Technology in Action Guide

Secondary English Language Arts

Practice Standards Connections

READING	WRITING
Key ideas & details	*Text types & purpose*
Craft & structure	*Production & distribution of writing*
Integration of knowledge & ideas	*Research to build & present knowledge*
Range of reading & level of text complexity	*Range of writing*

LANGUAGE	SPEAKING & LISTENING
Conventions of standard English	*Comprehension & collaboration*
Knowledge of language	*Presentation of knowledge & ideas*
Vocabulary acquisition & use	

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/

Google Lit Trips are downloadable files that mark the journeys of characters from famous literature on the surface of Google Earth. Along the way, place-marks with pop-up windows contain "just in time" resources including relevant media, thought-provoking discussion starters, and links to supplementary information about "real world" references in that portion of the story. Our focus is on creating engaging and relevant literary experiences for students. K-12 and Higher education titles available. Educators can also request titles and work with the creators to help build new content. http://www.googlelittrips.org/
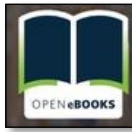
ReadWorks Digital is the partner resource to ReadWorks.org platform that offers reading comprehension support. The resource works on Windows, Macbooks, Chromebooks and iOS devices. Included on the website are Nonfiction and literary articles, Question sets, Vocabulary support, Paired Texts, Step Reads, Audio versions of articles, and an Article-A-Day™. http://digital.readworks.org/

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. Most of the files can be downloaded and played later, all can be streamed. http://www.learnoutloud.com/Free-Audio-Video/Literature

Tween Tribune (TeenTribune, TweenTribune, TTEspañol and TTJunior) (hereinafter collectively referred to as "TTribune") is a free online educational service offered by the Smithsonian for use by K-12 grade Teachers and students. TTribune consists of daily news sites for kids, tweens, and teens, and includes text, photos, graphics, and audio and/or video materials prepared by the Smithsonian and others about current events, history, art, culture and science. TTribune also includes lessons, instructional and assessment tools, and opportunities for the registered users to communicate with other participants. Articles can be assigned based on the readers Lexile level or printed out by reading level as well. http://tweentribune.com/

Open eBooks is a partnership between Digital Public Library of America, The New York Public Library, and First Book, with content support from digital books distributor Baker & Taylor. This effort is made possible by generous commitments of publishers with funding support provided in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and is part of the White House ConnectED Initiative. Educators that are in the following groups qualify: Head Start, Title I or Title I eligible School, USDA Food and Nutrition Program,Federally Qualified Health Center, Title VII recipient, Military family support program, Library with an E-rate of 90, A program primarily serving children with disabilities (*INDIVIDUAL SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHERS!!*), A program where at least 70% of children come from low-income families. Students can check out 10 books at a time...parents can have the app on their phones, tablet...etc. Students can login on up to 6 devices and access all their books. http://openebooks.net/

Language Tools

Character Scrapbook - interactive platform students can use to create a detailed account of characters from stories or books. users can choose "person" or "animal" when starting the building process. The person choice allows changes to hair, eyes, nose, mouth, and clothes. On the opposite page there are six categories for users to complete about the character.- Things I know, words to describe, details on appearance, personality traits, challenges faced, and accomplishments. Each category can collect 10 items of text. No login is required to use and printing of the completed book is available. (Must enable flash) http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/scrapbook/

Wordflex Touch Dictionary is not the ordinary dictionary or thesaurus! Wordflex "branches" out into a word tree when a word is typed into the search bar, select a branch, then more branches emerge and so on. The words with the branches also have pronunciations (British and American), meanings, root words, origins, etc. Users could easily get lost within the branches. One of the other unique components is the ability of this app is to send (email) a poster of the word tree or save it. The user is also able to swipe around the tree back to where they started or anywhere within the tree they have built. Devices -iPad https://apple.co/2L7Wdxp

Writing Tools

Book Creator, the interactive ebook creator that was only available on Apple is now available online in Chrome. (YES, this will work on ChromeBooks!) The free version allows for one educator library and 40 active books. (If an educator is a tech/lab teacher, set up an account for each "home" teacher for your students.) Books can include comics, audio, video, drawings and can be published online. Educators can create their own books for use in the classroom on iPad as well!) https://bookcreator.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

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/

Hemingway App website can be a little confusing at first. The page loads with a sample of what the APP can do, showing a paragraph with highlighted text and a KEY on the right hand side explaining what the different colors relate to as far as editing. This is actually where the user is to type (paste) in their writing that they wish to have evaluated. There is a download button on the far left that allows users to purchase a desktop version of the software. However, you can use a FREE version by simply typing in the text or pasting in the document. Font styles and formatting buttons are at the top of the screen. Once the text is finished, select "EDIT" from the location on the right and the APP will evaluate the writing. http://www.hemingwayapp.com/

Write About is a platform to connect students to a community of writers and an authentic audience to develop growth through the entire writing process. Hundreds of ideas filtered by grade level, category or keyword, quickly create and share ideas with your own images, text and voice. Educators can create a closed group with another class across the country or within the same school. The free account has some limitation on the number of posts, (enough for a unit or lesson). However, if this is something that fits in with an educators entire school year the full version is currently $24.95/yr for the whole class. https://www.writeabout.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 completely 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/

Adobe Spark is a resource for creating videos, pages and audio. It is unique because users can start in the online platform, then continue on an iPad, then switch to using a Chromebook, etc. Adobe also hosts or stores all the files for easy access from any location, so students can work from home. (Users may use a portable storage device). To further explain the educational uses, Adobe has created a guide for educators that can be found here as well. It also includes many lesson ideas. https://spark.adobe.com/

Lucidpress makes it easy for all students — from those in elementary school to those in advanced digital communication courses — to create stunning content that brings their big ideas to life. Teachers can also create visual learning aids, posters, and other teaching collateral with just a few clicks of the mouse. Built in templates are available and the platform includes connection to images that are copyright free. There is an educational account just for teachers and their students. Scroll to the bottom of the linked page to get started. If you do not automatically get enrolled in the educational platform, don't hesitate to follow the instructions to request it. (Email accounts with .edu or k12.us.il should automatically populate. If you us another type of address, request access. There is a Google App that will integrate with Google Classroom and a SSO system. https://www.lucidpress.com/pages/usecase/education

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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