

# Technology for teachers

Practical tools for becoming more digitally proficient



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# Introduction

Technology is present in every aspect of our lives. Teachers use social media, digital platforms, and tools widely in their personal and professional lives. They increasingly use technology to ensure they are up to date with current trends and to make teaching and learning more effective. Students also depend on technology for their learning needs more than before. While some teachers have openly embraced technology and are proficient in using it, some others continue to develop their skills to use technology effectively. To help you learn more about how you can use digital tools and platforms to enhance your teaching, we've created the Technology for Teachers: series 2. You can access the first series here *Technology for Teachers: series 1*

This series of 10 easy-to-use guides explores a variety of digital resources to help you integrate digital elements into your classroom practice and for your professional development. Each guide focuses on a specific skill and introduces a digital tool to help you develop specific skills among your students. The guides also list practical steps you can take for your own professional development. The 'Try other resources' section leaves you with other related resources to explore and further strengthen your practice.

# 1. Enhancing story writing skills

**“Storytelling is the most powerful way to put ideas into the world.”**

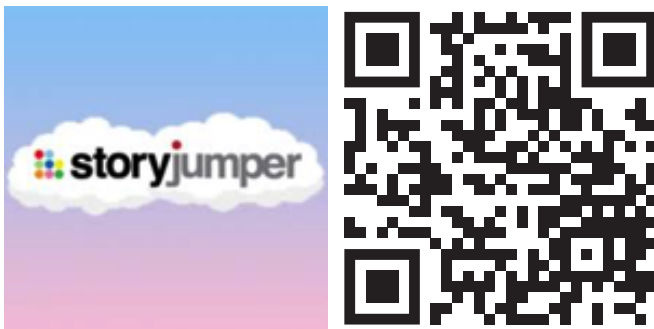
Robert Macee

## Introduction

Stories are an integral part of tradition, values and moral codes. It is important for children to develop strong story writing skills to further develop their imagination and verbal fluency. Story writing also encourages students to think about different people’s lives and points of view beyond their own.

Digital tools can be used to inspire and improve students’ writing abilities. Imagine a tool that aids students in creating storybooks! Such a tool will not only improve their narrative skills but will also foster creativity and expression.

## Enhancing story writing skills



Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website

StoryJumper is a website for the creation of illustrated storybooks. It is simple to use and appropriate for students of all ages. The interface lets students create storybooks from scratch or by using pre-designed templates. Students can even work together on projects. There are several ideas for teachers to inspire better writing.

They can use the ready-made lesson plans and get ideas for writing projects. The website is free of cost. However, if users wish to download or buy a book they have to pay for the service.

## How do we use it?

- Create your account.
- Go to the teacher’s section for ideas and lesson plans.
- Add your classes (Under ‘My classes’ tab).
- Add students to your class. Students don’t need to have email addresses to join. You can share the link and password with students. If students don’t have individual devices, you can put them in groups and they can create stories collaboratively.
- Before asking students to write stories on Storyjumper, develop narrative writing skills in the classroom. Conduct a discussion about how stories are written. Have students brainstorm the plot or theme, setting, characters, events of the plot and final resolution.
- Review the stages of the story writing process: pre-writing, drafting, reviewing, editing and publishing.
- If possible, your students can create their own accounts and develop a story using text, pictures, and sounds. Students can also add their own voice to their stories.
- Set peer-review and provide feedback to students.
- Share students’ books with parents. When you click ‘Share’, the books will be added to your class library.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

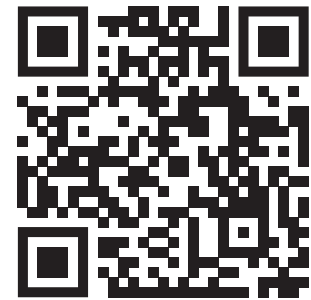
- Build a writing foundation by asking beginner-level students to create an 'All about me' book with personal details, anecdotes and pictures of themselves.
- Enhance journaling skills by asking students to reflect and write about their learnings, aspirations, etc.
- Foster collaborative writing by encouraging students to work in groups to brainstorm the theme, plot, character, and setting of a story and then write it.
- Strengthen speaking and active listening skills by asking students to summarise a story.

## For your professional development

- Try out different techniques (narrative, descriptive, etc.) and genres of story writing (horror, fiction, biography, comic book, etc.) to understand the nuances of each genre.
- Share your writings with other teachers and get their feedback on content and structure.
- Experiment with using a story-approach to your reflective journal. For more information and ideas, you can begin with the resource suggested in 'Try other resources' section.

## Try other resources

### The Moth | The Art and Craft of Storytelling



# 2. Enhancing reading habits

**“Reading is the gateway skill that makes all other learning possible.”**

Barack Obama

## Introduction

Reading is an essential skill and enables comprehension, fuels imagination, and enriches perspective. Developing a habit of reading helps students develop a love for learning and fosters open-mindedness.

Several digital tools can be used not only to motivate students to read but also to encourage them to create their own stories! These tools foster both blended learning and language acquisition among students.

## Enhancing reading skills



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

Storybird is an online storytelling, reading comprehension, and writing platform that aims to spark creativity among students. It contains over 30000 stories written by students of various ages. The reading library contains a variety of stories, including picture books, long-form stories, flash fiction, comics, and poetry.

The stories are beautifully illustrated and written in age-appropriate language. The site charges a monthly fee for writing and publishing stories, but the reading library is free.

## How do we use it?

- Go to [www.storybird.com](http://www.storybird.com) and sign up.
- Read published stories by selecting them from the read tab or create a reading list appropriate for your class by adding them to your bookshelf.
- Follow other users by going to their profile and clicking the follow button in the upper right corner of your browser.
- Repost, like, and comment on your favorite stories.
- Develop reading habit in students using Storybird.
  - create a reading list and assign stories from the reading library as homework.
  - encourage students to share reading experiences and have debates and discussions on them.
  - ask students to read stories or play-act comics.
  - organise a read-o-thon where students re-read their favorite stories from the reading library.



## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Encourage your students to create their own reading lists. Students can set up their own goals and track progress.
- Raise your students' awareness of story writing skills by noticing the structure of a story as they read it. They can use these structures in their own stories.
- Discuss genres with your students. Encourage them to find and read more stories in selected and agreed genres.
- Teach a particular grammar point by making students observe the language structure of a story.
- Enhance speaking skills by asking students to put forth their point about the character, setting, or plot of a story.

## For your professional development

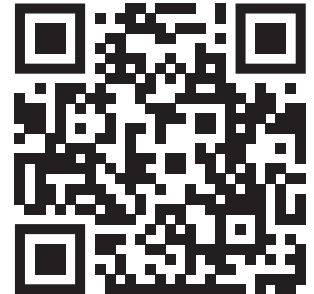
- Join a book club to nurture your reading habit and participate in debates and discussions held in the book club. It can also help you extend your personal learning network.
- Share your reading experiences with colleagues and friends to enhance your communication skills.
- Have an accountability partner to keep track of your reading habit.
- Read books relevant to your professional development goals and find opportunities to implement and share your learning with your fellow practitioners.

## Try other resources

### Newsela



### Whooo's Reading



# 3. Developing active listening skills

## Introduction

Listening is the prerequisite for effective communication. It is important to develop active listening skills which refer to concentrating on what is being said and responding appropriately. Active listening increases engagement, deepens understanding and empathy and promotes effective learning.

## Developing active listening skills



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

EdPuzzle is an easy-to-use online video editing tool that endorses the pedagogical values of motivation, visual support for comprehension, authentic language, and cultural context. The ability to clip videos, incorporate open-ended and multiple-choice questions and enforce the responsibility to complete tasks to move forward promotes active listening. Teachers and students can use the basic free plan, which gives them access to over 5 million videos and the opportunity to construct lessons with questions, audio, voice recording, and notes.

Edpuzzle, however, comes with a limited 20 video storage space at a time. Older videos can be deleted, and new videos can be added. Storage space can be increased by using the paid monthly subscription.

## How do we use it?

- Go to [www.edpuzzle.com](http://www.edpuzzle.com) and sign up.
- Reuse a video lesson or upload a video from YouTube or your own device.
- Edit, record, or embed questions into the video to personalize the lesson.
- Assign the video to your students by sharing the link and keep track of their progress while they learn at their own pace.
- Analyse the results of the questions to understand the level of understanding of the content.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Enhance listening comprehension, detailed viewing, and speculation by embedding questions into a video and asking students to guess the next act.
- Foster flipped classroom strategy by assigning grammar or vocabulary videos as homework and using the class time for group discussions and tasks to promote higher order thinking.
- Start a debate by sharing an interesting video and inserting an open-ended question asking students for their point of view.
- Improve writing or speaking skills by asking students to watch a video or TED Talk at home and reproduce the content with their point of view in class.
- Develop pronunciation skills by asking students to use the voiceover feature to practise intonation and pronunciation.

## For your professional development

- Improve your active listening skills by paying attention to the non-verbal communication of your students.
- Give students your undivided attention, acknowledge what they are saying, provide appropriate feedback, defer judgement and respond appropriately.
- Listen to audiobooks, podcasts and TED Talks to enhance your listening skills.

## Try other resources

### Lyrics Training



### TeachVid



# 4. Developing vocabulary skills

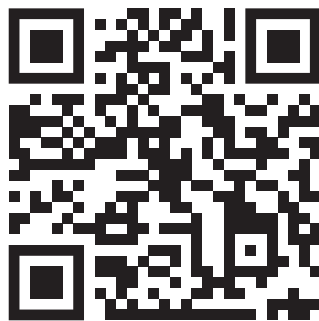
**“Words are our most inexhaustible source of magic.”**

Albus Dumbledore

## Introduction

Vocabulary is the body of words, phrases, and expressions used in a particular language. Students need to build their vocabulary as it plays an important role in all the four language skills: reading, writing, listening and speaking. While students learn new words indirectly through their everyday experiences, they need to be taught vocabulary through carefully designed activities. One approach to achieve this is by using digital tools to develop a lexicon.

## Developing vocabulary skills in students



Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website

Games to learn English is a teaching toolkit that aids vocabulary development by enabling teachers to design and play interactive games, quizzes, and exercises. Teachers can choose from a wide variety of games such as *word search*, *fast English*, *monster vocab*, *spelling bee*, etc. free of cost. There is an option to contribute voluntarily.

Other features include the ability to monitor homework, embed creations into web pages, blogs, etc.

## How do we use it?

- Go to Online ESL Games ([gamestolearnenglish.com](http://gamestolearnenglish.com)) and sign up.
- Click on the games tab to play or share the built-in games.
- Go to 'my content' in the teacher's section to create your own set of games or to access previously curated games.
- Upload images to use.
- After uploading and saving images, you will receive a link that you can share with your students.
- You can also create a homework task that you can share with your students.
- When students open the link, they will be prompted to enter a name and when they finish the game, their score will be recorded and all the records can be viewed on the site.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Use the 'fast English' feature to teach vocabulary based on a theme. Students have to listen to a word and click or tap the matching image.
- Use the 'monster vocab' feature to test your students' vocabulary by making them click or tap the correct word or image.
- Use the 'big describer' to make students match the word with their description.
- Use the jobs game and 'spelling bee' feature to teach work-related vocabulary and spellings of other lexicons.
- Use the 'concentration' feature to teach synonyms or antonyms.
- Use 'speakeasy' to help children practice saying the word correctly and work on their pronunciation.
- Foster sentence writing using 'monster phrases' and 'falling clouds' template.
- Strengthen grammar literacy by playing in-built games.

## For your professional development

- Experiment with alternative vocabulary teaching strategies, such as the Lexical Approach, which focuses on teaching language in chunks and collocations.
- Keep a running list of new terms and phrases that you may employ in everyday conversations.
- Journal for seven minutes each day, attempting to use as many diverse words as possible. For example, don't repeat an adjective and replace popular adjectives like 'very', 'excellent,' etc. with alternatives.
- Work on learning new phrases every day. You get to decide how many you want!

## Try other resources

### Baamboozle



### Vocabulary Ninja



# 5. Enhancing speaking skills

## Introduction

Speaking skills empower students to express their ideas accurately and coherently. Given their importance, teaching speaking skills is a critical aspect of language development and requires persistent efforts from the teacher.

Students may be reluctant to speak in English. This could be due to lack of confidence, anxiety, fear of making errors, inadequate vocabulary, poor grammar, and fluency issues. Teachers can use digital tools to motivate students to speak in a non-threatening setting. Not only will such tools foster imagination but they will also help students overcome their fears and hesitancy. Encourage students to use their multilingual skills instead of focussing on an 'English-only' atmosphere in the classroom.

## Enhancing speaking skills



*Click or tap the icon OR scan the QR code to download the application*

Chatterpix is an application that motivates students to speak by bringing photos to life by animating and giving them a voice. It's easy to use and has an engaging interface which enhances lesson content for students of all ages and abilities. Other features include sharing and saving files to the camera roll, as well as tracking the students' lexical and verbal progress. Chatterpix is free, without ads or subscriptions.

## How do we use it?

- Open the AppStore or Play Store on your mobile device and look for 'Chatterpix'
- Install Chatterpix on your mobile device by downloading it from the relevant play store.
- Take a photo or select a photo from the gallery.
- If necessary, alter the image.
- Swipe the image to record a message.
- Record the message.
- Decorate the image.
- Save and share the finished speaking image!

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Create an oral autobiography. Get students to take their own pictures and create a video introducing themselves. Then, assign them the task of learning something new/interesting about their classmates.
- Create a movie and encourage dialogue writing by having students develop a script and then produce it using the app.
- Turn a vocabulary lesson into a guessing game. Give each learner one or two concepts or terms and have them create a video that vocally defines the object. After the pupils have guessed the word, play the audio and reveal the talking image.
- Help students improve their pronunciation by asking them to practice and record a particular sound they're having trouble with. You can also use a tongue-twister that repeatedly contains the same sound they are facing difficulty with.
- Improve speaking skills by asking students to animate their favourite characters from history or a story from their textbook, for example, by saying who they are and explaining their life events. Their classmates could be asked to guess the name of the character. You could further ask them to express their views and opinions on different topics and themes.
- Hold a classroom discussion and urge students to submit their views and insights as a Chatterpix video.
- Enhance listening skills by making a video that describes a phenomenon, theory, or other concept and then posing questions to assess students' comprehension.

## For your professional development

- Find a conversation partner and enhance your speaking skills by communicating with them in English.
- Join a Toastmasters club to speak on a variety of topics.
- Use apps like Duolingo to practice speaking.
- Surround yourself with the English language by watching English movies and series, listening to English music, reading books in English, etc.
- Celebrate your own multilingual skills by using translanguaging, translation and code-switching approaches in your classroom.

## Try other resources

### Fotobabble



### PechaKucha



# 6. Incorporating feedback in learning

## Introduction

Feedback is information about a student's performance intended to guide future teaching and learning. Unlike evaluation, which maps performance against pre-determined criteria, feedback is the process of helping students to understand their current level of performance, identify areas where they are right on target and provide them with clear direction about what they can do to improve in the future. Feedback promotes dialogue and discussion, motivates students to keep learning and develops their autonomy. When peer feedback is employed, it can promote collaboration and peer learning. For the teacher, feedback guides change in approach and methodology and focusing on the needs of the students.

## Characteristics of good feedback

- Timely - feedback is best given soon after a task, assignment or test.
- Constructive – providing clear guidance for improvement.
- Focused on the task/product/skill – not on the student.
- Checks if the student has understood the feedback.
- Incorporates feedback given by the peer group and not only by the teacher.

## Providing effective feedback to your students



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

Kaizena is a free Google Docs add-on tool that allows teachers to promote student learning by providing appropriate feedback on assignments and tests. Kaizena helps to overcome issues faced by teachers of giving time consuming pen and paper feedback to a large class of students. It is based on the philosophy that feedback is best realized through collaborative and interactive methodologies. This is accomplished by allowing students to upload written work to a virtual classroom and providing the students with both spoken and written feedback in a continuous, collaborative dialogue. Feedback can be provided by the teacher or the peer group in a variety of formats, including text comments, voice recordings, attaching files, and rating of students' skills. The tool is also compatible with Google Classroom.

## How do we use it?

- Go to <https://kaizena.com/> and sign up with Google or Microsoft.
- Install Kaizena add-on.



- Once installed, the add-on opens within Google Docs. First, open a file on Google Docs, choose “add-ons”, then “Kaizena”, and finally “open Kaizena”.
- Sign up as a teacher. Set up your profile page.
- Create groups for each of your classes. Invite students to your group using a group code or import from Google Classroom.
- When you want to add a voice comment, open the student’s document, highlight the part you wish to comment on, click the microphone button, record your voice comment, click stop to finish your comment, and then post to upload it. Voice comments can be up to 30 seconds long.
- To rate students on a specific skill, highlight the section of the document, choose the graph icon, then the skill, and then rate the student.
- To add text comments, highlight the part you wish to comment on, click “T”, type in your comment and then click post.
- Use the teacher dashboard to create, edit or delete skills, share rubrics with other teachers, manage lessons and check your students’ skill progress.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Highlight and record voice comments to give detailed feedback on activities, tests, and assignments. Your students can reply to your comments.
- Foster interaction and peer feedback by asking students to review each other’s work.
- Attach feedback saved previously to highlight repetitive errors.
- Track students’ progress using the ‘skills’ feature.
- Collaborate with other teachers to provide additional feedback and scores.
- Augment feedback by providing links to additional resources in the comment. This provides a follow up action for the student to improve.

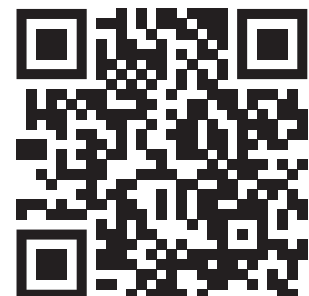
- The teacher and student can engage in a discussion about the student’s work anytime and from anywhere. This fosters continuous learning.

## For your professional development

- Record your lessons and analyse them. Observe the way your students are learning and participating in different activities, the questions you pose and how you manage responses, your classroom management style, and the quality of your communication. Keep these points in mind when you teach in future.
- Ask students to fill out an assessment form so they can rate you and give you feedback.
- Ask a colleague to “observe” your class and highlight your strengths and growth areas. You could also offer to observe a colleague’s class and give feedback.
- Add a reflection section to your lesson plan and analyse what worked well and what needs to improve.
- Use Kaizena for
  - self-reflection by leaving yourself voice comments.
  - seeking feedback on your work from a colleague.
  - collaborative lesson planning where comments can be given on the plan.

## Try other resources

### Floop



# 7. Practising writing and grammar skills

## Introduction

Writing is the process of communicating thoughts and ideas in a readable form using symbols, letters, and words. Grammar is a language system, a dynamic set of structures for using a language. If writing is the end product, grammar is the manufacturing machinery. In other words, one cannot excel at writing without understanding grammar. Because the two abilities are intertwined, language students must practice them regularly.

Teachers can use digital tools to enhance writing and grammar skills through interactive online games that build on student interests, help to practice in interesting ways, and motivate them to develop their skills.

## Practising writing and grammar skills



Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website

Quill is a non-profit, educational technology organisation dedicated to improving student writing and grammar. It provides personalised, interactive writing, and grammar practice and features over 700 built-in, adaptable and trackable activities with 5000 practice questions divided into five distinct tools:

- Quill Diagnostic: activities designed to assess students' skills and help guide them towards activities at their level.
- Quill Lessons: slides designed for whole-class and small-group instruction featuring writing prompts, discussion topics, and independent practice.
- Quill Connect: sentence writing activities that help students form more complex sentences.
- Quill Grammar: sentence writing activities focused on developing key grammar skills.
- Quill Proof-reader: expository passages that students proofread and fix.

Teachers can use tools and activities and view student results for free. However, to view and download students' detailed data and progress reports, access priority support, and attend their spotlight webinars, teachers need to upgrade to premium accounts.

## How do we use it?

- Go to [Quill.org](https://www.quill.org) | Interactive Writing and Grammar and sign up as an educator to gain free access to the content.
- Create a classroom and add your students, or import your students using Google Classroom.
- Use a diagnostic test to assess skills. View the results of the diagnostic reports and review the recommendations.
- Assign work to students by clicking the 'practice recommendation' tab.
- You can use the featured activity packs if required. View student data reports to analyse student activity and student performance.
- Use the 'getting started guide' for teachers that has a variety of resources to help you use the site effectively.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

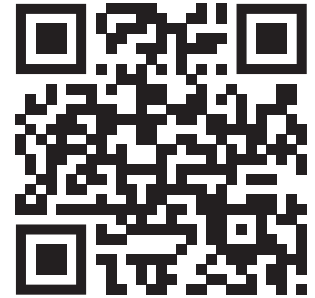
- Identify weak areas, practice, and build a strong grammar foundation using 'starter diagnostic'.
- Practice grammar and writing exercises that help students to improve their sentence construction skills.
- While Quill grades writing automatically and provides feedback and hints to help students improve, access the students reports on an ongoing basis to monitor students' progress.
- Enhance passage writing skills using the intermediate diagnostic.
- Warm-up at the beginning of a class or after a mini-lesson to reinforce your instruction.
- Foster translation and sentence structuring skills using the language feature.
- Teach and build up students' vocabulary using the vocabulary PDFs.

## For your professional development

- Reading regularly is the best way to start developing your writing skills.
- Analyse the writing style of authors you admire.
- Notice different grammatical styles including structures for different situations (e.g. levels of formality) and increase your overall awareness as you teach.
- Create a blog with peers and provide feedback on each other's work.
- Keep a journal and write about your day. Challenge yourself to use a variety of structures and formats (for example, write a letter to yourself, the next day write a blog-style entry).

## Try other resources

### GrammarFlip



# 8. Gamifying Checking for Understanding

## Introduction

Checking for understanding (CfU) refers to techniques a teacher uses to analyse the status of a student's understanding and mastery of the lesson in progress. CfU techniques are a part of formative assessment and are ideally administered at different stages in a lesson. They can be used at the beginning of the lesson to activate prior knowledge. When used during the lesson, they help teachers to check if the topic has been understood by the students or whether revision is required. When used after a lesson, CfU strategies help students and teachers reflect on what was learned and helps in modification of teaching methodology.

In recent years, including gamification in pedagogy has become popular as it helps engage students and simplify and concretise concepts. Gamifying CfU furthers this pedagogy as it not only increases student engagement but also improves the effectiveness of the lessons. Using technology allows the teacher to replace the standard, "Did you understand?" or "Is that clear?" inquiries, which might take less time but may not be the most reliable way to ascertain if the students have actually understood the topic. With CfU strategies, students' autonomy increases as they get instant results and concrete outputs that can be actionable.

## Gamifying CfU techniques



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

Flippity is a free online digital application that allows teachers to gamify learning in a variety of ways. There are board games, bingo, maze chase, and many more templates that can be altered, shared, and integrated for both in-class and remote learning. It can also be used for making presentations and conducting evaluations.

## How do we use it?

- Go to [Flippity.net](https://www.flippity.net): Flashcards and Other Resources for Educators and Learners
- Choose a template from the gallery
- Watch the demonstration to familiarise yourself with the features
- Enter your content
- Each template contains more than one game, so select the one you want to use
- Review and share with your students.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

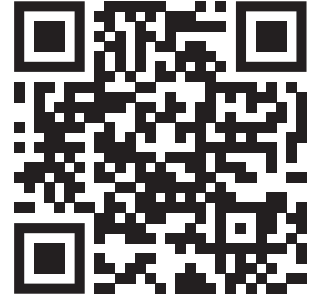
- Use mad-libs (which fills in a word for each prompt), randomizer (name generator), or the timeline feature (to order events) and develop story-writing skills.
- Check comprehension or vocabulary using the virtual breakout feature that allows participants to meet and discuss in smaller groups.
- Use the board game feature to strengthen speaking skills.
- Check understanding or teach terminologies by using the matching game feature.
- Encourage healthy competition by using the badge and leaderboard features to measure progress.
- Introduce theme-based vocabulary using the word search feature.
- Review vocabulary using the bingo game.
- Create flashcards to teach different concepts.

## For your professional development

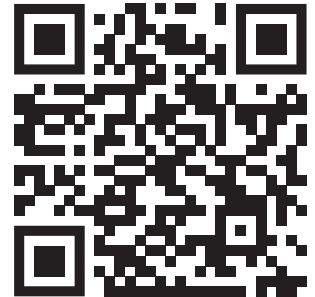
- Summarise or write key points of the topic to reiterate your understanding of the topic while preparing for a lesson.
- Create a mind-map to establish connections between topics and highlight key words to check your own understanding of the topic.
- Do a self-assessment to verify your knowledge of the topic.
- Discuss the lesson with a peer and clarify what you are going to teach.

## Try other resources

### h5p



### Wordwall



# 9. Using augmented reality

## Introduction

Imagine having a 3D lion in your classroom as you deliver a lesson about animals! Such an experience has the ability to capture the attention and interest of students and make abstract topics come alive.

Digital technologies are transforming classrooms into highly interactive learning experiences.

Augmented Reality (AR) is one such promising tool that uses computer-generated objects such as graphics, images, videos, 3D objects, and sounds by superimposing them in the real world of the user.

Using AR, teachers can enhance classroom experiences, impart new skills, inspire students' minds and motivate students to explore new academic interests.

## Creating virtual content for your classroom



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

Arloopa is an augmented reality visualisation and content creation app that uses the camera of the user's device to place virtual content (such as 3D objects) in the real environment (such as the user's classroom), creating spectacular, interactive, and valuable experiences.

All that a teacher needs to do is to choose 3D objects based on the topic being taught. They will appear in the camera view. Use these to explain in real time and create a video to share with the students. Arloopa is free to use.

## How do we use it?

- Download the Arloopa application from Google Play or App Store.
- Sign in by following the on-screen instructions. Please note that the first 100 experiences can be viewed without signing in.
- When you launch the app, you will see a range of categories, for example emojis, animals, arts and virtual tours. This is the 3D models library.
- Choose a category by tapping on it. Next, you'll see different 3D models. Tap on one to choose it.
- Point your device's camera to the floor or any other flat surface to recognise it. The 3D model you chose will now appear in front of you!
- Create a video by using the device's camera. You can share the video with the students.

## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Teach and help students understand new vocabulary and contexts via the built-in 3D library that consists of three-dimensional images, arts, models, and virtual tours that helps students experience a location using still images and videos.
- Record a descriptive video using the 3D library object and creatively transform it into a listening activity.
- Use virtual tours to inspire students to speak eloquently about a particular theme or topic.
- 3D library can be used as a prompt to enhance descriptive writing or narrative writing skills among the students.

## For your professional development

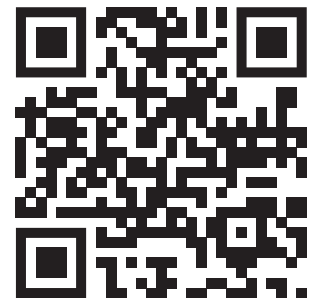
- You can use AR to encourage interaction and engagement in your communities of practice. Brainstorm ideas to enhance your presentations and discussions using AR.
- Offer and seek help within your professional network to learn using AR to enhance your classroom practice.
- If you are interested in EdTech, curate a learning path to build your learning and professional profile.

## Try other resources

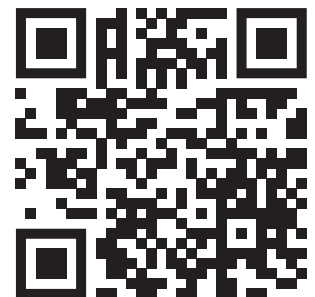
### BlippAR



### Co spaces Edu



### Augment



# 10. Building student portfolios

## Introduction

A portfolio is a purposeful collection of work by a student documenting and representing their work, effort, progress, growth, and achievement in all school activities throughout the year. Students can consistently update their learning progress by adding and editing pieces of work. It is an effective method of motivating students, reviewing the assignments submitted, and assisting them in reflecting on their own goals, learning styles, and success. Portfolios are a great assessment tool and can be assessed using rubrics.

Technology now provides digital tools that document students' learning and progress in a more comprehensive and long-lasting manner by incorporating images, videos, and articles from activities assigned by the teacher. Such tools not only foster student creativity but also assist them in tracking their own learning progress.

## Creating student portfolios



**ClassDojo**



*Click or tap on the icon OR scan the QR code to visit the website*

ClassDojo is a platform where teachers can build students' portfolios to highlight their progress. Teachers can do this by sharing what they are learning and doing in the classroom via photos,

videos, and messages. It can also be used by teachers to foster positive behavior and classroom culture. Students can use the platform to write journal entries and share images and videos of their work. ClassDojo can also be used as a platform to connect with parents and involve them in students' learning journeys. The tool is free for teachers and students but parents have to pay a subscription to track their child's progress.

## How do we use it?

- Go to [www.classdojo.com](http://www.classdojo.com) and create a teacher account.
- Create a new class. Assign a class name, grade level, and preferred sharing option.
- Enter each student's name to save into the class.
- Assign tasks to students. Students can upload their work in the form of text, videos, photos, worksheets, drawings, etc.
- Compliment or reward a student or highlight issues if any.
- Leave a comment, provide feedback, or share a photograph or video, simply click on the student's name and post. The feedback is visible only to the student it has been posted for.
- Assess student portfolios and help students to set realistic and achievable goals by helping them reflect on their performance.



## For your classroom teaching (physical and online)

- Use the students' portfolio as an assessment tool. Track students' progress over the academic year. Flag learning issues to the school counsellor if required.
- Determine where a student has misconceptions by studying the artifacts and taking remedial steps as needed.
- Use the portfolio during parent-teacher conferences to showcase the talents and achievements of students.
- Use as a classroom management tool to:
  - create a reading list and assign stories from the reading library as homework
  - offer points to improve classroom behaviour.
  - use the noise meter to help students visualize and regulate the noise level in class. Similarly, use the timer to give students a limit on assignments.
  - reach out to parents privately regarding updates about their child or concerns using the message tool.

## For your professional development

Create a teacher's portfolio by:

- Writing down a statement of teaching philosophy summarising your view on education and pedagogy.
- Adding details of education, skills, experiences, and career goals.
- Include certifications, awards, lesson plans, worksheets, assessment sheets, and letters of recommendation to demonstrate your organizational skills and teaching style.

- Including your career goals along with set timelines. Visit it regularly to plan and focus your time and efforts.

This portfolio can be used by teachers to not only grow professionally but to also self-reflect and evaluate growth and achievements.

## Try other resources

### Kudoswall

