



Distance Learning Platforms Comparison Chart

Teachers can leverage these platforms to engage with students and help students make their thinking and learning visible, whether they are learning in person, at home, or in a hybrid of the two. This chart outlines key features, communication capabilities, and instructional considerations for each platform. When engaging with the chart, it will be helpful to consider the intended outcomes of the lessons, the activities students will be asked to engage in, and the primary purpose of the interactions. Two or more of these platforms can likely be integrated to meet various needs in the learning environment. When identifying a platform, it is important to first consider the usability of each platform for your priority groups of students.

Student Engagement

Description of Features	Nearpod Nearpod Tutorial	SeeSaw Seesaw Tutorial	Google Jamboard Jamboard Tutorial	Flipgrid Flipgrid Tutorial	Kami Kami Tutorial	Pear Deck Pear Deck Tutorials
Description of platform	A digital platform that supports student engagement by allowing students to engage in learning in a variety of ways.	A platform that supports student engagement by allowing students to capture learning through pictures, drawings, videos, and more within a digital portfolio.	A digital, cloud-based whiteboard that supports student engagement by providing an opportunity for consistent student interaction.	A digital platform that supports student engagement through short video-based discussions on classroom topics.	An online document annotation and markup tool that can transform any existing document into an interactive learning experience.	A digital platform that supports student engagement by allowing students to engage in learning with a variety of ways. <i>Note: The premium subscription offers more interactive capabilities.</i>



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<p>Teachers can...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create presentations that contain quizzes, polls, videos, images, drawing boards, web content, etc. ▪ Opt for teacher paced lessons or student-paced lessons. ▪ Access a library pre-made presentations. ▪ Collect data instantly and share student responses, 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create activities or utilize activities already embedded in the program for students. ▪ Upload activities, announcements, and student work. ▪ Make interactives like “tap and drag” and enable the directions to be played by audio. ▪ Post Zoom videos to SeeSaw on their feed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Use sticky notes and images to create a type of collaboration board. ▪ Create multiple panels within a Jam. ▪ Observe and provide feedback to student work in real time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create grids to facilitate discussion. ▪ Use guest mode if students don’t have access to an email address or to invite guest speakers into the classroom discussions ▪ Build a mixtape to share student responses. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Create Kami assignments within Google Classroom. ▪ Use any existing document or electronic text. ▪ Provide student feedback in real time with the grade with Kami option. ▪ Add in video, audio, or screen capturing comments to add additional context or guidance to assignments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Opt for teacher-paced lessons or student-paced lessons. ▪ Access a slide library which has pre-created activities. ▪ Share student responses, highlight exemplar answers or misconceptions , time and lock responses, and hide answers. ▪ Add audio to any slide. ▪ Provide feedback using



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	<p>allowing them to track student understanding</p>					<p>the Teacher Feedback tool.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Publish Takeaways for each student in the session.
<p>Students can...</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access Nearpod on any device, (i.e., iPad laptop, tablet, phone). ▪ Annotate slides to explain their thinking about a particular topic. ▪ Take a quiz or poll directly on the device. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upload pictures of their work and videos of themselves talking. ▪ Create drawings. ▪ Use the SeeSaw created resources to help them understand how to use the platform (here is an example PowerPoint to use to orient students to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Post images on the Jamboard using the Google search. ▪ Brainstorm and create in small groups face to face on one device. ▪ Work together in small groups in the same 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Respond to a teacher or classmates. ▪ Watch and comment on videos from peers. ▪ Add annotations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Annotate texts and edit documents. ▪ Annotate on ebooks, PDFs, worksheets, etc. ▪ Use the speech to text feature to annotate documents. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Follow along with the presentation and interact with the slides. ▪ Annotate slides to explain their thinking about a particular topic.



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		SeeSaw).	jam.			
Integration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nearpod is easily integrated with Google Classroom, Schoology, Canvas, Microsoft Teams, Blackboard, itsLearning, Remind, Clever, and more. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seesaw can be easily integrated with Google Classroom, Canvas, Schoology, Clever, ClassLink, etc. Here is a link you can use that should directly open the Seesaw app when added to other portals. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Google Jamboard is part of the G Suite of apps and nicely integrates with Google Classroom. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flipgrid can be embedded into any LMS or webpage. Here is a link you can use that provides you with the exact steps to embed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Kami is easily integrated with Google Classroom, Schoology, and Canvas. Kami also works with Blackboard learn, PowerSchool, and Edmodo. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pear Deck is easily integrated with Google Classroom, Schoology (Admin and Teacher/Student), Canvas (Admin and Teacher/Student), and Microsoft Teams.
Guidance	K-2: Tips for K-2 ELA: Tips for ELA Math: Tips for	K-2: Tips for K-2 ELA: Tips for ELA Math: Tips for Math	K-2: Tips for K-2 ELA: Tips for ELA	K-2: Tips for K-2 ELA , Math, and Science ELA: Tips for ELA	K-2: Tips for K -2 ELA: Tips for ELA Math: Tips for	K-2: Tips for K-2 ELA: Tips for ELA Math: Tips for



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	<p>Math Science: Tips for Science</p>	<p>Science: Seesaw's annotation and drawing capabilities make it an excellent platform for student's development and use of models such as diagrams and mathematical representations using pictures, symbols, and words. Models can be leveraged to develop questions students still have about the content and to make student thinking visible as a method</p>	<p>Math: Tips for Math Science: Tips for Science</p>	<p>Math: Tips for Math Science: Flipgrid can be used to facilitate whole-class sensemaking discussions in both synchronous and asynchronous environments. The ability to respond and annotate directly to peers' posts makes this application useful for building consensus and engaging in argument from evidence.</p>	<p>Math Science: Tips for Science</p>	<p>Math Science: Tips for Science</p>



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		of their current explanations of phenomena.				
Model Lesson	Math		Math			

School Communication

Description of Features	Class Dojo Class Dojo Tutorial	Remind Remind Tutorial
Description of platform	A school communication platform that connects teachers, students, and families through photo and video feeds and messaging services	A communication platform that helps educators reach students and families through messaging services
Logging In and introducing the platform to students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class Dojo has created resources to help students and parents understand how to use the platform. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students and families will need to gain access to a class code. They can join by text, email, or push notification.



Description of Features	Class Dojo Class Dojo Tutorial	Remind Remind Tutorial
Features, Communication with families	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Student Portfolios: Creative ways to show student work throughout the year, teacher-approved, and comment enabled for feedback/encouragement.▪ Class and School Story: Schoolwide announcements can be made, videos and pictures can be shared.▪ Positive behavior points and feedback can be used to encourage and motivate students.▪ Teacher Toolkit: includes timer, group maker, noise meter, etc.▪ SEL Videos and Activities: students learn from Dojo monsters about building community and empathy.▪ Educators can send messages to multiple parents at once.▪ Educators can translate messages into 36 languages.▪ Educators can schedule messages ahead of time.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Educators can send messages to an entire class, small group, or a single person.▪ Educators can schedule announcements ahead of time and attach photos and other files.▪ Educators can use delivery receipts to see who's reading your messages.▪ Educators can translate messages into more than 90 languages.



About Instruction Partners

Instruction Partners works alongside educators to support great teaching, accelerate student learning, name and address unconscious bias, and ensure equitable access to great instruction—particularly for students in poverty, students of color, students learning English, and students with disabilities.