

# Web Tools for Learning and Creating

The interactive elements available within Web Tools (online functionalities) and Apps (both offline and online) help to provide students with opportunities to learn, create, and collaborate. These sites may include, but are not limited to, allowing users the ability to: create content, comment, and use a site in a nonlinear way ( i.e. click on the topics / links of interest rather than in a predetermined path).

Q. What are some examples of web tools, apps, or sites my child might use?

*A. Students throughout Glenview 34 will use a variety of web tools, apps, and sites for learning and creating. Some commonly used web tools are Google Apps for Education, Schoology, and iMovie. All apps can be found online at the district website under Parents - 1:1 Resource Allocation. The tools and sites your child may use will vary by grade level and classroom experience.*

Q. What are the benefits to using web tools, apps, and sites?

*A. Both online and offline tools/apps are easy to use and motivating for the user. These resources are accessible through the utilization of our 1:1 resource allocation. The use of web tools, apps, and sites created for use in education can provide access to tools appropriate to the learning environment and enable us as an educational institution to provide safe online practices for students. Other advantages to these online/offline tools include the ability to add interactive elements to projects, the promotion of creativity, design-thinking, and problem-solving. Students are able to create online digital portfolios of their work that can be shared with teachers (current and future), as well as with parents or other family.*

Q. Are these web tools/apps safe for my child to use?

*A. As teachers discover tools to use with their students, student safety and age-appropriateness are the first details considered. Other factors considered are the ability to create a district domain account (or class accounts) where we have the ability to control who can see the content created, the potential for creativity and extension of learning, and ease of use for students. Apps, sites and web tools may be rejected for use by District 34 students for many reasons: Do students already have access to something that does what this tool does? Is this meant for use by elementary students? Will this tool provide a learning experience that is not available in another way? All in all, much is considered before a student logs in to an online tool or site.*

Q. What kind of training will by child receive on these tools?

*A. Instruction in the appropriate use of a website or Web 2.0 tools and apps may take place with the classroom teacher, with the technology facilitator, social worker, learning resource director, or other staff throughout the district. Topics such as the importance of keeping passwords and login information secure, appropriate online behavior (i.e. when commenting on another student's work), use of copyrighted images, and keeping online identities private may be discussed. Additionally, we work with students throughout their time in the district to understand their digital footprint (the data that is left behind by users on digital services). Other instruction specific to an app, site or tool may also be reviewed as appropriate, based on the age of the students, and rules and expectations are reviewed frequently.*