on the site.	Depending on the tests supplied, content is appropriate for students.
Knewton	Site can be used to teach Biology, English or Math but can also be used to create your own content for any subject.	The site is setup for teachers to easily add classes and assign videos and quizzes. It only takes 4 steps to create your own content, assign it and check on progress.	Knewton has multiple well known and prominent partners. Content also aligns to Common Core Standards.
Kerpoof	No longer available.	No longer available.	No longer available.
StudySync	StudySync would work effortlessly with Literature assignments and can be used to teach and assess.	Teachers need only select the media they want students to use to assign a section for a class.	The site is private and aligns to rigorous standards. Content is peer reviewed.
CarrotSticks	No longer available. This was a math site that turned math into fun for students.	Students could sign up, create an avatar and play games and even challenge one another.	No longer available.
Lesson Planning and Tools			
Teachers Pay Teachers	Site offers many free and paid resources for	Resources are broken down by grade, subject,	Resources are created by teachers so

	teachers to use in class. Not only are there lesson ideas but also assessments as well.	prices and even featured products. There is also a search option.	individuals must use at their discretion. Before buying a resource, the file type and necessary program to open file is listed.
Planboard	Lesson plans can be created easily and shared just as easily using Planboard. Create grades, assessments, take attendance, and work collaboratively with other teachers.	The site can be difficult to maneuver through. There is an app that is simpler to navigate.	Site is reliable.
Timetoast	Student can create and work together on timelines.	Timelines are simple to create from the dashboard. Options are even available to upload images for use in timeline. Other sites can also be linked to events.	The site is free so it has ads that may distract. There are options for ad free but there is a cost.
Capzles	Students can create interactive timelines that include images and music.	Capzles has many features which make it somewhat distracting. Creation of a capzle includes many steps but is not difficult.	The site is open to many people and may include content that is not appropriate for young students.
Prezi	Prezi is a great alternative to Powerpoint and will allow students to easily add various forms of media to their presentations.	Prezi does often glitch and can be difficult to edit the frames if not done exactly right the first time. Organization of the frames is difficult.	The site is used by many large corporations and is trusted.
Wordle	Students can create a word cloud to focus on main ideas or to understand important points of an article.	Students simply enter in the word choices or selected text and click create.	Sometimes the site does not work if java is not properly installed.
QR Codes	First created for car companies, QR Codes can be used for multiple purposes. Some ideas include a scavenger hunt, interactive book reports or about me projects.	QR Codes are easy to create using a website like qrstuff.com. Students need the information they want the QR code to direct to and the site will do the rest. The generated code can be saved as an	QR Codes never expire making them a reliable tool.

		image or printed.	
Quizlet	Students Can quickly assess themselves and create their own flashcards and tests.	The top dashboard quickly allows users to find a different tool for the topic they are reviewing.	Tests and content is created by the teacher so information is reliable.
MasteryConnect	This is a great tool to connect with other teachers and share resources. There were not many resources for my field, but multiple tests and worksheets for the main subjects.	There were so many tools that the site was overwhelming. It would take a few days for a beginner to get the hang of the site. I would suggest time to practice before implementation.	I did not test all of the tools offered. Without the premium account, many tools were not offered. The network was an excellent and reliable tool.
Google Docs	Our district is a GAFE school. This can be used for multiple uses. Students can take notes, mind map, and work collectively with other students.	Google Docs is similar to Microsoft Word with a majority of its tools. After learning a few steps, students can master it quickly.	Google is a trusted site. Docs created can only be seen by the owner and others the owner gives sharing privileges to.
YouTube	Youtube is not allowed on campus but I send videos to students through Edpuzzle	Almost everyone has used this site so the learning curve is very small. Search for a video and click on play.	YouTube can display things that are inappropriate for school age children and is not as reliable. Even a safe video may play with bad related ones.
TED-Ed	TED-Ed can be used for a multitude of reasons. This is especially useful for those who would like a flipped classroom.	A video can be assigned in 3 steps. Find a video, create the lesson with questions and discussion prompts, then send the link to students.	TED is known for it's great talks but on this site, teachers must be careful watch the whole video first before assigning it since they are sourced from multiple places including YouTube.
Glogster	Glogster is an exciting tool for poster creation or infographic creation. I have used them in class for digital book reports that students add multimedia in.	Glogster has many different tools and can be hard to grasp at first. After a few lessons and much practice, it is possible to create great posters.	Glogster has had glitches with videos uploaded and presenting on browsers without flash but those are concerns that can be handled.
Creaza	Creaza was innovative and engaging. Unfortunately, it was	After watching the tutorial and browsing through any accessible information on	Because of the high cost, this does not seem like a site many can

	not free. Students can get their assignments, complete it and turn it in all in one location. This site can be used for any subject.	the website, I did not seem to have any trouble getting around.	readily access.
Mentor Mob	I was not able to use this site myself. Since I don't have facebook, I could not create an account. So I just browsed the website.	Without facebook, you can not sign up. The wording is extremely lengthy for a young student.	The links that I found sent me to a different website which felt like a forced advertisement.
Useful Tools			
Evernote	Evernote can be used for note taking, research, and a quick portfolio of students' work. Evernote can also be used as reminders.	The free version is a simple notebook type app. Students simply begin typing and add media to save a note.	Evernote is a reliable organization and is constantly improving. The site has no ads or distractions.
Twitter	Twitter is not allowed in our district but this would be excellent for open communication discussion in class.	For a first time user, Twitter can seem overwhelming. As with any social media app, the terminology can be confusing but after practice, it is simple to use.	Twitter is often blocked in school districts and can cause many issues if not monitored properly.
Google Education	We are a GAFE school so we use Google for almost everything. Students know the internet by "Google" now.		
Dropbox	Dropbox is a file storage website and app. Students can save files that can be accessed from anywhere.	Dropbox acts just like a computer's file folder and works essentially the same way. Any experience with folders and files will transfer well to dropbox.	Dropbox is safe and can not be accessed by outside individuals.
Diigo	This would be helpful for students to easily locate websites needed for class. This can be used to save research that students are	Diigo has a simple interface. Students can add resources from the site or download the extension. Students can even share their "library"	I have not used this in class. I've used Symbaloo because it had image bookmarks and was easier for young students.

	working on.	with other students if they are working on a group project.	
Apple iPad	I have one iPad in our class and I use it as a timer and a classroom management tool (Too Noisy) that monitors their noise levels and rewards them for being quiet. I also have my tech team use my iPad to create videos with my green screen app.	iPads are extremely simple to use, depending on the app you are using.	My iPad is very reliable. It is easy to use so can be used by anyone.
Aviary	Aviary is an antivirus for your device. It also includes a browser.	The one area that may be difficult is downloading for some. Once downloading the app is simple to use.	It protects from viruses making this a reliable source. It also protects the individual's privacy.
Jing	Jing can be used for students to turn in their assignments that may not be in file form. Links can be sent to the teacher. Videos can be created for students to exemplify how they solved a problem or completed a task.	Jing offered step by step tutorials and even had simulations to practice creating screen captures. The site was easy to use.	My files all saved just as Jing promised. Although I did not try editing the videos, this tool was helpful if I needed a simple, straightforward screen capture.
Popplet	Popplet is great for mind mapping and taking notes.	This was easy to use and easy to save. There were additional options to export the file as well which made that handy.	The site saved easily but did not have an option for an automatic save.
Google Earth	Google Earth is great to take virtual field trips with and study geography. Students are able to create brochures based on the places they visited.	It was easy to use once you had it installed. Some students may have difficulty zooming in and out, but can easily get the hang of it after some practice.	Google Earth was not something that can be used on a Chromebook.
DonorsChoose	I have recently signed up to this site about a month ago and think it is a great addition to any classroom to find	It was easy to set up an account and get started. I would suggest having a class picture and a list of supplies needed before	In regards to the site's purpose, I would say reliability depends on how much the teacher does to get the word

	supplies they need but can not afford.	beginning but that can be added later on. It was also easy to find other teachers on there.	out. Without advertising your profile, it's more difficult to see results.
SlideShare	I enjoyed using this site as an alternative to PowerPoint.	The slideshows are simple to create. An account requires one to have a LinkedIn account. The dashboard is confusing and it is difficult to navigate the site.	Slideshare is offered through LinkedIn, a trusted site.
LiveBinders	Can be used to create a portfolio for students' work. The one downside I found is that it does not work well with Google Drive files.	LiveBinder walks you through a tutorial once you start a binder. The steps were fairly simple to follow and changes can be easily made.	This site was not as reliable as I would have preferred. The issues with drive and issues with some artifacts not showing up was a big concern.
AudioBoo	This site can be used for students to record themselves for an assignment, especially for World Language.	The site has changed recently and was not as simple to log in or maneuver through. There was a lot of distracting content.	This is not a reliable site to use mainly because students will get distracted by the content available.

Another website that has been great to use falls under the assessment category. [Quizizz](#) is similar to Kahoot! but allows you to assign quizzes for homework which means they can be taken synchronously or asynchronously. Another site is [typeform.com](#)