TIPS FOR USING THE WA DIGITAL TEACHKIT

About TeachKit

WA Digital TeachKit

The Washington Digital TeachKit offers educators over 20 guides to using educational technology tools for effective classroom instruction. It was created by Washington State teacher-librarians and educators as a professional learning guide to help educators use the right tools to help learners whether they are learning from home or the classroom.

The TeachKit includes:

- Simple overviews of digital learning tools, ranging from Audacity to Zoom

- Curated links for basic and advanced training, user communities, and support

- Considerations for the effective use of digital learning tools in the classroom

The TeachKit is presented in two sections: Tools and Guides.

- The **Tools** section lists 30 widely used digital learning tools and services, including guidance and resources for student engagement, management, and instructional design.
- The **Guides** section allows educators to explore different families of digital learning tools and services to help them match the instructional need to the educational technology solution.

Additional resources help educators understand planning in the pandemic, social and emotional learning, educational technology standards, and more.

Tools

Take me right to the tools covered in this resource.
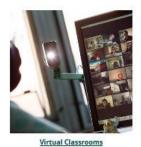

Guides

What educators need to know about using different types of digital learning tools and resources in the classroom.

There's a natural inclination to look at the Tools first, but the number of tools included in the TeachKit can seem overwhelming. Start with the Guides instead to identify instructional goals and then locate the tools to achieve these goals.

Using TeachKit Guides to Select Tech

The Guides Pages are organized into nine instructional activities that you may want to do in your classroom or library. Each activity page lists three or more key questions:

1. What does this look like in my class? This covers why these tools are good choices for instruction and how students and educators might use them.
2. What tools could I use? This lists the applicable tools, with links to all the relevant information found in the Tools section of the site.
3. What else do I need to know? This prompt also sometimes appears as "Getting the most out of...." These prompts list other resources that will help you be successful with this instructional activity.

Virtual Classrooms

Meeting and connecting with learners

Student Interaction

Engaging learning through interaction

Learning Management

Organizing instruction for learning

Screencasting

Capturing and sharing instruction

Presentation

Presenting ideas and information to learners

Choice Boards

Promoting student choice in learning activities

Media Creation

Creating diverse media for sharing and demonstrating learning

Curation

Organizing and presenting ideas, information, and resources

Information Searching

Locating information and resources

Media Creation Example

Let's look at the Media Creation Guide as an example. The summary lets us know that "media creation tools allow educators and students to create and edit original video content to share information, capture demonstrations, and present content" for flipped classroom environments or for students to demonstrate their own learning.

Media Creation

Creating diverse media for sharing and demonstrating learning

1. *What does this look like in my class*? This section talks about why and when media creation is effective for learning, how students and teachers are using it, and what digital resources are needed. It also links to a guide for creating instructional videos and 10 video ideas for remote classroom learning.

2. *What tools could I use*? In this case, the list of tools recommended for this learning strategy is short, making it much easier to choose which one is best suited for your needs. The "featured tools" are those reviewed and detailed by the TeachKit creators. The links go to the Tools pages, where you'll find beginning and advanced instruction on the use of the tool, instructional design guidance, management of student engagement with the tool, and more.

3. *What else do I need to know*? This section offers guidance on managing student engagement, including considerations of privacy, as well as an orientation to flipping your classroom via video instruction.