

COVID-19 Premium Upgrades

Twitter has been alight with notifications of technology companies that usually cost for “premium” access. Many are taking the COVID-19 situation to “help out”. (promote?) Regardless, if some of you wanted to try premium access, now is your opportunity. Remember, best practices is to stick with the school platforms but there are a few you and students might be used to - it’s not the time to introduce new things but to keep it simple.

Newsela. Online news, history, science, etc. Simply visit our [COVID-19 resource center](#), click “Get instant access”, and you’ll immediately see [Newsela ELA](#), [Newsela Science](#), [Newsela Social Studies](#), and [The Newsela Social-Emotional Learning Collection](#) in your Newsela account.

[PenPals](#). Connects students from around the world to learn together! Students collaborate through online projects ranging from human rights and the environment to fake news and robotics, all while practicing literacy, technology and social-emotional skills.

Kahoot needs no introduction. [This link on their website](#) has an explanation of how Kahoot can be specifically leveraged for distance learning. [At this link](#) you’ll find how you can get premium access due to the virus outbreak. Kahoot would be a fun exit ticket after a lesson. (something our students I’m sure would appreciate to help feel like things are “normal”) Here is an additional [blog post by Kahoot](#).

[Screencastify](#) has been briefly introduced as a Chrome Browser Extension tool to screencast lessons. If you contact sales@screencastify.com you can apparently ask for premium access. Here is an [e-book](#) on how you can use Screencastify for learning.

[WeVideo](#) is now offering affected schools free use.

[Pear Deck](#) is an interactive Add-on for Google Slides. You can get [90-days for all-access](#) (usually it’s 30-days for new users before you have to pay) If you are giving slide presentations it will allow you to do Yes-No polls and have students choose from lists. Here you can [watch a short video](#) on how Pear Deck works.

Google Hangouts Meet is offering all access to the recording tool and larger numbers of people able to join meetings. Our IT administrators must set this up. This is [Google’s blog post](#) on the topic.

Edpuzzle has its [Pro version](#) free for teachers. It’s a video too where you can create interactive quizzes with auto-stop where students can re-listen/review before answering questions and moving on.

[Buncee](#) is free for 90-days. “...easily create, and share visual representations of content, across grade, age and learning levels. Buncee is a one-stop-shop to build media-rich lessons, reports, newsletters, presentations” “If you’d like to learn more, reach out to info@buncee.com #buncee #edtech #education

[Book Creator](#) is giving 90 days free so you can collaborate together writing books.

[BrainPOP](#) has free access to affected schools.

[Adobe Spark](#) is always free.

CodeHS <https://twitter.com/CodeHS/status/1239674320672169985>

Looking for free tools and resources to help keep your computer science class on track?! Check out the CodeHS #VirtualLearning Guide at <http://codehs.com/virtual>. #ReadWriteCode 🖥️

Read CodeHS' response for Coronavirus --> <https://buff.ly/3aZcXTv>
<https://tinyurl.com/uklxjdn>

Socrative. Quizzes, polls, exit tickets that tracks student responses. For schools/districts not currently customers providing free access to Socrative Pro and Showbie Pro for all teachers and students through July 31, 2020. <https://showbie.typeform.com/to/KzOZ88>

A friend in Seoul has created a **Wakelet** with a collection of companies giving premium access. If there are any that your students know how to use, you may be able to get premium access. NOTE: Some of these are limited to the regular 30-day trial. Jason Reagin, M.Ed. @diskon4no <https://twitter.com/diskon4no>

A **new website** spawned from one educator bringing hundreds of others' notifications into one Google sheet. It's rudimentary, but comprehensive.

Some Twitter Handles already offering "free premium" (to be updated)

@Screencastify

@GetKahoot

@GoogleForEdu Google Meet has all

@padlet

@edpuzzle (read [this blog](#) from my friend Adam Hill, in a closed school in Hong Kong)

@epforlearning <https://tinyurl.com/vxmasjw>

@WeVideo

@brainpop

@gotynker

@nearpod

@ClassworkZoom

@parlayideas <https://parlayideas.com/>