

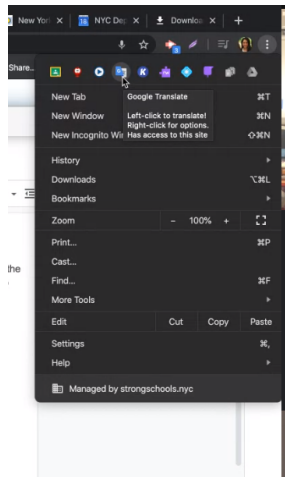
Google Apps, Chrome Extensions, and Other Platforms to Support Remote Learning

This document summarizes some commonly used Google apps and Chrome extensions that could amplify what you are doing in Google Classroom. This also includes many tools that can make virtual learning more accessible for students with specialized learning abilities.

Google Apps can be found by clicking the “waffle” in the upper right corner of your Google browser. The waffle looks like this



To download Chrome extensions, go to the [Chrome Web Store](#). Once they are downloaded, you can find your extension on the upper right corner of your Google screen.



Google Meet

Google Meet is a Google app. Once all your students are signed on to your domain, you can use Google Meet to host a virtual meeting or lesson with students, colleagues, or families. Alternatively, you can use Google Meet to record a meeting or a lesson, which you can then post or share for later use.

Once you create a meeting, you can either invite people using the Add People button on the upper right, or by sharing the link to the meeting (which you can get by clicking the name of the meeting in the bottom left corner).

To find the record button, click the 3 stacked dots in the low right corner.

You can find a more detailed tutorial for Google Meet [here](#).

Google Translate

[Google Translate](#) is a Google App that allows you or students to translate text to a different language. Please note: Google Translate does not translate perfectly, but it could help you, students, and families understand the gist of text.

Google Translate can translate an entire text or part of a text. You can pick any language you want.

You may ask your students to use this on their own computer to take advantage of its functionality.

You can find a more detailed tutorial for Google Translate [here](#).

Share to Classroom

[Share to Classroom](#) is a Chrome Extension that allows you to push websites directly into your classroom. Your students will see a link in your classroom, and simply click it to get to the right page. You can also post announcements or create assignments using the extensions. Or you can save a website that you want to use later, and access it when you need to in the future.

This extension is useful for those of you who teach using other platforms that do not already have a feature that allows you to share content to your classroom. Using this extension, you can access those platforms and share content.

After adding the extension, you can share a website to your classroom by clicking the 3 stacked dots in the upper right corner.

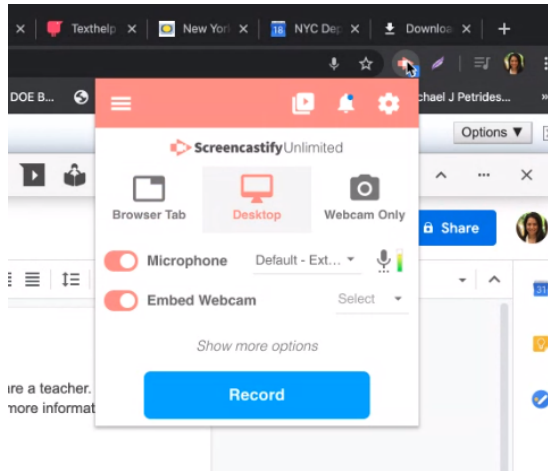
You can find a more detailed tutorial for Share to Classroom extension [here](#).

Screencastify

[Screencastify](#) is a Chrome extension that allows you to share, record, and edit whatever is on your screen. It is great for creating videos of yourself teaching.

Once you click on Screencastify there are 3 different options

- Browser tab: Shows only your browser
- Desktop: Shows your entire screen
- Webcam only: this will be your camera on you, which is good for real time teaching



Desktop is the easiest to start with so that you can record whatever you are doing on your screen for your students. You can then turn your webcam on so that your face will also show up in the corner. And you can record if you want to.

Once you are showing your screen, there are different features you can use in the bottom left corner of your screen:

- Spotlight tool: you can shine a spotlight on something you want to draw attention to
- Write and erase

As you move from screen to screen everything will be captured.

If you are recording, you can pause and then pick up again (also in the bottom left). When you are done recording a video, it will be saved to your Google Drive. The folder will be automatically created when you sign up for Screencastify. From Google Drive you will be able to share the videos you make either by sharing a link, sharing directly to your classroom, or generating a QR code. You can even publish it to Youtube. Or you can download it so it can live on your computer.

When in Screencastify, you can use your “pancake stack” drop down menu in the upper left corner to see all your past recordings.

If you want to use the webcam view, you will know if it’s picking up your voice by the meter that turns green and goes up and down.

Please note that most of these features are available in [Google Meet](#) as well.

You can find a more detailed tutorial for Creencastify [here](#).

Texthelp

[Texthelp](#) is a website that has a variety of Chrome Extensions to help students, particularly those with disabilities, with virtual learning. It is free for teachers.

Their extensions include:

- Read&Write
- Equatio
- Fluency Tutor
- And more

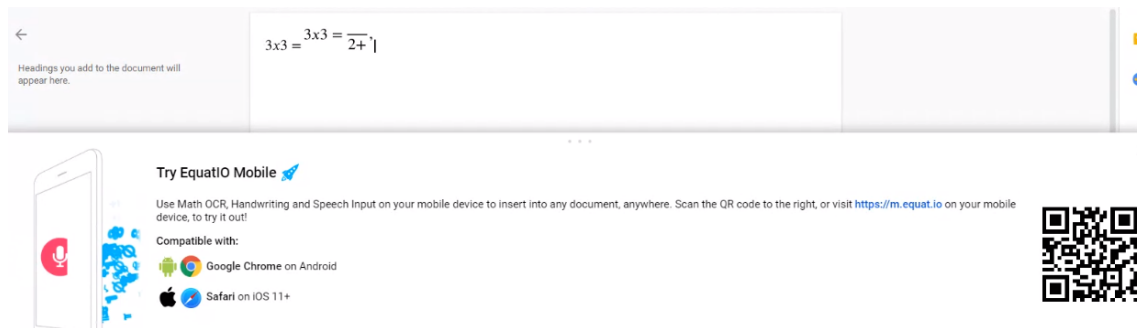
You may ask students to download these extensions onto their computers so that they can make the most of these tools.

[Texthelp PDF Reader](#) is also a Chrome extension, which you can use to collaborate on PDFs.

You can find several Texthelp tutorials on their [Youtube page](#).

Equatio

Text Help has an app called [Equatio](#). It will allow students to do math in Google docs. A student would have to click the [Equatio add on](#) and a toolbar will pop up. When a teacher or student clicks on Equatio it will pop up on their screen. This is where they can do their math. They can type in what they want and insert the math onto a document as an image.

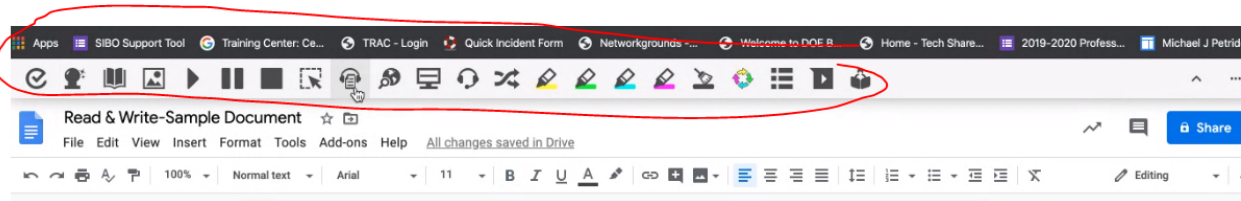


Equatio takes whatever you draw and pulls it over into a document. There are opportunities for students to present using QR codes and their phones. There's an accessibility feature to identify shapes.

Watch an Equatio tutorial [here](#).

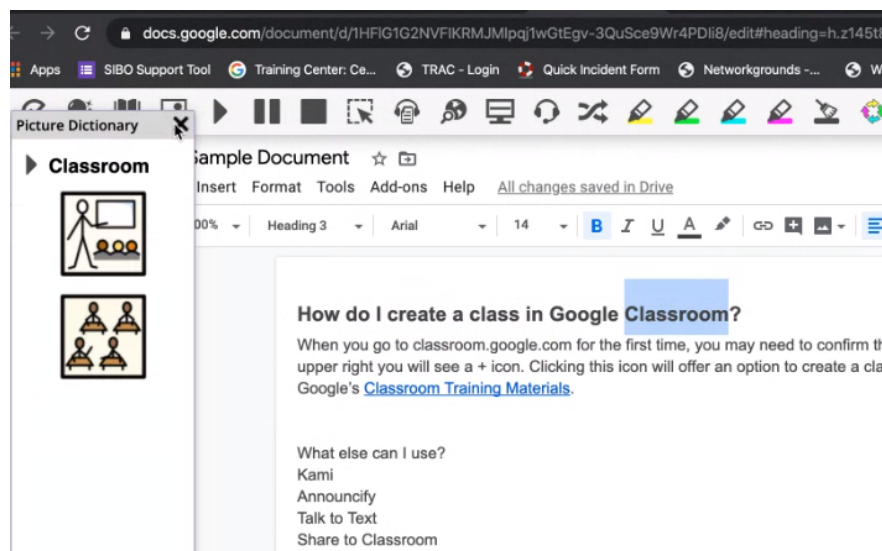
Read&Write

[Read Write](#) is a Chrome extension that can be used to make virtual instruction more accessible so that every student can engage with digital content in a way that suits their abilities and learning styles.



Read Write includes lots of features, like:

- Dictionary: highlight a word on the screen, then click to get the definition in words
- Picture Dictionary: highlight a word on the screen, then click to get the definition in pictures
- Read text: have the computer read the whole document or a highlighted portion of the text
- Talk and Type: the computer will read what you type
- Translate: highlight portions of the text and click to have it translated (defaulted to Spanish but the language can be changed in settings)
- Highlight: for annotating
- Audio Maker: Create a MP4 file in which Read&Write reads an entire article which you record and share it with students
- Screen Mask: for students with visual impairments



View a brief tutorial about Read and Write [here](#).

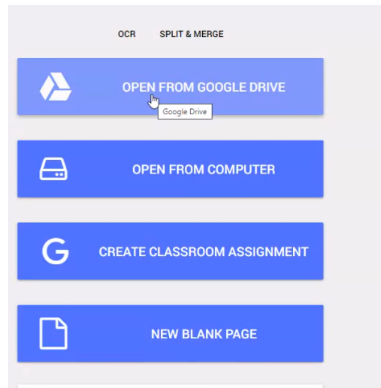
Annuncify

[Annuncify](#) is a Chrome extension that reads the entire screen or website. You may consider telling students to add this extension at home if they could benefit from this functionality.

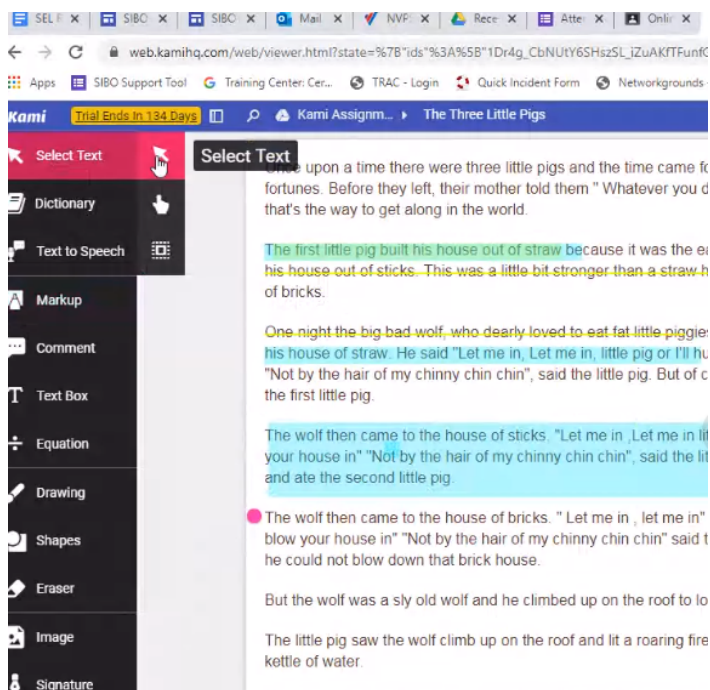
Watch an announcify demonstration [here](#).

Kami

Kami: It is a platform that integrates with Google Classroom. Non English Speakers feature. Kami has also led the charge of giving stuff for free. [Click here for Kami resource document for schools!](#)



Kami has a wide variety of features including text to speech and definitions. You can change voices to different genders and dialects and adjust the speed of voice reads. Different languages are available in a wide range. Other features include highlights and video comments. Teachers, families and students can record themselves reading. You can insert text boxes and comment on the text of student work.



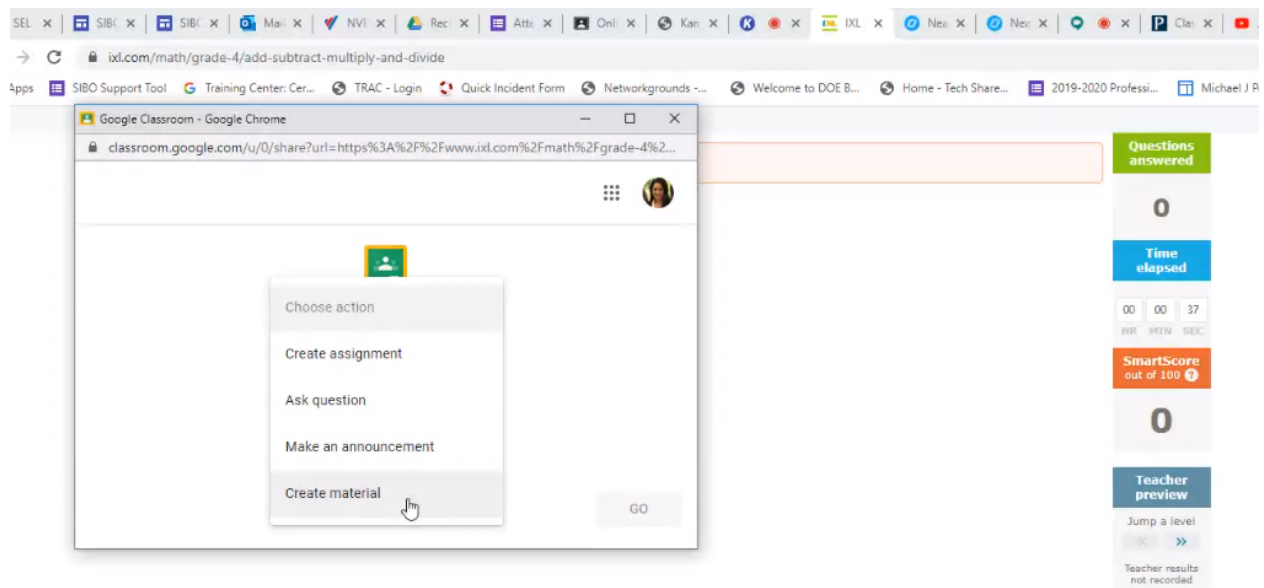
Kami has video PDs available as well on their [youtube page](#).

IXL

[IXL](#) is a platform (not an app or an extension) that integrates with Google Classroom for personalized learning. Once at the website, you can click on a grade and topic. If you find something you want to share with your class, find the (somewhat hidden) share button on the bottom right. The button should look like this:



When you click the Share to Classroom button, you will be prompted to take a specific action (like create an assignment, ask a question, etc.).

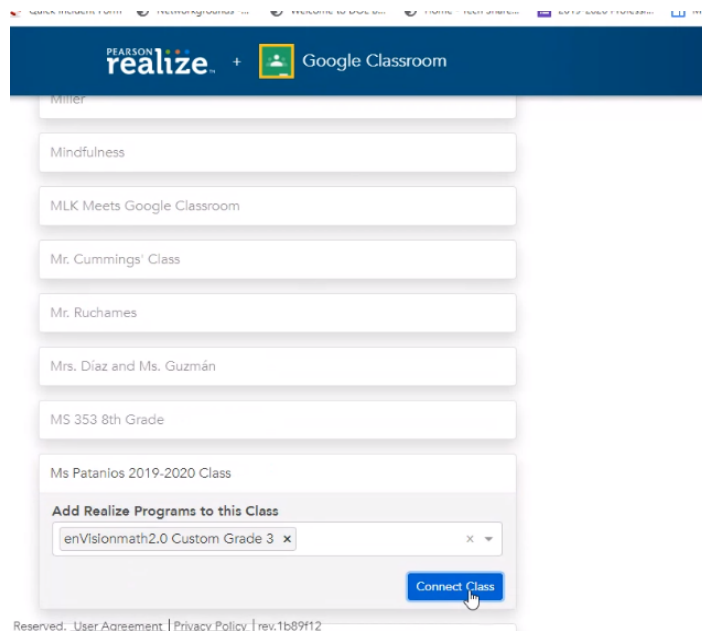


You can either bulk share with multiple classes, or choose individual students in a class to share with.

More information can be found at the [IXL help center](#).

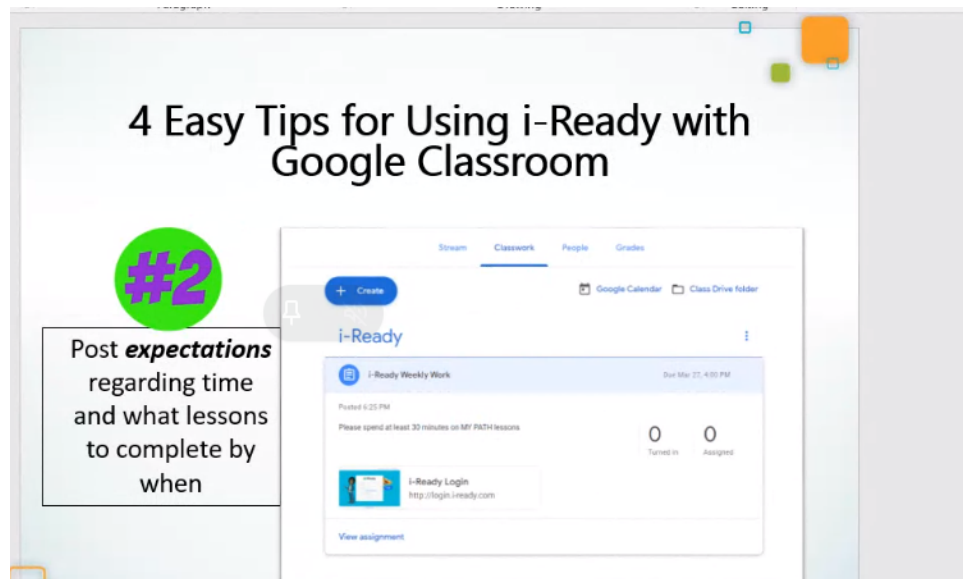
Realize

[Pearson Realize](#) is a platform that enVisions schools have access to. It also integrates directly into Google Classroom.



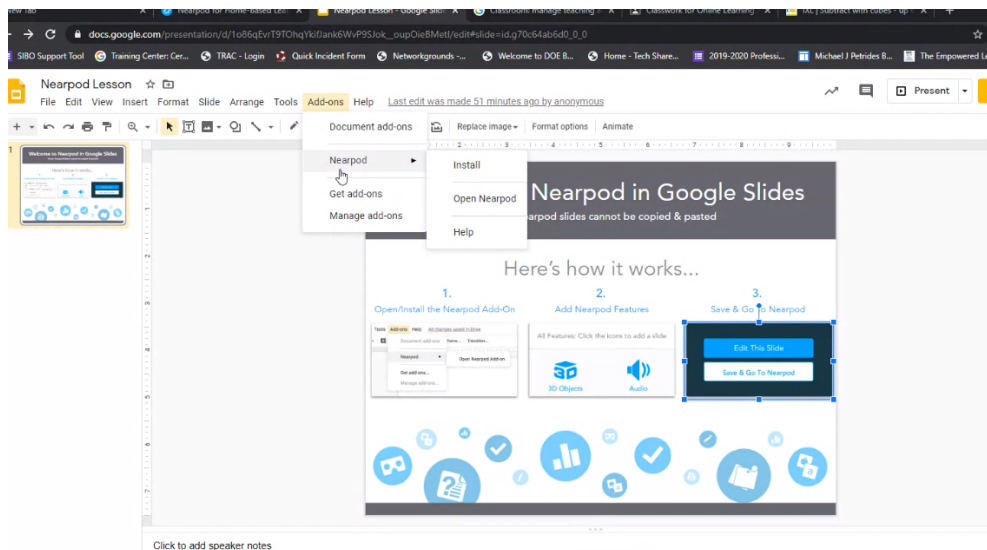
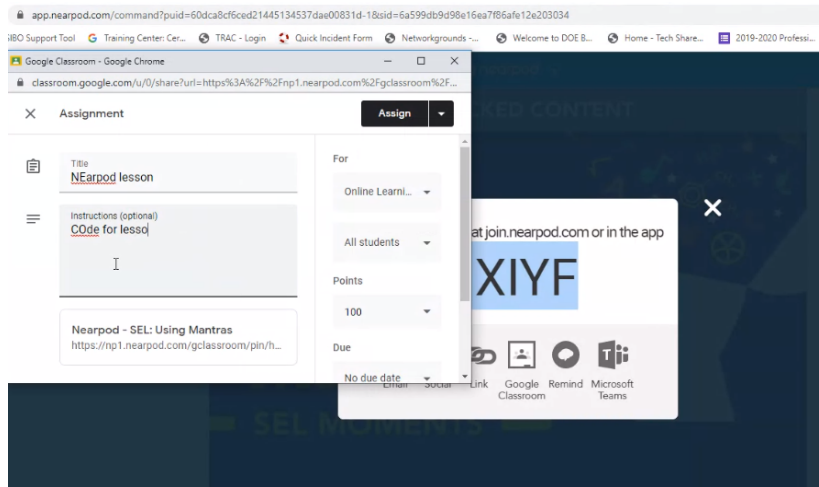
iReady

[iReady](#) is a platform that iReady schools have access to. It also integrates directly into Google Classroom.



Nearpod

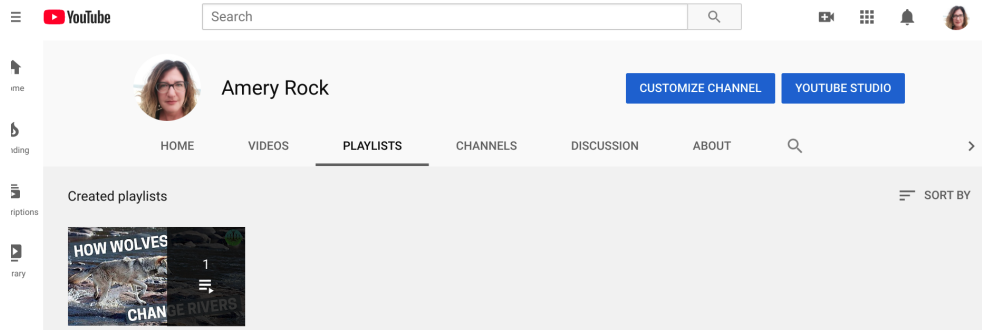
[Nearpod](#) is a student engagement platform with ready-to-run interactive lessons for K-12 teachers. We have often seen it used for homework. There is an attendance feature in this platform so if you are using it for live instruction you can see when students join and leave.



Watch a teacher demonstrate how she is using Nearpod to teach remotely [here](#).

Youtube

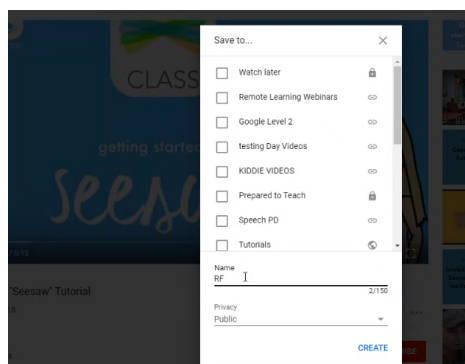
You can create a [Youtube](#) account if you don't have one already then create a channel by clicking on your name or initials on the top right of your screen. This will take you to a page that looks like this where you can begin cultivating playlists, creating videos, etc.



Playlists: When you find a preexisting video that you would like to use click on save to add it to a playlist or start a new playlist. We recommend you use an “unlisted playlist” not private or public which means that only people with a link will be able to see it. You can also create a video yourself and upload it to youtube.

Some ideas to enrich and use your Youtube channel are:

- Screencastify- record yourself and your screen to add to your channel (see Screencastify guidance above)
- [Google playlist](#) (or other music app) share the link to the playlist for students and let them collaborate to create playlists
- Livestream - If you are interested in inviting your students or families to a Youtube livestream, check out this [tutorial](#). Going live means that you stream to an audience. You have the option to record and save to your channel which is helpful for students who are unable to join you during the live session or may need to go back and hear the content again.
- Upload videos that you created - double check privacy settings
- Upload or share channels have been curated by others - to do this go to the search bar. click on it. At the bottom of all videos are sharing options (add to a playlist, e-mail, etc.)



Padlet

[Padlet](#) is a premium service, but you can create 3 free padlets. Padlet might be described as a virtual pinboard. You can share what you make and others can contribute. You can continue to add to it as everyone works on it -it's a great tool for collaboration. You can add files, links and photos. Students can record their voices and write on pads. Everything can be shared right to Google Classroom.

You can save the final Padlets as PDFs, then delete them to make the most of your 3 free pads. Check out this [padlet tutorial for teachers](#).

FAQ

Q: What do I do if Chrome extensions and Youtube are blocked by my administrator?

A: If you are on a DOE computer and extensions and Youtube are blocked, you will need the extension unblocker from DIIT. Please contact your school administrators for assistance, or e-mail Jackie Patanio.

Q: Are videos I create with my webcam permanent?

A: If you use Screencastify, your videos will automatically save to your Google Drive.

Q: When using Google Meet, is there a way to set parameters for the meeting so that mics are auto-muted, screen-sharing is not an option, and participants are blocked from presenting?

A: Unfortunately, no. You will have to incorporate lessons about virtual meeting etiquette with your students. We can provide resources for this if needed.

Q: Will there be bandwidth issues with using Google Meet because my students and I are in all different locations?

A: It shouldn't matter. These are global apps so location should not have an effect.