

Few schools in the United States got through the 2020-21 academic year without some form of remote learning, for some portion of the student body, for some period of time. Educators have many high-tech and low-tech tools at their disposal to provide students with meaningful learning experiences.

## REMOTE LEARNING TOOLS AND SUPPORTS

- It's important for students of all abilities to navigate, understand and interact with content and others while learning remotely.
- Regardless of the platform (Windows, Chrome or iOS), there are many tools and supports available to help.

## TIPS TO ENGAGE VIRTUAL LEARNERS

- Offer time to connect and prepare everyone to learn.
- Check in on emotions, call learners by name, share something you like, or play a team building game.
- Use a visual schedule of the session or day – for home and school.
- Engage a variety of senses, i.e. visual and sound.
- Engage parents (if available).
- Allow for movement and brain breaks.
- Motivate by rewards daily and weekly (virtual high fives, sticker charts, class dance party, etc.).
- Open captioning for each meeting.
- Go over rules and expectations verbally and with a visual.
- Have fun! Students will participate more if learning is fun!

## NO TECH TEACHING STRATEGIES

- Keep a visual schedule.
- Make time for breaks.
- Set daily word goals.
- Label everything.
- Be a storyteller. Use all of your senses, and be descriptive about your environment.
- Take a multisensory approach.
- Keep daily positive thoughts and memories.
- Do journaling.
- Share reading together.

# AT Tools and Supports for Remote Learners (cont'd)

## FEATURED APPS AND WEBSITES

### iOS

- **Microsoft Math Solver App** (<https://math.microsoft.com/en>) – Instantly recognize math problems with detailed step-by-step explanations, interactive graphs and much more.

### WINDOWS

- **Microsoft Learning Tools** (<https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/education/products/learning-tools>)
- **Immersive Reader** – Reduce visual crowding, highlight text, break words into syllables, read text aloud, and provide visual references.
- **Dictation** – Quickly get your thoughts down on paper and remove barriers that keyboard and mouse access might cause for persons with mobility issues.
- **Read Aloud** – Students can hear their writing read aloud providing them essential feedback to edit their work and clearly communicate their ideas to others.

### CHROME OS

- **Helperbird** (<https://www.helperbird.com>) – Have text read aloud, change fonts, increase font size, increase word and line spacing
- **MicNote** (<https://tinyurl.com/kjvfm1f>) – NoteTaking app that allows you to sync written notes to

### WEBSITES

- **SMMRY** (<https://smmry.com>) – Summarizes text to improve comprehension
- **Rewordify** (<https://rewordify.com>) – Improves reading and learning by simplifying language

### LEARNING IS FUN

- **SnapCam** (<https://snapcamera.snapchat.com>) – Bring the magic of lenses and filters to your live streams and video chats on PC and Mac
- **Confetti! Extension** (<https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/confetti-confetti-all-ove/alnpfmeemhhcfepffidoflphgnneeld?hl=en>) – For celebrating correct answers and other things; With one click on the button, you will get confetti all over your screen