# 20 **ways** to use FigJam in class⁺¹

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# Introducing FigJam

We learned quickly how to use online whiteboards during remote teaching and many of us now even have interactive displays in our classrooms.

But how does that translate to face to face learning?

And how do we make the most of new technology like interactive displays in our classrooms?

Enter FigJam, an online collaborative whiteboard developed by Figma. It's perfect for both blended learning and whole-class instruction with interactive displays. Its user-friendly interface and engaging features are quickly making FigJam a favorite among educators.

Really, it has all the features we hoped Google Jamboard would have (but didn't).

And now, with Google Jamboard being phased out, FigJam can step in and fill that void with a product that's not going anywhere AND the ability to migrate Jamboard files into FigJam.

# Getting started with FigJam 👍

FigJam is an online collaboration tool developed by Figma that allows groups to brainstorm, develop, and organize ideas. Multiple people can work on a FigJam board at the same time, adding reactions to other people's work and even sharing fun "emotes" that display their emotion in the moment.


FigJam for Education
FigJam 101 overview for education
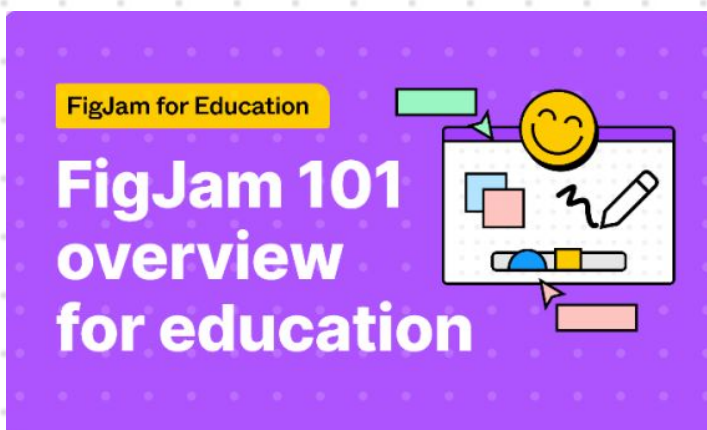
In this FigJam 101 overview for education you will learn the ins and outs of FigJam while exploring a FigJam file. Learn FigJam's core classroom use cases, become more familiar with FigJam tools and explore some of their templates!

**FigJam 101 overview for education**

In Day 1: Exploring FigJam your students will go through four different activities to help them learn and discover the possibilities of FigJam. They will use the marker tool, stamps, sticky notes and record their voice.


FigJam for Education
Day 1: Explore FigJam
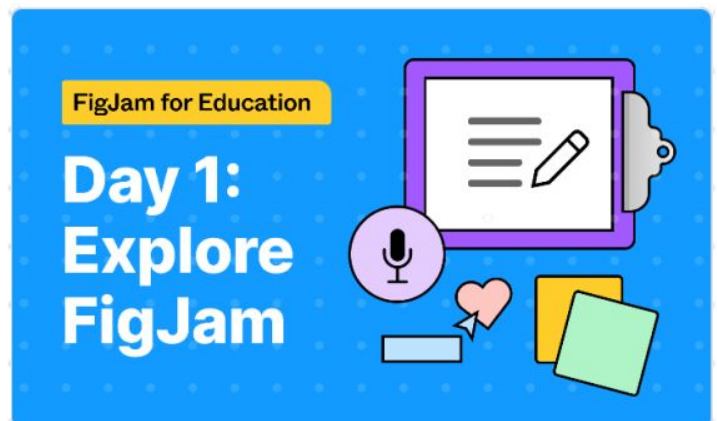
**Day 1 in FigJam: Exploring with Students**

# 20 ideas for using FigJam in class (plus templates)! 🔥

So ... what could this look like in class? I'm glad you asked! On the following pages you will find 20 ways you can use FigJam in your class plus a link to a template you can assign right away.

Don't see any that fit your class in this ebook? Well lucky for you FigJam has hundreds of free templates and lesson plans at **figma.com/@education.** Duplicate your own copy to get started in seconds!

# FigJam Community Building Templates

### Icebreaker trading cards
Creating your own trading card is such a fun way to build community. Have everyone create their own card to share a little bit about themselves with one another.
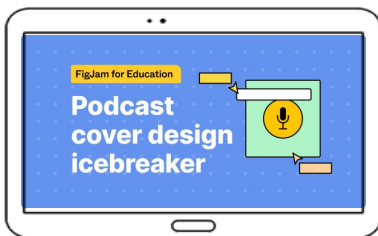
**Get the template**

### All about me introduction
This FigJam template that takes a fun and collaborative twist on the all about me project.

**Get the template**

### Podcast Cover Design
Use this template to have students create their own podcast cover designs and then share and discuss them with each other.

**Get the template**

### Learning Preferences
Have students will create personalized profile cards and complete with their photos and interests with this template.
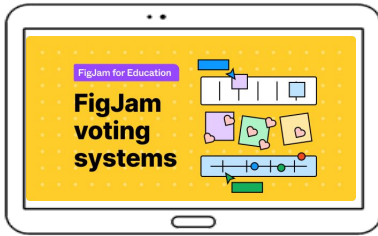
**Get the template**

### Class Check-in
A whole class check in is a great bell-ringer to get a feel for how your students are feeling individually and overall. This template makes it easy to use every day.

**Get the template**

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# FigJam Engagement Templates

### Class Voting
A quick check for understanding, a this or that prompt discussion or an opinion poll are easy ways to give your class the opportunity to share their voice.
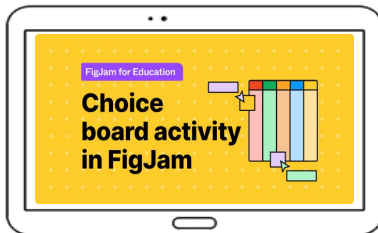
***Get the template***

### Class Brainstorming
FigJam is great for brainstorming — gathering ideas, sorting them, organizing them into different sections or spaces, moving them together, etc.
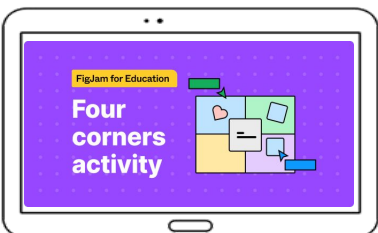
***Get the template***

### Choice Board Activity
You can add videos that can be played right inside the file, add a timer to countdown the choice time and even add some music for ambiance.
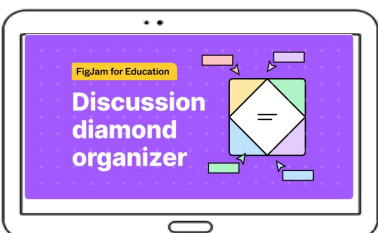
***Get the template***

### Four Corners
ose a question for students with 4 potential reactions to that prompt.Allow students to move a sticky note or write their name in a corner.
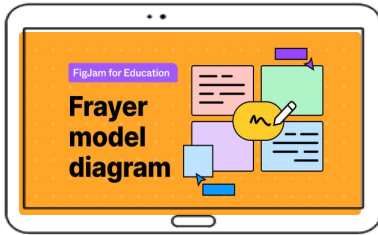
***Get the template***

### Discussion Diamond
Post a question and have student write down their thoughts in their designated corner. After, the students take turns sharing their ideas.

***Get the template***

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# FigJam Interactive Activities

**Frayer Model**
The Frayer model provides a framework for a thorough understanding of new words by defining, illustrating, and providing examples of key terms.
*Get the template*

**Book Recap**
With this template students can use sticky notes to write a quick 2-3 line summary of each chapter or section in their book.
*Get the template*

**Timeline**
This template lets students plot dates and events over a specified time period. It's filled with arrows, connectors, stickies, shapes and more.
*Get the template*

**Draw in FigJam**
Add in a fun prompt or encourage students to use the drawing tools to sketchnote in a collaborative drawing activity..
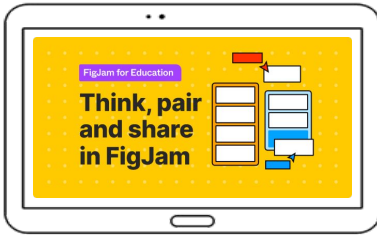*Get the template*

**Storyboard**
Storyboarding is a powerful way to plan a narrative. This template is a great way to make storyboarding a collaborative process.
*Get the template*

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# FigJam Interactive Activities

### Think, Pair, Share
The think, pair, share strategy is a fantastic way to get your whole class talking and engaged in whatever you're discussing.
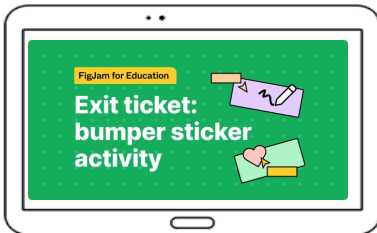**Get the template**

### Class Debate
Assign your students a side of the debate and have them brainstorm their approach to their claim with evidence and sources.
**Get the template**

### Bumper Sticker
Use this template to check your student's understanding of a topic or lesson by creating a bumper sticker to represent their learning.
**Get the template**

### Pros and Cons List
Give students a situation and let them debate the pros and cons. They can do this using sticky notes in a FigJam file.
**Get the template**

### Vocabulary Template
This template gives students lots of options to practice and learn new vocabulary terms.
**Get the template**

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# FigJam features

Thankfully, FigJam is a really intuitive app — meaning, it's easy to figure out just by trying it. However, there are some features and details that take a bit of explaining. Once you get them, though, it makes your use of FigJam more powerful! Here are some of our favorite FigJam features to get you up to speed.
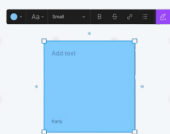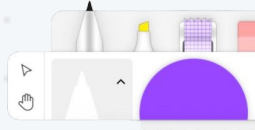
### Sticky notes

Virtual sticky notes are perfect for jotting down ideas, thoughts, and reminders during brainstorming sessions or group activities. They are easy to create, resize, and customize with different colors. You can also turn on authorship to see students' names attached to their stickies.

### Pen and Highlighter

FigJam provides drawing tools like the marker and highlighter, allowing students to doodle, sketch, and highlight important information on the board. You can also add washi tape to your FigJams!

### Shapes and Connectors

With FigJam's shapes and connectors, students can create diagrams, mind maps, and flowcharts to visualize relationships between ideas and better understand complex concepts. You can add text to shapes and connecting lines to show relationships more effectively.
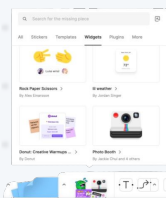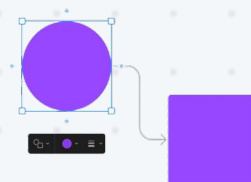
### Stamps and Emotes

Stamps and emotes in FigJam allow students to react to ideas and provide quick feedback in real-time. These fun and engaging elements encourage active participation and collaboration among students.
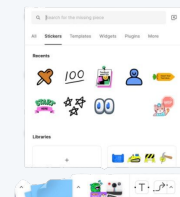
### Widgets

Widgets in FigJam offer additional functionality and customization options, allowing teachers and students to tailor their boards to their specific needs. Some favorites are the voice memo, spinner and photo booth widgets.

### Stickers

Stickers in FigJam help organize content and give students distinct spaces to collaborate.

# FigJam
# Keyboard Shortcuts

## Ctrl Shift ?
Open the Shortcuts menu

| Tools | View | Text | Edit | Accessibility | Advanced | Layout | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Select tool | V | Text tool | T | Cursor chat | / |
| Sticky note | S | Table | ⇧ T | Emote/Stamp wheel | E |
| Line | L | Section | ⇧ S | Code block | ' |
| Connector | X | Libraries | ⌥ 2 | Add comment | C |
| Marker | M | Place image... | ⇧ ⌘ K | | |
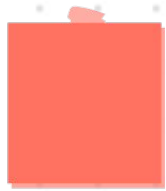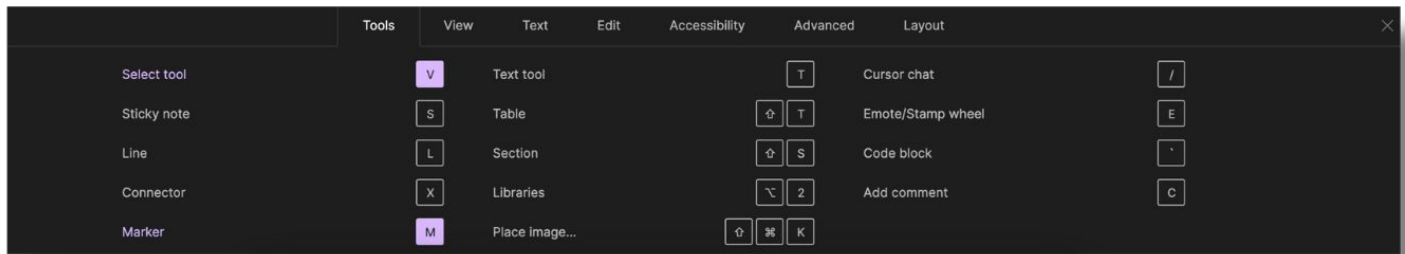
**S**
Sticky Note
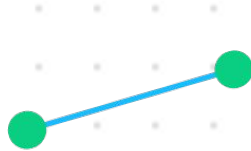
**X**
Connector

**M**
Marker

**Shift M**
Highlighter

**T**
Text

**Cmnd/Ctrl +**
Zoom In

**Cmnd/Ctrl –**
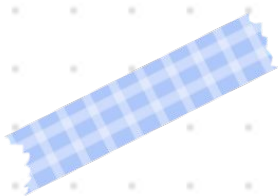Zoom Out
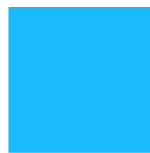
**V**
Select

**H**
Hand

**Hold H**
High Five

**W**
Washi Tape

**E**
Stamp/Emote

**R**
Add a Square

**O**
Add an Ellipse

**C**
Add a Comment

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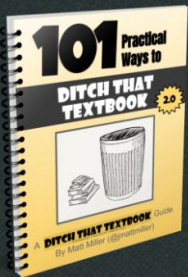


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**100 FREE Templates for Teachers,** with templates you can copy and assign to students right away



**The Attention Switch Student Engagement Pack,** with templates and ideas from my keynote speech

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POWERFUL KEYNOTES AND WORKSHOPS

## ABOUT MATT

Matt Miller empowers teachers with practical teaching ideas and inspires them to think differently about education. He has spoken at hundreds of events all over the U.S. and beyond. But before that, he was a full-time teacher for more than a decade. Educators leave his presentations equipped with new ideas and on fire to make a change in their schools and communities.

"Such an inspiration. One of the reasons why I am where I am today as a teacher." -- Meghan, Ohio

"Best PD ever! Educators engaged all day long!" -- Bonnie, Texas

"You know it's good stuff when you aren't excited to take a break to eat lunch." -- Dave, New York

## KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

The **Tomorrow Glasses keynote** provides educators with a foundational understanding of artificial intelligence and its evolving role in education, offering practical applications for today's classrooms and preparing teachers for future instructional strategies. Drawing from Matt's book, the speech shares insights into leveraging AI for learning enhancement and teacher efficiency, ensuring education aligns with the students' future.

## BREAKOUT SESSIONS & WORKSHOPS

These sessions offer tons of practical ideas that teachers can start using in their classrooms immediately. Teachers take the place of their students, seeing how the learning activities feel from the perspective of the learner. Then, we reverse-engineer them so they feel confident in using them in their own classes.

## WHAT SETS MATT APART

Speaking -- in keynotes and workshops -- is a skill Matt has honed for years. He studied at Heroic Public Speaking, "the most substantial and complete speaker training program in the world." He's approachable and easy for participants to talk to. Plus, he's easy to work with from start to finish, He helps event planners ensure success from pre-event planning to event-day execution.

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