

## *Remote Instruction Ideas for Family Literacy Programs*

### COMMUNICATING WITH FAMILIES

- **Remind** (<https://www.remind.com/>) – Phone app that allows Two-way communication for updates, instruction, and more
- **Google hangout** (<https://hangouts.google.com/>) – communication software developed by Google for conferencing, one-on-one conversations or create a room for ongoing conversations.
- **WhatsApp** (<https://www.whatsapp.com/>) Phone app that allows users to send text messages and voice messages, make voice and video calls, and share images, documents, user locations, and other media
- **Wechat** (<https://www.wechat.com/en/>) - Phone app that is a Chinese multi-purpose messaging, social media and mobile payment app. Can also be used on a PC or Mac.
- **Gotomeetings** (<https://www.gotomeeting.com/>) – site that offers video, audio, or web meetings from a conference room. 14-day free trial available, otherwise for purchase.
- **Zoom** (<https://zoom.us/signup>) - a conferencing app that allows for meetings and individual lessons. Directions for video breakout rooms: <https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/206476093-Getting-Started-with-Breakout-Rooms>

### ADULT EDUCATION/ESL RESOURCES

#### Instructors

- **Commonlit** (<https://www.commonlit.org>) – access tools to develop an effective literacy programs including information for teachers and administrators.
  - **Tips for remote learning** (<https://blog.commonlit.org/these-commonlit-digital-features-make-remote-learning-possible-bdbdc4715728>) – blog posts that help you use the Commonlit tools.
- **EdTech Center - ABE distance learning resource site** (<https://edtech.worlded.org/tips-for-distance-learning/>) – this site provides tips and resources for rapidly starting your distance learning opportunities.
- **Edweb** (<https://home.edweb.net/>) – get valuable resources for online learning and collaboration
- **English classes at ESLgo.com** (<http://eslgo.com/>) – Free online English classes for students and teachers.
- **English Club** (<https://www.englishclub.com/>) – English Club helps a person either teach or learning English.
- **Iddblog** (<https://www.iddblog.org/videoconferencing-alternatives-how-low-bandwidth-teaching-will-save-us-all/>) – factors to consider when designing online courses; important to have a balanced approach.
- **Marshal Adult Education** ([http://resources.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading\\_skills\\_home.htm](http://resources.marshalladulthoodeducation.org/reading_skills_home.htm)) This site provides leveled reading selections that are appropriate for adult learners.

- **Randall’s ESL Cyber Listening Lab** (<https://www.esl-lab.com/>) – This listening lab provides online English listening comprehension quizzes and activities for ESL and EFL learners.
- **Tools and platforms for distance learning** (<https://www.proliteracy.org/health>) – resources, tips, and platforms to help programs and learners continue learning through distance education.

### Learners

- **Duolingo** (<https://www.duolingo.com/>) – website that offers free lessons to learn a language.
- **Free English Learning Resources** (<https://www.rong-chang.com/>) - Reading activities that the students can listen to as they read along –multiple levels, and the readings can be translated into French, Spanish, and Arabic.
- **Khan Academy** (<https://www.khanacademy.org/>) – feed education tools for adult learners.
- **Learning Chocolate** (<https://www.learningchocolate.com/>) – a vocabulary learning platform with written words and audio to aid understanding.
- **USA Learns** (<https://www.usalearns.org/>) – free website with video lessons activities to learn English and become a U.S. citizen.

## **PARENT EDUCATION RESOURCES**

### Instructors

- **Center for Effective Parenting** (<https://parenting-ed.org/for-parents/links-for-parents/>) – lists parent information websites that includes general parenting information; family fun sites; mother specific sites; father specific sites; new & expectant parents; and educational issues.
- **List of resources of local, state, and national parent education** (<https://www.childwelfare.gov/topics/preventing/prevention-programs/parented/education-resource/>) – tools for conducting parent education programs.
- **Parent Toolkit** (<https://www.parenttoolkit.com/>) – one-stop resource about a child’s development developed with parents in mind.
- **Pennsylvania Department of Education Resources** (<https://www.paadultedresources.org/family-literacy/>) – list of parent education lessons; activities and lessons for AE, ILA, and PE; and educational opportunities and tools.

### Families

- **Raising a Reader** (<https://www.raisingreaders.org/promoting-a-love-of-reading/parents-families/>) parent tips for reading with children (8 languages available).
- **Reading Rockets Parent Reading tips** (<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/reading-tips-parents-multiple-languages#languages>) Parent reading tips for children who are babies, toddlers, pre-K, K, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades (available in 12 languages).

- **Teaching young people about Covid-19** ([https://www.bigdealbook.com/newsletters/k-12\\_technology/?show=teaching\\_young\\_people\\_about\\_covid-19/b3984de7d-11b5-45cd-b5d3-7d87b01d1e0c](https://www.bigdealbook.com/newsletters/k-12_technology/?show=teaching_young_people_about_covid-19/b3984de7d-11b5-45cd-b5d3-7d87b01d1e0c)) – this website provides a link to a comic that explains the coronavirus. The comic was also published in Chinese.
- **Sesame Street in Communities** (<https://sesamestreetincommunities.org/>) – activities and tips for both families and providers, such as staying healthy and wellness tips.

### EARLY CHILDHOOD/SCHOOL-AGE RESOURCES

#### Instructors (to review for learners)

- **Khan Academy Kids** (<https://learn.khanacademy.org/khan-academy-kids/>) – Free online education to help children in school on a variety of subjects.
- **Scholastic Learn at home** (<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>) – daily projects for grades pre-k to grade 9. Also includes resources for parents and teachers.
- **Tech & Learning** (<https://www.techlearning.com>) – Look under online learning resources. Provides free e-learning resources for schools.
- **Various Education Companies** (<http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com>) – Free resources from education companies due to school closures.
- **Special Education**
  - **Illinois Autism Partnership** ([https://docs.google.com/document/d/1O-186CJ3MmtUZuoCX\\_oRIR1Dgzqc5RmkYUdTKm\\_dQ4E/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1O-186CJ3MmtUZuoCX_oRIR1Dgzqc5RmkYUdTKm_dQ4E/edit)) – List of websites and resources that are beneficial for children with autism
  - **Special Education websites** ([TheSpedGuru.com](http://TheSpedGuru.com)) – list of websites targeted to children with disabilities. *Includes resources for many youths.*

#### Children (parents can do these with their children for ILA)

- **ABC Mouse Early Learning Academy** (<https://www.abcmouse.com/abt/homepage>) 30 days Learning curriculum for children ages 2 to 8. Focus is reading, math, science, and art/colors.
- **ABCya.com** (<https://www.abcya.com/>) - provides over 400 fun and educational games for grades PreK through 6. Activities are designed by parents and educators, who understand that children learn better if they are having fun.
- **Cool Kid Facts** (<https://www.coolkidfacts.com/>) – free resource with fun facts on animals, plants, science, geography, and history. Grades 1 to 8.
- **Lunch Doodles with Mo Willems!** (<https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/mo-willems/>) - Learners can draw, doodle, and explore new ways of drawing/writing through Mo’s studio virtually once a day for the next few weeks. New episodes each weekday at 1:00 pm ET.
- **PBS Kids** (<https://pbskids.org/>) - activities for kids to play and learn, including TV shows on PBS Kids, as well as skill development (i.e., literacy, science, reading, math, music, creativity), and learning “word of the week” (<https://pbskids.org/apps/filter/episode/>).
- **Prodigy games** (<https://play.prodigygame.com/>) – fun, curriculum-aligned math website.
- **School House Rock Videos** (<https://youtu.be/FFroMQIKiag>) – the famous School House Rock videos, including *I’m just a Bill*, *Conjunction Junction*, and *Multiplication*.
- **Sesame Street** (<https://www.sesamestreet.org/>) - preschool games, videos and coloring pages

- **Starfall** (<https://www.starfall.com/>) - A place to help children learn to read for children preschool to 3rd grade.
- **Special Education**
  - **Storyline online** (<https://www.storylineonline.net/>) - Free videos of narrators reading children's books aloud. Great for children with learning disabilities such as dyslexia.
  - **Do2Learn** (<https://do2learn.com/>) – Free pages with social skills and behavioral regulation activities and guidance, through songs and games, communication cards, and academic material, to name a few.
- **Squiggle Park** (<https://www.squigglepark.com/>) – This free website is for reading skill building for ages 3 to 8+ or access *Dreamscape* for grades 2 to 8.
- **Typing Club** (<https://www.typingclub.com/>) – learn to type for free!

### INTERACTIVE LITERACY ACTIVITY RESOURCES

#### Instructors

- **National Center for Families Learning – 30 Days of Families Learning together** (<http://30days.familieslearning.org/>) – a month's worth of family literacy activities and practices to help families imagine, play, and learn together. Instructors can help families go through the slides together through the website on the computer or phone.
  - Spanish (pdf) - <http://30days.familieslearning.org/wp/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/NCFL30Days-es.pdf>

#### Families

- **Audible** (<https://stories.audible.com/start-listen>) – while schools are closed due to Covid-19, children can instantly stream stories for free, including across six different languages.
- **Dial a story** (<https://www.torontopubliclibrary.ca/services/dial-a-story.jsp>) - Kids and their families can listen to a story by phone anytime of the day. Available in 16 languages.
- **Epic!** (<https://www.getepic.com/>) – Instantly access free digital books for children 12 and under. Subscription required for parents, but a 30-day free trial period is available.
- **Family time Machine** (<http://www.familytimemachine.com/>) – parents and children imagine together and the family time machine will inspire you to learn more.
- **Free Library of Philadelphia** (<https://www.freelibrary.org/>) – have access to free digital books and you can apply for library card online.
- **Open Culture** (<http://www.openculture.com/2016/08/enter-an-archive-of-6000-historical-childrens-books-all-digitized-and-free-to-read-online.html>) - Discover 6,000 historical children's books, all digitized and free to read online.
- **Unite for Literacy** (<https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/>) – Large collection of books that are either narrated or for the family to read together. The books can be narrated in over 15 languages.
- **Wonderopolis** (<https://wonderopolis.org/>) - a place to learn and explore with a new question asked every day.
- **Wow in the World Podcasts** (<https://www.npr.org/podcasts/510321/wow-in-the-world>) – Two hosts guide curious kids and their grown-ups on a journey into the wonders of the world around them.

Additional ILA Resources of museums, zoos, and other fun sites

- **Animals & Zoos** – Information about various zoos plus live animal cams, a few examples:
  - **Atlantic Zoo Panda Cam** (<https://zooatlanta.org/panda-cam/>)
  - **Houston Zoo Live Animal Cams** (<https://www.houstonzoo.org/explore/webcams/>)
  - **San Diego Zoo** (<https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/videos>)
  - **Wolf Conservation Center** (<https://nywolf.org/meet-our-wolves/webcams/>)
  - **Cornell Lab Ornithology** (<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/cams/>) – A virtual window into the natural world of birds. Includes live cams of barred owls, and the red-tailed hawk incubating three eggs.
- **British Museum** (<https://www.britishmuseum.org/learn/schools/ages-7-11>) Students can engage and experience the unique collection through resources, sessions and gallery visits.
- **NASA Kids Club** (<https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>) – a place to play games and learn about NASA. Features of this site may or may not work on a phone or tablet.
- **National Geographic Kids** (<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>) – learn about fun and interesting topics, including animals, earth day, heroes, homework help, and fun quizzes.
- **National Geographic Resources for Families** (<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/family/in-the-news/coronavirus.html>) – find parenting articles, study tips, science experiments, videos, and more.
- **National Park Service Virtual Tours – a few examples:**
  - **Yellowstone National Park** (<https://www.nps.gov/yell/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtours.htm>)
  - **Gettysburg** (<https://www.nps.gov/gett/planyourvisit/national-cemetery-virtual-tour.htm>)
  - **Klondike Gold Rush** (<https://www.nps.gov/klgo/learn/photosmultimedia/virtual-tours.htm>)
  - **Statue of Liberty** (<https://www.nps.gov/stli/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm>)
- **P.E. with Joe daily workouts** (<https://youtu.be/K6r99N3kXME>) – fun, daily live workouts with Joe.
- **Smithsonian Kids** (<https://www.si.edu/kids>) - Fun stuff for kids, including activities and games and animal cams of zoo animals.
- **Spy Museum** (<https://www.spymuseum.org/education-programs/spy-resources/>) – learn about spy stuff (more for the instructor)