

# Using Technology to Close the Achievement Gap: A Resource List for Educators

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Computers are everywhere. Most of us carry a small version in our purse. Our lives depend on the information that is readily available to us via the internet. Students of all ages have also become dependent of technology. I have had the privilege to teach in schools with students that bring their own devices to school. I have also had to think of creative ways to expose students in schools that do not have their own electronic devices. I would like to share with you some ways I have used technology to aid with increasing the academic levels as well as the technology awareness of my students. All of our students are digital natives. However, not all of our students have the hardware that is needed to complete digital assignments, practice skills digitally, or produce technology enhanced products which enhance, increase and solidify academic achievement.

Children that do not have technology readily available at home are at a global disadvantage. Exposure to various technological outlets will give students an opportunity to compete with their national and international peers. I have compiled a list of various Web 2.0 sources that I have used to close the technology gap for my lower economic students. I have found that my students come to school early just to gain a spot on one of the four classroom computers to work on a digital project or “play” standard based

games. I had several of my students beg me to allow them to stay after school so they can work on the computer. I began “Tech Thursday” where any student of mine and their siblings can stay for an hour and work on needed skills for thirty minutes and free technology time for the remaining thirty minutes. My favorite tool to use is Edmodo: [www.edmodo.com](http://www.edmodo.com). This site allows you to integrate the other technology tools in one place.

1. ABC Mouse (Free for teachers): [www.abcmouse.com](http://www.abcmouse.com)
2. ABCya (educational computer games): [www.abcya.com](http://www.abcya.com)
3. Animoto: [www.animoto.com](http://www.animoto.com)
4. Assistentments (Online formative assessments): <https://www.assistentments.org/>
5. Better Lessons (Lesson Plans): <http://betterlesson.com/>
6. Bitesize: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/>
7. Blabberize (animate pictures): [www.blabberize.com](http://www.blabberize.com)
8. Brain Nook: <http://brainnook.com/>
9. Calculation Nation: <http://calculationnation.com/>
10. Cartoon maker: <http://www.toondoo.com/>
11. Class Dojo (behavior management system): [www.classdojo.com](http://www.classdojo.com)
12. Creaza Education (Reading): <http://www.creazaeducation.com/>
13. Cybersleuth Kids: <http://cybersleuth-kids.com/>
14. Digit Whiz (math skills): [www.digitwhiz.com](http://www.digitwhiz.com)
15. Digital Delights for Learners: <http://www.scoop.it/t/digital-delights-for-learners>
16. Easy CBM (Progress Monitoring for Math and Reading): <http://easycbm.com/>
17. Five Card Flickr (Students construct a story based on the images):  
<http://5card.cogdogblog.com/play.php>
18. Flocabulary (using music): [www.flocabulary.com](http://www.flocabulary.com)
19. Fotobabble (Create talking photos): <http://www.fotobabble.com/>
20. Free Rice (vocabulary enrichment answers donate rice to end World Hunger):  
[www.freerice.com](http://www.freerice.com)
21. Games for Science: [www.gamesforscience.com](http://www.gamesforscience.com)
22. Glogster (Interactive Posters): [www.glogster.com](http://www.glogster.com)
23. Inspirational movie clips: [www.wingclips.com](http://www.wingclips.com)
24. Interactive games, etc.: <http://gamequarium.org/>
25. Interactive Sites for Education: <http://interactivesites.weebly.com/index.html>
26. Interactive teaching resources all subjects/all grades:  
<http://www.iq.poquoson.org/science.htm#four>
27. Interactive Websites for PreK-12: <http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/interactive.htm>
28. Internet 4 Classrooms: <http://internet4classrooms.com/>
29. IXL (Math): <http://www.ixl.com/>
30. Jefferson Lab (Science): <http://education.jlab.org/index.html>
31. Jeopardy Labs (jeopardy games galore): <https://jeopardylabs.com/>

32. Kerpoof: <http://www.kerpoof.com/>
33. Khan Academy: <https://www.khanacademy.org/>
34. Learn Zillion: <http://learnzillion.com/>
35. Live Binders (Search for Bookmarks on anything): <http://www.livebinders.com/>
36. Manga High (games-based math teaching resource): [http://mangahigh.com/en\\_us/](http://mangahigh.com/en_us/)
37. Mentor Mob: <http://www.mentormob.com/>
38. One Word (Students write about a single word for sixth seconds):  
[www.oneword.com](http://www.oneword.com)
39. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Bookemon (Create Books):  
<http://www.bookemon.com/>
40. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Create Space: [www.createspace.com](http://www.createspace.com)
41. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Lulu: (connects to Amazon and Barnes and Noble to sell and get paid): [www.lulu.com](http://www.lulu.com)
42. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Stories from the Web:  
[www.storiesfromtheweb.org](http://www.storiesfromtheweb.org)
43. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Story Jumper: [www.storyjumper.com](http://www.storyjumper.com)
44. Online Bookmaking and Publishing: Storybird (use pictures that are already there to make a story): <http://storybird.com/>
45. Power Points: [www.pppst.com](http://www.pppst.com)
46. Prezi (multimedia- you can search and use Prezis made by others):  
[www.prezi.com](http://www.prezi.com)
47. Print, Cut and Fold: <http://printcutfold.com/>
48. Professor Garfield: [www.professorgarfield.org](http://www.professorgarfield.org)
49. Q-Topia (online learning): [www.qtopia.com](http://www.qtopia.com)
50. Quest Garden (Web Quests Search):  
<http://questgarden.com/author/examplestop.php>
51. Quiz Revolution (Online quiz creator): <http://www.quizrevolution.com/>
52. Quiz Tree: <http://quiz-tree.com/>
53. Scoot Pad: <http://scootpad.com/>
54. Starfall: [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)
55. Story Fair: <http://storyfair.webs.com/>
56. Story Jumper (Create Books): <http://www.storyjumper.com/>
57. Storyline Online (celebrities read picture books): <http://www.storylineonline.net/>
58. Study Jams (Math and Science): [www.studyjams.com](http://www.studyjams.com)
59. Study Ladder: <http://www.studyladder.com/>
60. Sumdog: <http://www.sumdog.com/>
61. Super Teacher Tools: <http://superteachertools.com/>
62. Symbaloo (Search for bookmarks on anything): <http://www.symbaloo.com/>
63. Teachers' Domain (digital media for the classroom-Free):  
[www.teachersdomain.org/](http://www.teachersdomain.org/)
64. Teaching Channel: <https://www.teachingchannel.org/>
65. Tech with Tia (tools for integrating technology- sign up for her monthly calendar): <http://www.techwithtia.com/>
66. Technology Teacher resources: <http://www.goedonline.com/101-websites-for-elementary-teachers>
67. Ten Marks (Math Classroom Monitoring of Skills): <http://tenmarks.com/>

68. Tumble Books: [http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/asp/home\\_tumblebooks.asp](http://www.tumblebooks.com/library/asp/home_tumblebooks.asp)
69. Video Maker: [www.animoto.com](http://www.animoto.com)
70. Voki (animated avatars for messaging) [www.voki.com](http://www.voki.com)
71. We Give Books: <http://www.wegivebooks.org/>
72. Wordle (word clouds): [www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net)
73. Zimmer Twins: <http://zimmertwins.com/splash>