**Supporting the Needs of English Learners through Remote Learning: Educational Resources**

As we continue to deal with this unprecedented crisis, the Office of Language Acquisition at the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is committed to supporting parents, educators, and administrators in their efforts to work together to meet the needs of students who are English learners. The following list of educational opportunities includes tools and resources for students who are English learners and for the educators and families who are supporting their learning. The Department is providing this list as a service to educators and families and may revise or supplement the list from time to time. The list does not represent an endorsement or recommendation by the Department of any instructional resource, product, curriculum, or eLearning system ​.[[1]](#footnote-1)

We appreciate your commitment to providing support to our English learners.

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| [WIDA Resources](file:///C%3A//Users/hsx/AppData/Local/Microsoft/Windows/INetCache/Content.Outlook/XQBHI8PV/March%202020%20Teaching%20ELLs%20Online%20%281%29%20%28003%29.pdf) | [WIDA Guiding Principles of Language Development](https://wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/Guiding-Principles-of-Language-Development.pdf) [[2]](#footnote-2) | Targeted Grade Level | Description |
| [Adobe Spark](https://www.empoweringells.com/adobe-spark/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 3-12 | Adobe Spark is to differentiate speaking tasks for ELs. It is a video-making program that allows students to communicate their thinking by stitching images, texts, and voice-recordings together into a professional video. |
| [Bloom 21](https://www.empoweringells.com/creating-with-technology/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 7 | K-12 | ELs use technology to create a product that represents their ideas and learning.  |
| [Book Creator](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lq6FJumvjwc&feature=youtu.be)  | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 3-12 | A presentation to teach students how to create books. |
| [Buncee](https://www.empoweringells.com/presenting-with-buncee/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 1 & 2. | K-12 | Buncee is a cloud-based graphics program to help ELs’ engage with content, cultivate critical thinking, and use language for authentic purposes. |
| [Canva](https://www.canva.com/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 9-12 | Canva is a drawing tool that students can use to design and create visuals for a better understanding.  |
| [CommonLit](https://www.commonlit.org/)  | WIDA Guiding Principle 5 | 3-12 | Leveled text with different question sets to foster close reading of the text which can be translated in several languages. |
| [Edpuzzle](https://edpuzzle.com/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 5 | K-12 | Provides ELs self-paced learning with interactive video lessons. Teachers can embed comprehension questions on Youtube videos and create different assign different questions for the same video to particular students.  |
| [Flipgrid](https://info.flipgrid.com/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 1. | K-12 | Flipgrid is 100% free for all educators, learners, and families. Engage and empower every voice in your classroom or at home by recording and sharing short, awesome videos together! |
| [Google Drawing](https://www.empoweringells.com/google-drawings/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 3-12 | In addition to being a tool for teaching instruction, Google Drawings is also a tool for student learning.  Els can use Google Drawings to synthesize information and create from their understanding.   |
| [Google Expeditions](https://edu.google.com/products/vr-ar/expeditions/?modal_active=none) | WIDA Guiding Principle 3 | 5-12 | Provides excellent visual to ELs by bringing abstract concepts to life—allowing teachers to guide students through collections of 360° scenes and 3D objects, pointing out interesting sites and artifacts along the way. |
| [Google Meet](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lkvig0i_kI8) | WIDA Guiding Principle 4 | 3-12 | Students can use chat functions and screen sharing features to enhance their learning experience and build community.  |
| [Google Sites](https://gsuite.google.com/intl/vi/products/sites/?utm_source=google&utm_medium=cpc&utm_campaign=japac-VN-all-en-dr-bkws-all-golden-trial-b-dr-1008070&utm_content=text-ad-none-none-DEV_c-CRE_362991324896-ADGP_Hybrid%20%7C%20AW%20SEM%20%7C%20BKWS%20~%20EXA%20%7C%20Sites%20%7C%20%5B1:1%5D%20%7C%20VN%20%7C%20EN%20%7C%20Google%20Sites-KWID_43700045755476784-kwd-3794162256-userloc_1028581-network_g&utm_term=KW_google%20sites&gclid=CjwKCAjwgbLzBRBsEiwAXVIygISCRgeBt5yl2cObZA2QlNmNbEjcGz3SIqvvJC0F-6S087z3jGMIShoCusUQAvD_BwE&gclsrc=aw.ds) | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 9-12 | Google sites available in many languages. |
| [Google Translate](https://translate.google.com/intl/en/about/languages/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 1. | K-12 | Besides translating a text, Google Translate’s Snap feature instantly translates an image using a camera. The Talk feature enables users to have live bilingual conversations. The Google Translate Chrome extension translates an entire webpage.  |
| [Microsoft Immersive Reader](https://education.microsoft.com/en-us/resource/9b010288) | WIDA Guiding Principle 1. | K-12 | Students can hear the text read aloud, use a picture dictionary, to look up words, and translate part of or the entire text into multiple languages in Word, OneNote, PowerPoint, and on several creation apps such as Buncee and Flipgrid.  |
| [Padlet](https://padlet.com/features) | WIDA Guiding Principle 8 | 3-12 | Teachers can have students post responses to prompts that require students to reflect on the content and the process they are learning. Students can also respond to each other’s comments to promote critical thinking and create a sense of community. It is also available in 29 languages. |
| [Piktochart](https://www.empoweringells.com/infographics/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 2 | 6-12 | Piktochart can develop ELs’ engagement with content, cultivate critical thinking, and promote the authentic use of language. |
| [Podcast](https://www.commonsense.org/education/top-picks/best-podcast-apps-and-websites-for-students) | WIDA Guiding Principle 10 | 3-12 | Students can use recording programs on their smart devices to record interviews of individuals in their communities who can share about a particular topic. These recordings can be edited and turned into a podcast which can be shared with the virtual school community.  |
| [ReadWorks](https://www.readworks.org/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 5&6 | K-12 | ELs can be assigned to different leveled text with question sets and at times, audio recordings. |
| [Screencastify](https://www.empoweringells.com/screencastify/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 9 | K-12 | Students can create a series of slides to present their work using Google Slides. Students can use any language they feel appropriate to narrate their slides with Screencastify. Teachers can also use this program to narrate their lessons or provide feedback.  |
| [Seasaw](https://www.empoweringells.com/seesaw-4/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 8 | 3-12 | Teachers can use Seesaw as a digital portfolio to showcase their engagement during virtual learning. Students can write their reflections, annotate a photo, attach documents, and record video responses. These all serve as ways to stimulate metacognitive thinking about language, cultures, the content, and the process of learning. Seesaw can be shared with families so they can also participate in their child’s learning. |
| [Within](https://www.with.in/) | WIDA Guiding Principle 3 | 5-12 | Provides virtual reality tours without the need for special glasses. |
| Additional Resources | **Focus** | **Targeted Grade Level** | **Description** |
| [CommonLit](https://www.commonlit.org/)  | Reading | 3-12 | A collection of reading passages in all literary and nonfiction genres for grades 3–12. Reading passages are available in Spanish. |
| [Duolingo](https://www.duolingo.com/) | English Language Skills | K-12 | Free language acquisition tool that is extremely similar to Rosetta Stone. |
| [ELL BrainPOP](https://ell.brainpop.com/) | English Language Skills | K-12 | BrainPOP’s English language instruction site for English Language Learners of all ages. The curriculum is comprised of short, animated movies as well as games, quizzes and interactive features. Users practice the four principle language skills: listening, speaking, reading and writing. |
| [English Media Lab](http://www.englishmedialab.com/index.html)  | English Language Skills | 1-8 | Offers free English Exercises Online and ESL Interactive Learning opportunities. |
| [Fun English Games for Kids](http://www.funenglishgames.com/) | English Language Skills | K-5 | Students can practice their English language skills while playing online games. |
| [Games to Learn English](https://www.gamestolearnenglish.com/) | English Language Skills | K-5 | Students can practice their English language skills while playing online games. |
| [International Children’s Library](http://en.childrenslibrary.org/) | Reading  | K-12 | Online library with literature from around the world and in multiple languages. |
| [National Geographic Kids](https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/) | English Language Skills | K-8 | A children’s magazine that provides reading, games, videos and more |
| [National Geographic Young Explorer](https://ngexplorer.cengage.com/ngyoungexplorer/moreissues.html%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) | English Language Skills | K-8 | Scientific articles students can read and listen.  |
| [No Red Ink](https://www.noredink.com/) | English Language Skills | 3-12 | Free writing and grammar activities |
| [Quill](https://www.quill.org/)  | Grammar and Writing | K-12 | Provides free writing and grammar activities for elementary, middle, and high school students. |
| [Quizlet](https://quizlet.com/) | Vocabulary | K-12 | Vocabulary practice with online flashcards and games. Teachers can create study sets.  |
| [Reading Comprehension Questions](https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1JVfrVR-gTpRBr8FLXS9Qu3uyVXyZXsxMTnaPm91fn5I/edit%22%20%5Cl%20%22gid%3D0) | Reading  | K-5 | Reading comprehension question prompt students to focus on story elements and details regarding the plot presented in the book they are reading. Questions and directions are provided in six different languages.  |
| [Starfall](https://www.starfall.com/h/)  | English Language Skills | K-3 | Starfall is an educational alternative to other entertainment choices for children and is especially effective for special education, homeschooling, and English language development (ELD), English Language Learners, and English as a Second Language. It is widely used in schools that serve children with special needs and learning difficulties. |
| [Unite for Literacy](https://www.uniteforliteracy.com/) | Reading | K-5 | Online library with children’s books. Offers read aloud in other languages with English words (have Spanish, Portuguese and Vietnamese but no Haitian Creole). |
| [Voces Digital](https://www.vocesdigital.com/) | English Language Skills | K-12 | Learning resources specifically for those who teach French, Spanish, and ESL. Students get audio and video, interactive writing and speaking exercises, and more. Schools closed due to the outbreak can get free access to Voces Digital for their teachers and students until June 30, 2020. |
| Dual Language Program Resources | **Focus** | **Targeted Grade Level** | **Description** |
| [Duolingo](https://www.duolingo.com/) | Languages | K-12 | Free language acquisition tool that is extremely similar to Rosetta Stone. |
| [Khan Academy](https://khanacademy.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/articles/360040167432-How-can-Khan-Academy-be-used-for-remote-learning-during-school-closures-) | Content instruction | K-12 | Offers a variety of content area courses for different grades. |
| [Khan Academy En Español](https://es.khanacademy.org/)  | Content instruction | K-12 | Khan Academy’s repository of video resources in Spanish. |
| [Learn Chinese for Kids](https://bilingualkidspot.com/learn-chinese-mandarin-basics-kids/) | Languages | K-6 | Lessons and activities to use with students enrolled in Mandarin Dual Language Immersion programs |
| [Migrant Literacy Net](http://www.migrantliteracynet.com/)  | Spanish Language Skills | 1-12 | Resources are provided in Spanish from grades 1-8. There are math, reading, writing, WIDA, and study skill lessons provided. Teachers can create a free account. |
| [Mango Languages](https://mangolanguages.com/available-languages/) | Languages | 7-12 | ESL/World Languages. Learn and practice basic English and other languages. |
| [NY Times ELL](https://www.nytimes.com/spotlight/learning-lessons-ell) | Content instruction | 7-12 | ELL articles, content, resources |
| [Panda Tree](https://www.pandatree.com/FreeLearningSpanishResources) | Languages | K-12 | Panda Tree materials are available to teachers and parents at no cost. Multiple languages are available, including Spanish and Mandarin. |
| [SERP Institute Word Gen](https://www.serpinstitute.org/educator-resources) | Content instruction | 4-8 | A site full of daily and weekly academic vocabulary and skill development exercises focused on increasing overall literacy skills; a primarily developer is Catherine Snow, a vocabulary expert in the field of TEFL/TESOL. |
| [Tween Tribune](https://www.tweentribune.com/) | Content instruction | K-12 | A collection of nonfiction articles and current events for kids, grades K–12. |
| [Tween Tribune Español](https://www.tweentribune.com/category/spanish/) | Content instruction | K-12 | A collection of nonfiction articles and current events in Spanish for kids in grades K–12. |

\*Disclaimer: Some apps collect a certain amount of user data. It is critical that you check with your IT department before using apps that require student accounts in order to protect student privacy. Also, districts and schools should ensure all online learning platforms meet confidentiality and student privacy standards.

1. This resource list was developed using resources provided by WIDA. The WIDA Consortium is a member-based organization made up of U.S. states, territories and federal agencies dedicated to the research, design and implementation of a high-quality, standards-based system for K-12 English language learners. See: https://wida.wisc.edu/ [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. WIDA Guiding Principles of Language Development can be found here: https://wida.wisc.edu/sites/default/files/resource/Guiding-Principles-of-Language-Development.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-2)