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Elementary Media Resources

What is Media?

Media is an important technology and information course for K-6 students in the Saddle Brook school district. This course is taught by a certified Library Media Specialist and combines a traditional computer class with library and research skills. Media class is designed to teach students many important skills that will help them navigate the internet and technology while they safely access information through books and computers.

Who is a Library Media Specialist?

In Saddle Brook, the Elementary Library Media Specialists are technology and information specialists who helped to create the Media courses that they teach. They also organize and care for the school library.

Staying Safe Online and Digital Citizenship:

- **Ruff Ruffman on PBS Kids:** Ruff Ruffman is the “Humble Media Genius.” A dog who teaches kids about navigating the internet safely! <https://pbskids.org/ruff/>
- **Common Sense Media Grades K-2:**
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship/curriculum?grades=k%2C1%2C2>
- **Common Sense Media Grades 3-5:**
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship/curriculum?grades=3%2C4%2C5>
- **Common Sense Media Grades 6-8:**
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/digital-citizenship/curriculum?grades=6%2C7%2C8>
- **Videos:**
 - My Online Neighborhood:
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/videos/my-online-neighborhood>
 - Digital Trails:
<https://www.commonsense.org/education/videos/follow-the-digital-trail>

Computer and Keyboarding Skills:

- **Kidztype-** a step-to-step, funny and enjoyable touch typing tool that will turn your kid into a pro typist! Easy to follow touch typing tutorials are offered in the form of interactive games, to attract the kid's interest and boost their efforts through different Levels of learning. (all grades) www.kidztype.com
- **Typing.com-** Keyboard games for all ages. <https://www.typing.com/student/games>
- **Typing Club-** an educational platform for keyboarding. It is web-based and fully customizable, so your students can practice in class, at home, or wherever an internet connection can be found. Students are already familiar with the layout of the program because the design is very similar to popular games. (K-12)
www.typingclub.com

Computer Coding:

- **Code.org-** a non-profit organization and eponymous website led by Hadi Partovi that aims to encourage people, particularly school students in the United States, to learn computer science. (all grades) www.code.org

- **Khan Academy**- a non-profit educational organization that provides free video tutorials and interactive exercises. The Academy's declared mission is "changing education for the better by providing a free world-class education to anyone anywhere." (2nd grade and up) www.khanacademy.org
- **Tynker**-Tynker is the world's leading K-12 creative coding platform, enabling students of all ages to learn to code at home, school, and on the go. Tynker's highly successful coding curriculum has been used by one in three U.S. K-8 schools, 90,000 schools globally, and over 60 million kids across 150 countries. <https://www.tynker.com/>

Kid Safe Search Engines:

- **Kiddle**- a visual search engine for kids, offering safe kids web, image, and video search. Results are vetted by editors. www.kiddle.co
- **Kidtopia**- a Google custom student safe search engine for preschool and elementary students, indexing only educator approved websites. <https://www.kidtopia.info/>
- **Ducksters**- a kid-safe certified search engine organized by subject. www.ducksters.com
- **KidRex**- a kid safe search engine enhanced by Google. <https://www.alarms.org/kidrex/>
- **instaGrok**- (ENGLISH, MATH, SCIENCE, AND HISTORY) a search engine that generates a web of related videos, images, articles, and terms based on a student's query. Students can also use instaGrok to evaluate sources and to quiz themselves on specific topics. (3rd grade and up) <https://www.instagrok.com/>
- **Smithsonian Open Access**- high-quality collection of museum resources -- ranging from artifacts to full-blown exhibits -- provides unlimited exploration for students, reliable primary sources for teachers. <https://www.si.edu/openaccess>

Citing Sources and Bibliographies:

- **Kiddle**- a kids guide to citing sources. <https://kids.kiddle.co/Citation>

Presentation Help:

- **Animaker**- Click and Choose. Drag and Drop. Edit and Play. That's Animaker - 10X Better than other Online Animation Video Making software (#DIY). Animated Videos, Done Right! (3rd grade and up) <http://www.animaker.com/>
- **Block Posters** - lets you make your own custom posters at home for free. Upload an image, choose your options and then download and print out your own personalized huge poster! (1st grade and up) <http://www.blockposters.com/>
- **Canva**- a tool loaded with enough easy-to-use features and functionality that anyone can create a variety of engaging content that gets shared. Easily create beautiful designs and documents. Use Canva's drag-and-drop feature and

professional layouts to design consistently stunning graphics. (6th grade and up)
<https://www.canva.com/>

- **Emaze-** “presentation technology for the next generation” Advanced presentation technology designed for optimal classroom engagement with interactive elements Foster active learning through "Smart" layouts that facilitates greater course material synthesis Present with beautiful designs and bring fun and excitement back to the classroom Track students’ engagement and progress with advanced team platform and analytics Encourage collaborative learning through an easy to use and multi-device platform. (6th grade and up) <https://www.emaze.com/education/>
- **Powtoon-** Choose any of the free templates and simply edit the text and graphics to create a PowToon in less than 10 minutes. (3rd grade and up)
<https://www.powtoon.com>
- **Prezi-** a presentation tool that can be used as an alternative to traditional slide making programs such as PowerPoint. Instead of slides, Prezi makes use of one large canvas that allows you to pan and zoom to various parts of the canvas and emphasize the ideas presented there. (3rd grade and up) www.prezi.com
- **Make Beliefs Comix-** Create a Comic Strip! (1st grade and up)
<http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/Comix/>

Writing and Vocabulary

- **Grammar Girl-** Your friendly guide to the world of grammar, punctuation, usage, and fun developments in the English language. (5th grade and up)
<https://www.quickanddirtytips.com/grammar-girl>
 - **Oxford Dictionaries: Grammar & Usage-**
<http://www.oxforddictionaries.com/words/grammar-and-usage>
 - **Purdue OWL-** <https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/section/1/5/>
- **Knoword-** a fun vocabulary game with an educational portal where teachers and parents can create their own word lists and track/monitor students. (all ages)
<https://playknoword.com/>
- **Ninja Words-** A really fast dictionary...fast like a ninja. Optimized to return a definition instantly as soon as you hit enter, and your search is spel-lchecked in multiple ways until we find a good match. All definitions come from the ever-expanding Wiktionary data set. (1st grade and up) <http://ninjawords.com/>
- **Storybird-** you can create picture books, longform books and poetry. Choose an image to inspire your story and click to start. (all ages) <https://storybird.com/create/>

General Educational Websites and Games:

- **ABCYa-** a website that provides educational games and activities for school-aged children. The games on the website are organized into grade levels from pre-kindergarten to Sixth grade, as well as into subject categories such as letters, numbers, and holidays. (Pre-K - 6th grade) www.abcya.com
- **Newsela-** (HISTORY, ENGLISH, and SCIENCE) provides teachers, parents, and students with over 1,000 current event articles scaled at five different Lexile reading comprehension levels. (1st grade and up) <https://newsela.com>
- **Starfall-** intuitive learning environment encourages children to explore letters and sounds, word recognition, reading comprehension and fluency. Developed under the guidance of professional educators, our phonics-based learn-to-read activities encourage free exploration and play within a sequentially organized framework. (K-2) www.starfall.com
- **PBS Kids-** educational games and videos on all subjects. (all ages) www.pbskids.org
- **ReadWorks-** an online resource of reading passages and lesson plans for students of all levels K-12. The company was founded with the goal of improving reading comprehension by bringing the latest in literacy teaching research into the classroom. (K-12) www.readworks.com

MS/HS Media Resources

What is Media Literacy?

Media Literacy is a technology and information literacy course designed specifically for 7th and 8th grade students in the Saddle Brook school district. This course is taught by a certified Library Media Specialist and focuses on research skills, plagiarism, online safety and critical thinking. The Media Literacy class is designed to teach students important skills that will help them navigate the internet while they safely access information through books and computers.

The Library Media Specialist is responsible for curating, organizing and updating all school library related materials and providing open access to all students.

Books/ebooks:

- **Destiny Discover** - Access Saddle Brook MS/HS book and ebook collection using Destiny Discover here: <https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/10039>
Login with your Google account (top right) and borrow books immediately or peruse our in- house collection. Students may place books on hold, stop in the library media center to check them out or email Mrs. Hazley ahazley@sbpsnj.org and they will be placed in a bin in front of the building for curbside pickup.
- **Saddle Brook Public Library** - <https://saddlebrook.bccls.org/>

Click here to access the Saddle Brook Public Library. Students have access to Saddle Brook's digital resources including HOOPLA with a library card. If you do not have a public library card please email Mrs. Hazley for assistance at ahazley@sbpsnj.org

- **Bergen County Cooperative Library** - <https://www.bccls.org/>

This is the Bergen County Public Library system for accessing books and other resources. With your library card, materials can be borrowed and sent directly to the Saddle Brook public library.

Subscription Databases/Research:

- **Britannica** - Full text online encyclopedia with thousands of articles, videos and pictures. Students may create individual accounts to save articles and allow for easy citation in MLA and APA format.
<http://school.eb.com/levels>
Username: saddlebrook password: falcons
- **BrainPop** - Informational videos on thousands of topics.
www.brainpop.com
Username: saddlebrookhs
Password: falcons
- **EBSCO Suite** - full-text magazine and journal articles as well as Novelist, Points of View, and Literary Reference Center
<http://search.ebscohost.com>
Username: saddlebrook Password: Falcons@2021
- **Facts on File** - Reference database in history, literature, science, health, and geography, as well as World News Digest and Issues and Controversies
<http://online.infobaselearning.com>
Username: SaddleBrook Password: Falcons
- **Gale in Context High School** - Current, authoritative, media-rich information topical databases—Biography, Environmental Studies, Global Issues, Opposing Viewpoints, Science, U.S. History, and World History—seamlessly integrate trusted content with curriculum-aligned materials that span core subjects.
<https://infotrac.gale.com/itweb/sadd52814?db=SUIC>
Please enter your library ID, barcode, or other ID: sadd52814
- **JSTOR**- provides access to academic journal articles, books and primary sources. users can access JSTOR remotely and on-campus via the following case-sensitive information:
<http://www.jstor.org/>
Username: SBHS Password: hornindalsvatnet

Media Fact Check/Alternate Perspectives

- Don't be fooled by fake news and media bias. Allsides offers the same story from three different sources (left, right and center)
<https://www.allsides.com/unbiased-balanced-news>
- Comprehensive media bias/fake news resource checker. There are currently 3600+ media sources listed in our database and growing every day. Use the search feature to check the bias of any source. Use name or URL.
<https://mediabiasfactcheck.com/>
- News Literacy Project - Checkology - can you tell the difference between fact and fiction? <https://get.checkology.org/>

Citing Sources and Bibliographies:

- OWL Purdue Writing Lab - Cite your sources automatically in MLA 8 or APA format
 - <https://owl.purdue.edu/>
- EasyBib - Check your paper for grammar, plagiarism and quickly cite your sources
 - <https://www.easybib.com/>

News:

- **The New York Times** - Full free access daily <https://www.nytimes.com/>
Username: ahazley@sbpsnj.org Password: saddlebrook