



Technology in Action Guide

Elementary English Language Arts



Practice Standards Connections

READING

Key ideas & details
Craft & structure
Integration of knowledge & ideas
Range of reading & level of text complexity

WRITING

Text types & purpose
Production & distribution of writing
Research to build & present knowledge
Range of writing

LANGUAGE

Conventions of standard English
Knowledge of language
Vocabulary acquisition & use

SPEAKING & LISTENING

Comprehension & collaboration
Presentation of knowledge & ideas



Reading Tools



NewsELA has news articles that can be searched by topic and then printed in different Lexile levels. The same article on Lions can be printed in Lexile level 450 through 950 so that all students can read the content in a level that is comfortable for them and then be able to participate in a project or conversation on the subject of the article. Educators can also create text sets to assign to a class, create quizzes and include writing assignments.

<https://newsela.com/>



ReadWorks Digital is the partner resource to ReadWorks.org platform that offers reading comprehension support. The resource works on Windows, Macbooks, Chromebooks and iOS devices. Included on the website are Nonfiction and literary articles, Question sets, Vocabulary support, Paired Texts, Step Reads, Audio versions of articles, and an Article-A-Day™. <http://digital.readworks.org/>



Storyline Online is a website that incorporates the idea that reading to children has been repeatedly shown to improve their reading, writing and communication skills, logical thinking, concentration and general academic aptitude, as well as inspire a love of reading. The SAG-AFTRA Foundation records well-known actors reading children's books (James Earl Jones reading To Be A Drum) and makes graphically dynamic videos so that children around the world can be read to with just the click of a Storyline Online video book image. New books are added periodically. The offer alternative players if your school blocks YouTube, just select the "players" button on the top left of the page to choose. <http://www.storylineonline.net/>



Learn Out Loud is a platform that has free audio and video titles of literature in contemporary, classics, literary history, drama, poetry, and short stories to name a few. Listen to the Scarlet Letter or the Chronicles of Narnia read from the voice of an actor or the author themselves will give a new voice to the story. Most of the files can be downloaded and played later, all can be streamed.

<http://www.learnoutloud.com/Free-Audio-Video/Literature>



Natural Readers is a text to speech online platform that converts any written text into spoken words. This web free version allows unlimited usage of the "free voices", supports PDF, Docx, RTF and Txt documents. Users can also Copy/Paste text into the box and select the play button at the top. There are 18 English (American and UK) voices, 8 Spanish, plus many more on the FREE platform. There are also 14 different "speeds" that can be set.

<http://bit.ly/2gIkC1l>



Language Tools



WordsWithFriends-EDU the game now allows students to play with their classmates.

Educators create a closed classroom that only students with the class code can enter. The platform also has a dictionary component so students can check to see if what they want to play is actually a word or verify the meanings of words played by their classmates. This is an app for iOS and Android, but can also be played on the computer so ChromeBooks and laptops will work as well. Educators can also setup a "community" class and invite parents to play as well. <https://wordswithfriendsedu.com/>



Vocabulary.com this is a smart dictionary with an adaptive learning game that will have students mastering new words in no time. Educators can sign up for a free account and create as many classes as they need. The platform has ready made vocabulary lists from literature, historical documents, speeches, test prep, and news. educators can edit those lists or create lists to study. The free version has limited tracking and statistics, but educators are able to monitor how the students are doing and what words they are struggling with. Schools and districts have the option to pay for an EDUCATOR EDITION. <https://www.vocabulary.com/>

Writing Tools



Little Bird Tales is a digital storytelling and lesson creation site intended primarily for kids in Pre K - 6th grade. Users can create stories, reports, interviews, podcasts, interactive lessons, etc. using their own photos, drawings, jpg images, text, and voice. The tales and completed lessons will playback in a slideshow style format, with audio (if recorded). Educators have a free account and can share the created books via email or as a "public" book. No downloads of the created book is available unless the account is a paid account. Currently the cost is \$24.99/ year for 1 educators and 20 students. <https://littlebirdtales.com/>



WriteReader is an ebook creator for students that haven't even started writing yet. Students insert a picture, either by taking a photo with a tablet or webcam, type how they think the words are written and then the "adult" type under their words the correct words. Students can also record themselves saying the words on each page. These books can be created online, or using an iOS / Android device. Ebooks can be shared via sending the link in an email. The books are hosted online and can be marked as private library. <https://writereader.com/>



Pobble 365 is a Picture a Day story starter with additional resources. The pictures are magnificent and thought provoking and come with activities that can be either shared on a projector or downloaded in the provided PDF's. Educators can also browse previous days photos and content if they are looking for a specific topic or concept connection. Below each photo there are sections with activities. <http://www.pobble365.com/>



Speaking and Listening Tools



Next Vista for Learning provides a library of free videos made by and for teachers and students everywhere. All content is licensed under Creative Commons Attribution. There are over 1800 videos on the website. Students can check on the latest "video challenge" to get ideas to create an entry and join the community. <http://www.nextvista.org/>



School Tube is a video platform for students and teachers to upload video creations. School Tube offers suggested educational websites that houses content for classrooms. This platform provides opportunities for students to share video work with an "authentic audience" in a controlled privacy environment. Many schools share daily news broadcasts and PSA videos. <http://www.schooltube.com/>



edublogs allows for educators to create a class account and control the postings of the students. Students are also not required to have email accounts. *****UPDATE 2/2/2017 EduBlogs is now complete FREE**** All accounts now have complete access to all resources including more space, templates, teacher controls, privacy controls...etc. This makes EduBlogs a GOTO platform for classroom blogging sites for early elementary through high school! <http://edublogs.org/>



Storybird is an online writing platform that educators can create a class account and manage students where student emails are not required. Students can create stories/books using artwork/graphics provided by artists curated from Storybird. Books can either be simple "picture" books (K-5) to Long form Chapter books (5-9). Storybird does have a monetary component with the ability to purchase the books that the students have created. This is also the only way to "print" off the work that has been created by the students. PDF printing currently cost \$1.99 per story or by "credits" earned by parents purchasing books. (\$12.99 and up) <https://storybird.com/>



Rhyme Zone is a simple platform that allows users to input a word or phrase, select search and then get a return words or phrases that rhyme or nearly rhyme. There are also options for synonyms, antonyms, homophones and many other choices. There are other advanced features available also. No login is required to use this platform. <http://www.rhymezone.com/?loc=bar>



Padlet is a simple way to create and collaborate. It works like a sheet of paper where users can put anything (images, videos, documents, text) anywhere, from any device (pcs, tablets, phones), together with anyone. **New free accounts only have 3 boards, but can be redone to a new board. <https://padlet.com>



Haiku Deck is an online presentation slide creator that works on all platforms, There is also a ChromeBook and iPad app. Everyone can have a free account, however all slide decks created on the free account are public and can be seen and are searchable, so caution to what information the students are posting. Educators can create paid accounts that are private and have more options, currently the cost is \$5/mo. <https://www.haikudeck.com/>



Blabberize is a platform that can be used to present information in a whimsical way. Whether it is telling a story that a student wrote in English class or retelling a tale of war from 1812 from a llama? or maybe a group of sheep? Students can take any photo, "cut" around the mouth, record their voice reading or saying anything and then Blabberize will do the rest. The platform will sync the cutout to match with the words being spoken and "talk" when played back. All videos can be saved and shared either embedded or to a hard drive/portable memory device. <http://blabberize.com/>

Even MORE Resources

To find more resources and the latest up-to-date technology to support technology integration, please visit www.ilclassroomtech.weebly.com.

- ◆ Assessment tools
- ◆ Audio/video tools
- ◆ Content area support
- ◆ Digital portfolios
- ◆ Computer science
- ◆ Learning management systems
- ◆ Mobile apps
- ◆ Research tools
- ◆ Social Emotional Learning
- ◆ Technology terms

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