

Online Resources

We can all name the numerous benefits to using technology in the classroom. Unfortunately, it can be difficult to find fresh web resources to use with students, or even a good starting point if you're new to field placements and observations. Below, I have compiled a list of web-based tools I (and others) have used for classroom instruction, assessment, and enjoyment. And the best part? They're all free!

Kahoot-Kahoot allows you to create quizzes online. You can then pull up the quiz and have it projected onto the screen during class, and students can ring in their answers using their cell phones or other devices. You can easily download data after a quiz to aid data-driven instruction. Students love Kahoot because it has a leaderboard, which encourages them to try their best.

Today's Meet-Today's Meet is a website where you can create a chatroom for only certain periods. You could create a different room for each day, for each class, etc. Only those with the URL can enter the chat. Students can use this to type in their final thoughts on a day's learning for exit slips, or it can be used as a backchannel to answer questions or encourage discussion.

GoSoapBox- GoSoapBox is similar to a Moodle site, but slightly more personal for students. You can add polls, quizzes, or discussion pages. With the discussion boards, you can hide previous responses if you would like, which forces students to think for themselves instead of copying the answers of students who submitted the assignment earlier. The site also offers an easy "confusion" toggle bar, that allows students to privately inform you that they are struggling with a concept or lesson.

EDpuzzle and Zaption-These two websites help to promote engagement while students are watching videos. Not only can you find and trim videos, but you can add multiple choice questions, free response questions, pictures, and more next to the assigned videos to make sure students are understanding the material.

Socrative- Socrative is a resource that allows you to send formal quizzes, quick questions, or exit tickets to students. You can then collect and save data. Students can also submit their own questions. Again, you can see responses in real time, see how the entire class is answering a single question, etc. Socrative's primary claim is to help teachers "visualize student understanding" through this data collection.

Super Teacher Tools- This website offers downloadable templates for Jeopardy, Who Wants to be a Millionaire, and Speed Matching. It also offers a random name generator, an area to easily sort students into groups, and an area to design a seating chart.

Peardeck-Peardeck offers students a way to interact with slideshow presentations. The teacher can insert questions into the presentation that are answered by students via drawing, multiple

choice selection, text, or more, from their own devices. The responses can appear in real time on the projection screen.

Quizlet-Quizlet allows students and/or teachers to create and share online flashcards. Study games are also available.

Brainpop-Brainpop advertises “animated education.” It offers fun online games to help students learn, as well as informational videos. It offers these tools for a wide variety of subject areas.

Mentimeter/Govote-With these tools, students are able to cast votes through their smartphones during presentations. You can view the results in real time and students can vote anonymously.

Tricider-Tricider is a tool that allows students to answer questions, vote, and brainstorm together. You can ask questions and receive answers from anyone you’ve given access. Tricider questions can be embedded in blogs and shared on social media platforms. It’s great for working with a large group of people to collaborate and produce new ideas.

Survey Planet/Doodle-Both of these websites are great to survey students and collect responses. Questions could be content-based, but could also just collect student preferences on which day to have a final test, what they would like to review in class on Friday, etc.

Many other great resources exist, so don't overlook Pinterest, Youtube, and, of course, your peers. Some of these websites offer iPad apps, and several other helpful apps are also currently on the market. If you would like a list of resources specific for an iPad, or if you're looking for resources more specific to your content area, feel free to email me at abigail.labarge@hope.edu.