



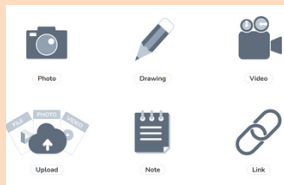
Seesaw

ETEC 540 TEXT TECHNOLOGIES: THE CHANGING SPACES OF READING AND WRITING
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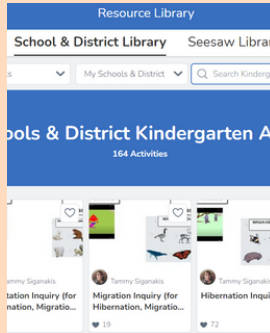
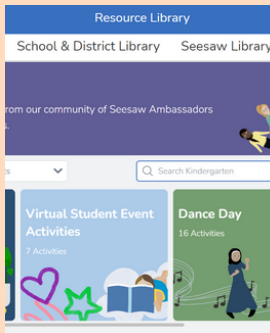
WHAT IS SEESAW?

Seesaw is an interactive learning platform designed for students in Pre-K through 5th grade that allows them to engage in digital activities, complete assignments, and collaborate with their teachers and classmates. Seesaw offers a variety of tools and features, including the ability to upload and annotate assignments, record and share videos and audio clips, and participate in discussions and polls. Teachers can use Seesaw to create and manage assignments, provide feedback and grades, and communicate with parents. The platform is used by educators around the world to enhance student learning and engagement (Barnwell, 2020).

SEESAW TRICKS & TIPS



Various tools to upload students' work



Access to Community Library & School and District Library



Seesaw Icon Shortcuts

SEESAW WEBSITE



YOUTUBE CHANNEL



TIPS & TRICKS



MORE TIPS & TRICKS



BENEFITS

TEACHERS

- Standards-Aligned Curriculum: activate background knowledge without leaving Seesaw, built-in assessment, reflection, and connection activities
- Progress Monitoring: Standards-aligned skills, flexible rating system, and multiple views of student engagement and progress.
- Streamlined communication and personalized feedback
- Classroom organization: Seesaw's digital format can help teachers organize and manage student work more effectively.
- Activity Library: Ready-made lesson activities are available.

STUDENTS

- Enhanced student engagement: Seesaw allows students to showcase their work in a digital format, which can help them feel more engaged in their learning.
- Intuitive multimodal tools: audio, video, and screen recording make thinking visible.
- Streamlined communication: students and teachers can communicate and share information, reducing the need for separate communication channels.
- Organization: Seesaw's digital format can help students keep track of their work throughout the year.

PARENTS

- Streamlined communication: parents may communicate with teachers and share information, reducing the need for separate communication channels.
- Parent involvement: parents can see their child's work and communicate with teachers, promoting greater parental involvement in their child's education.
- Organization: parents may download and save their child's work digitally.
- One-click message translation: promotes two-way communication and encourages families to engage in their child's learning.

LIMITATIONS

- Technology requirements: Seesaw requires access to technology and reliable internet, which may not be available to all students or schools.
- Learning curve: Like any new technology, Seesaw can take some time for teachers and students to learn and adapt to.
- Privacy concerns: Seesaw collects and stores data on student work, which may raise privacy concerns for some families and schools.
- Cost: While the basic version of Seesaw is free, certain features and tools may require payment or a subscription.
- Platform limitations: Seesaw is designed primarily for younger students, so it may not be suitable for all grade levels or subject areas.

IMPLICATION ON LITERACY AND EDUCATION



Individualized learning



Multimodality



Progress monitoring



Assessments



Student choice

The Seesaw app has significant implications for literacy development. It allows for the integration of multiple modes of communication, such as text, images, videos, and audio recordings. This offers students a range of options for expressing their understanding and ideas, which can be particularly beneficial for students who may struggle with traditional written assignments. By offering multiple modes of expression, students can select the mode that best suits their interests and strengths, which can increase their sense of ownership over their learning. Finally, the Seesaw app's multimodality can help to promote the development of digital literacy skills. Students can learn to navigate and use a range of digital tools and modes of communication, which can prepare them for the demands of the digital age.

The Seesaw app provides a platform for active participation in literacy development, enabling students to create digital portfolios of their work and receive feedback from teachers and peers. Additionally, the app promotes collaboration and communication between teachers, students, and families/caregivers, fostering a supportive and cohesive learning environment for students. Do you have difficulty communicating with families due to a language barrier? With Seesaw, this won't be a problem. With just one click, Seesaw messages can be translated, giving you the means to engage in two-way communication with families, and providing families with the means to fully participate in their child's learning (). Overall, the Seesaw app has the potential to transform literacy instruction by creating opportunities for collaboration and promoting literacy practices both inside and outside of the classroom.

According to Buchholz and Riley (2020), further research is necessary to investigate how teachers can effectively utilize portfolio apps like Seesaw to enhance collaborative partnerships with families/caregivers. These apps have the potential to promote fairness and accessibility in information-sharing between homes and schools. By encouraging families/caregivers to document their children's literacy practices and educational progress through various media formats, such as text, photos, videos, and audio recordings, teachers can foster a stronger connection between home and school learning (Naditz, 2017). Furthermore, by soliciting input from families/caregivers on how the official curriculum aligns with their child's interests and experiences, teachers can engage them in the curriculum development process. The utilization of such apps and digital platforms can transform family literacy from a one-way communication model to a two-way interactive approach. (Turner, 2019, p. 19).

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