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The 2014 Free Flipped Teaching & Learning Resources eBook

Introduction

The “Flipped Classroom” has been getting a ton of press these days as more and more teachers and schools are implementing this teaching and learning approach. The fact is, ‘the flip’ isn’t really something entirely new, it’s more of a re-packaging of existing concepts and techniques that have already been proved effective. Flipped teaching and learning is a form of blended learning, which has come to be increasingly accepted as a highly effective approach to teaching, better than traditional or online learning models alone.

In the following pages, FlippedClassroomWorkshop.com provides dozens of free tools and resources available to today's educators and technologists to help them use flipped instruction techniques in their classrooms. This wealth of free applications can facilitate blended learning in all of its forms. Come explore the exciting 21st century skills-enriching world of digital learning materials that can be rewound and replayed any time of day or night, on demand at students fingertips!



Quick Start Learning Resources

If you are already up to speed on the flip, then you'll probably want to skip ahead, but if you are just starting to learn about flipped instruction and want to get a little further grounded, here are a few resources you may want to check out.



Aaron Sams' "Teaching for Tomorrow: Flipped Learning" Video.

[This 3 minute video](#) from flipped classroom 'pioneer' Aaron Sams is a good introduction to flipped teaching and learning.

Flipped Teaching & Learning Playlist on LessonPaths

[This curated list of 14 web articles](#) walks you through an introduction to reverse instruction, a.k.a. the flipped classroom, through the eyes of my own learning journey.

Katie Gimbar's Flipped Classroom FQ YouTube Video Playlist

Teacher Katie Gimbar has [created this playlist](#) of her many excellent videos discussing her experience with flipped teaching and learning. These quickly start to get rather in depth, but by exploring the titles you can probably find a clip or two that can help you start exploring questions you may have.

Creating Content

Screencasting

A common approach to creating flipped content is Screencasting – capturing whatever you do on your screen while voicing over it. Screencasting may also incorporate web cam captures of the speaker. One of the things I try to emphasize is that there are so many great tools available these days for creating digital learning content, that teachers should not limit themselves to just screencasting (the section after this one offers a bunch of great apps that enable educators to “mash up” great content without having to screencast). Of course, screencasting is still a great technique and an excellent tool to have at your disposal, so here are a few great free apps to try.

Screencast-O-Matic

One of the first screencasting tools published, Screencast-O-Matic works with both the Mac and the PC, and requires no installation, which is nice. [Access Screencast-O-Matic here](#). There’s a quick demo video right there on the home page. You can record and host 15 minute clips for free, and unlimited clips with their Pro version which is only \$12 a year.



Jing

The same folks who make Camtasia (probably the most popular paid screencasting app used by ‘flippers’) make Jing – a free application that lets you easily capture screen activity, record voice-over, and publish clips up to 5 minutes long. Jing works on the PC and the Mac and it’s pretty easy to get started with. Jing uses Screencast.com as an online video distribution methodology, and you can also download the SWF format files to distribute them your own way. The Pro version lets you create MP4 files, but is still limited to 5 minute clips.

[Here’s the Jing website](#), and this [“How It’s Used”](#) page gives a great overview of how educators and trainers are using it.



Screenr

[Screenr](#) is another popular, free, web-based screencasting tool that works with the Mac and PC and offers additional functionality at a price. The makers of Screenr also make a suite of e-Learning tools, and host this [e-Learning community](#) with tutorials, forums, community blogs and more. With 100,000 e-learning professionals registered, this is a unique and interesting twist to Screenr and the related apps from the folks at Articulate who provide it.



Lots of Other Great Tools for Creating Digital Learning Content

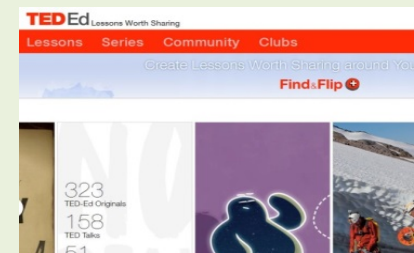
One of the exciting and fun things about the flip is the ever expanding array of wonderful tools that exist that enable you to create your own digital learning materials. (Of course, the quantity and quality of good free ‘pre-built’ learning content continues to grow every day as well, and we’ll tap into that in the next section.)

The following tools are all free applications, many of which are Internet based, making them largely device independent. Those listed first are geared specifically towards education. The rest of the apps are also great for mashing up digital content into your own learning materials, they just don’t have the education-specific focus and functions that the ones earlier in the list do.

Ed.Ted.Com

‘Flip’ a video to create your own customized lesson!

With ed.ted.com, you can turn any video into a customized lesson. Add your own context, and select from pre-configured quizzes or add your own questions and follow-up suggestions. You can share the custom lessons with students through e-mail, Facebook, or Twitter – they will have their own unique page on TED Ed, and you decide who gets to see it. You can see who viewed the lesson, review how many questions they attempted and the answers they provided, see the number of questions they got right and more. You can ‘flip’ ANY YouTube video (including one you create)! Learn more about this innovative tool and what some of the designer are hoping to accomplish with it in this inspired [introductory video](#).



Versal

Create rich web-based courses with ease, for Free, using Versal!

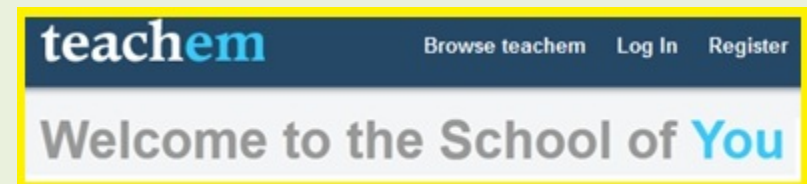
Have you ever needed or wanted to create an online course but did not know where to start? Versal provides a free service that allows you to completely design and create an online course without ever having to worry about trying to code. Many people are still hesitant, however, because they fear that using the program will prove to be just as difficult as coding and as a result have a hard time figuring out how to use it. This could not be further from the truth. Versal is easy to use and easy to navigate, and they take all of the guess-work out of creating a course – all you have to do is have the knowledge that needs to go into the course and how to set-up a lesson plan.



Teachem

[Teachem](#) is a free online web site where you can easily turn YouTube videos into online classes that can be private or public. A variety of additional teaching and learning aids, such as Flash Cards and 'SmartNotes' round out the functionality to deliver a uniquely powerful tool for delivering flipped course content. Originally modeled off of their sister website focused on legal education, Lawline.com, the parent company started Teachem to provide this great, free functionality to teachers of all subjects.

Learn more [here](#).



Tackk

An easy tool for creating digital assignments ... homework, flipped class content, blended learning lesson material, etc. [Tackk](#) is an Internet based application that provides an easy to use interface enabling you to post an image, video, or other content and add some text so you can ask questions or post some other form of assignment. A comments section is automatically available for each piece of content, so there's an instant discussion forum! How cool is that?

View an example Tackk and learn more [here](#).



LessonPaths

This is a great free tool that is very popular with educators. [LessonPaths](#) (formerly *MentorMob* – renamed to *LessonPaths* at the end of 2103) makes it real easy to create a “Playlist” of web content. Just create an account, and start building your Learning Playlist by inserting files, web links, or text (and there's a Quiz feature too!). It didn't take me more than 15 minutes to create my account and build [this playlist](#) of 15 Flipped Classroom Articles and Resources.



Movenote

[Movenote](#) is a wonderful, easy to use app that makes it easy for teachers to create content for digital learning. You simply record yourself discussing a document or image that you post in Movenote. [Here is their intro video](#). For some great examples of teachers using the tool and talking about their experiences, check out [this article](#).

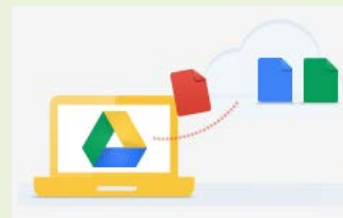
And don't forget ... these kinds of tools can also enable students to create great content too!



Google Drive

Educators love [Google Drive](#) (formerly known as Google Docs), with its ability to allow for easy sharing of docs, and its unique capacity to allow multiple users to collaboratively edit documents, worksheets, and presentations! All you need to use Google Drive is a free Google account (you already have one if you use Gmail). If your school is a Google Apps for Education user, your teachers and students are likely to have easy access to a set of free applications including Google drive, through their existing email address (check with your tech folks on that).

Check out the article, [Students in the Cloud – How Google Drive has Nullified Missing Homework Excuses](#), on EmergingEdTech.com to learn some more about Google drive.

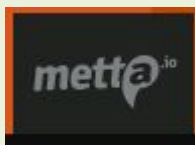


Metta

Metta (www.metta.io) is a digital storytelling tool that allows you to create lessons using audio, videos, and images from your computer or from the web. It is a great online app for creating short flipped or blended lessons for students to help them learn outside of the classroom.

With this outstanding web application, teachers can easily create a digital content based story, supplemented with images and text. Teachers can also include poll questions in order to test the knowledge of students. So, with Metta.io, you can easily combine multimedia elements together to produce an awesome digital lesson.

Learn how to use Metta in [this step by step guide on EmergingEdTech.com](http://thisstepbystepguideonEmergingEdTech.com).



OneTrueMedia

[OneTrueMedia](#) is yet another cool free app that can be used to create digital content, in this case - videos. You can upload your photos and video, mix effects, create transitions, add text and music, and post to YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter (you can distribute other ways via a link, or download the video). You can also create your own DVD!

Check out the videos on their [Create/How It Works Page](#) to get a better sense of how OneTrueMedia works.



iBooks

[iBooks Author](#) is a powerful free platform for creating Digital books. Sadly, iBooks is only available on the Mac. [This wonderful video](#) shares the story of some students creating their own iBooks. Clearly, creating great quality digital publications with iBooks is fun and provides an incredible sense of accomplishment. I have no doubt that one of the many powerful uses and benefits of the integration of technology into teaching and learning is having students create their own content and get inspired while learning and inspiring others. This is the kind of thing that helps me believe that the future of education has never been brighter!



Techniques for Creating Good Quality Digital Content

All of the tools we've just seen are great, but it takes more than tools to create good digital learning content – it takes patience, practice, and good techniques. Following are a few free resources focused on tips and approaches to creating good quality materials.

Creating Engaging Screencasts

The low cost of good quality web cams and the availability of free or relatively inexpensive screencasting applications helps to make the development of video learning content easier than ever. Yet all the free or low cost tools in the world do not inevitably yield good quality results. There is an essential element of technique to be considered. If one is going to invest time and energy (and budget dollars) in tools for the creation of video content, it is highly advisable to learn a bit about how to do what you are doing *well*.

This article, [Dozens of Tips & Techniques for Creating High Quality Engaging Screencasts](#), provides a wealth of insights and ideas to help you make the best of your screencasting efforts. [This video](#) is a companion to the article.

Add Voice Over to PowerPoint Presentations

The presentation tool in Microsoft Office is one of the most widely used slide presentation applications available today. While PowerPoint has plenty of detractors and is often the butt of jokes (*“PowerPoint has no power and no point ...”, you’ve probably heard a few like this*), there is no denying that slides produced with this application are central to countless educational lectures across the world every school day.

PowerPoint is a piece of software that is pretty easy to use, but at the same time has many features that can elevate your presentations. One such function is the easy ability to supplement a presentation with voice-over (or other audio). Adding your voice to PowerPoint slides is a simple process to accomplish, and doing so can turn a presentation from a plain set of slides into a self-contained instructional asset that stands alone and can be used by students to self-teach. This can be a great way to test the waters with flipped content delivery.

PowerPoint 2007

[This article](#) shows how to add Voice Over to PowerPoint 2007 in 5 easy steps. A [video](#) is available as a companion piece for the article as well.

PowerPoint 2010

The process has changed a bit in PowerPoint 2010. Here’s Microsoft’s web page explaining how to [Record and add narrations and timings to a slide show](#).



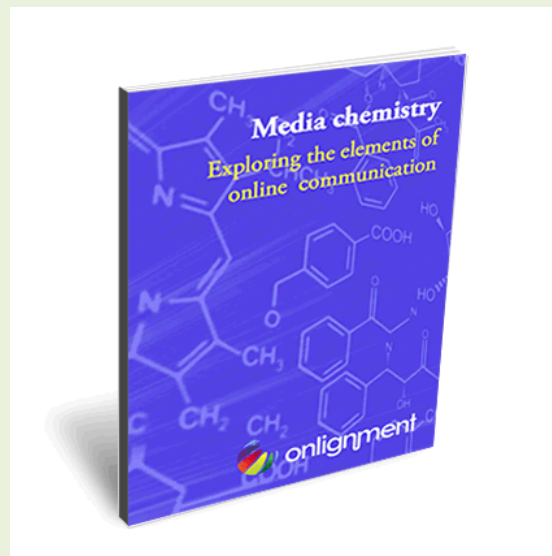
Quality Principles for Digital Learning Resources

[This PDF from Becta](#) offers a solid overview of how to design digital learning resources effectively, in a relatively brief format. It is worth printing and looking over as you embark on your digital content creation journey!



Media Chemistry – Exploring the elements of online communication

This [free eBook from Onlignment](#) is designed to help the online communicator how to use text, graphics, audio, video, etc., effectively within the particular constraints associated with working online, and how best to combine media elements to achieve their communications objectives. You can get this for free by simply tweeting or posting about it on Facebook!



Finding Content

You don't have to create all of your digital learning materials. There are so many good sources of top notch learning content and expert lectures available and the quality and quantity of materials just keeps expanding. Whether you choose to use some of these 'as is' or incorporate them into a digital mash-up using one of the many great tools we just looked at, these resources are good to know about.

The Khan Academy

With the backing of the Gates Foundation, Sal Khan's organization has become widely recognized as a source of good free tutorials in dozens and dozens of subjects, over a wide range of grade levels. The [Khan Academy YouTube Channel](#) provides thousands of videos covering a vast array of academic subjects, across many grade levels. Just click the search icon (*under where it says "Khan Academy", to the right of the grey text menu items 'Videos', 'Discussion', and 'About'*) to search the channel for content of your choosing.



TED

The hundreds of inspiring talks from this “Technology, Education, and Design” non-profit organization are of an intellectual level best suited for old student (High School or higher education students). But I’ve found my 14 year old son perusing TED just to check out some of the fascinating science lectures! [TED](#) excels at “Edutainment”, and in this case, that’s a good thing.



The OpenCourseWare Consortium

According to Makeuseof.com, “Simply put, the [OpenCourseWare Consortium](#) is the best place to begin looking for free online video lectures”. With over 40,000 courses from 70+ providers, there is undoubtedly a wealth of content here. The OpenCourseWare Consortium brings together access to all of these courses, but as a curated source, it does not provide consistency – that is, you can find many courses here, but they will be delivered via different sites and mediums.



WatchKnowLearn

[WatchKnowLearn](http://WatchKnowLearn.org) offers tens of thousands of educational videos for younger students in grades K through 12 (much of their content is geared towards elementary and middle schools grades). These videos are well organized and grouped into Academic Subject areas and other special categories, making them easily accessible. There's a Common Core grouping as well. There is also a search tool that includes an easy 'slide bar' to set the age range that you are looking for content for.

The logo for WatchKnowLearn.org features the text "WatchKnowLearn.org" in a blue, sans-serif font. Below it, the tagline "Free educational videos. Organized." is written in a smaller, green, sans-serif font. The entire logo is set against a white background.

WatchKnowLearn.org
Free educational videos. Organized.

YouTube's Education Channel

We certainly can't overlook the 'big kahuna' of video – YouTube. They do have an [education channel](https://www.youtube.com/education) dedicated to videos specifically for education, grouped into a number of easy to use categories ('Primary & Secondary Ed', 'University', 'Lifelong Learning' and some high level academic subject groupings).



Academic Earth

[Academic Earth](http://AcademicEarth.net) provides hundreds of free video lectures from professors at leading universities such as Yale, Stanford, Harvard, and more. This is a sort of predecessor to the evolving MOOC phenomenon.

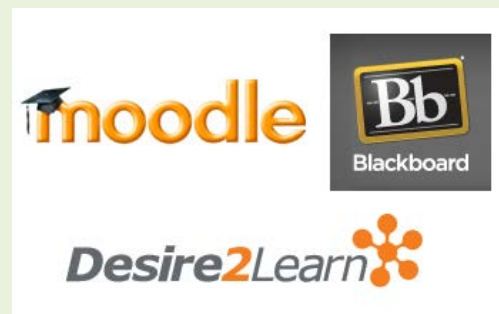


Delivering Content

Okay, so now we've got a bunch of great applications and resources that enable us to deliver this content securely to our students. There are many options for this available thanks to the power or ubiquity of the Internet. Following you will find a handful of tools and approaches to creating a web space where students in a given class can access the digital learning content you create.

Your LMS *(if you are in Higher Ed, and have one)*

If you teach in a college or university, chances are that your school has one or more Learning Management Systems (also sometimes referred to as "Course Management Systems"). Blackboard, Moodle, and Desire2Learn are a few of the popular offerings in wide use. These applications are all generally very good for sharing links, documents, and even allow for embedding of content from time to time. Additional functionality like Discussion Forums, Assignments, and Quizzes make these systems great flipped content delivery vehicles.



Edmodo

Edmodo is a powerful, much loved application in the K-12 world. The rich functionality offered by this education-specific course deliver tool is very impressive for a free (and ad-free) application.

Click over to this article, “[10 Reasons Why Edmodo is an Excellent \(and Hugely Popular\) Digital Learning Platform](#)” to dive into the many reasons why you will want to know about Edmodo if you don’t already have a digital learning platform. [This video](#) provides an overview of the article’s content.



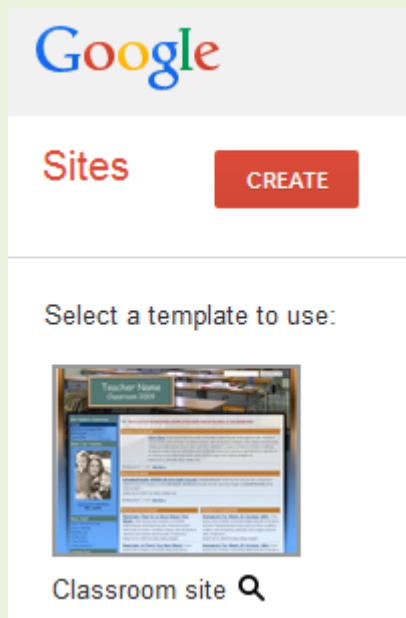
A Wiki

Many teachers, especially in K-12, like to use Wikis to create a centralized resource where they can organize and deliver learning content (and conduct other teaching functions). [Wikispaces](#) is a very popular Wiki used in education. Wikis make it easy to add images, links, videos, and more to a web page. They are really pretty easy to use – don’t be intimidated by the idea of creating your own web page, it will likely be much easier than you imagine. When you are working with a Wiki, you don’t need to know HTML to create a page (*although it can sometimes help*).



Google Sites

Another great free way to host content is on a Google Site. This is rather like a Wiki in many ways. You only need a Google Account to create a Google Site. Once you have one, [click here](#) to learn how to get started.



Facebook

Yes, Facebook. If your students are over 13 and you are comfortable with the idea, Facebook's Group feature can be very helpful as a way to organize and deliver content. A Facebook Group can provide a private site on Facebook that you invite members to, where you can share links, photos, videos, and create question sets. All of these elements have an instant discussion group available via the Comments feature. Students do not have to 'friend' you, nor do you have to friend them in order for this to work.

[This video](#) from Jay Dold explains how to set up a Facebook Group.



Learning More

Your exploration of fun free resources for learning about the flipped classroom and reverse instruction tools and techniques doesn't have to end here! Following are plenty of great sites where you continue your flipped teaching journey and stay on top of news and developments about 'the flip'.

FlippedClassroomWorkshop.com

If you're reading this free eBook, you probably already know about the Web's favorite new source of flipped instruction resources, professional development, flipped class news, and more! If you don't, then be sure to click over to FlippedClassroomWorkshop.com and check it out!



EmergingEdTech's Flipped Classroom Articles Category

We're frequently publishing new articles about flipped teaching and learning and related ideas like blended learning, project based learning, and much more. Sign up for blog posts from EmergingEdTech to have this content sent to your In Box. Check out <http://www.emergingedtech.com/category/flipping-the-classroom-flipped-teaching/> to view dozens of related articles that have been published over the last few years (and new articles as they are published).



The Flipped Classroom Workshop in a Book and Online Workshops Facebook Page

If you are a Facebook user, this is a great way to learn more and stay in touch with flipped teaching and learning news, resources, etc. Just click out to <https://www.facebook.com/FlippedClassWorkshopBook> and Like the Page to have our posts stream to you in Facebook.



FlippedLearning.org

This is a popular and widely accepted site focused on flipped learning. There is a wealth of resources available here.



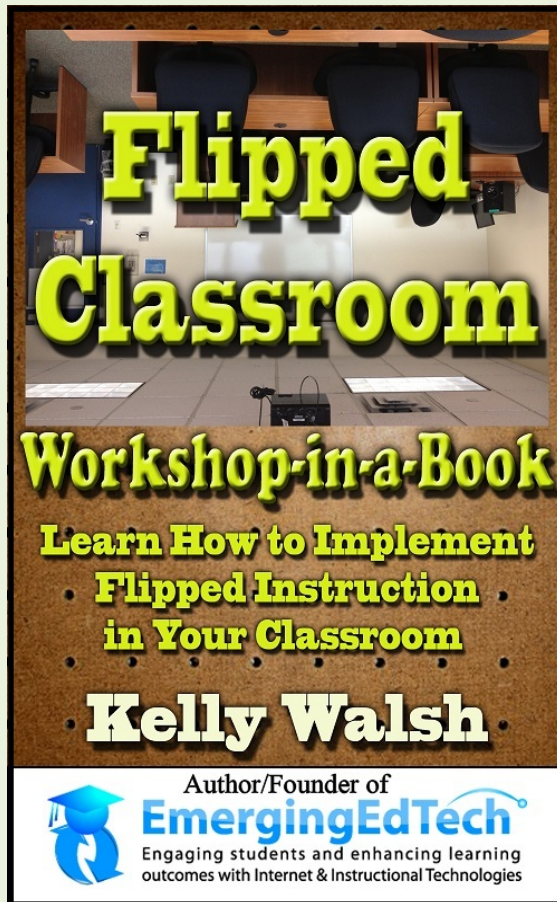
7 Excellent Free Blended Learning Resources – Understanding the Whys and Hows of Mixed Mode Instruction

Remember – flipped instruction is a form of blended learning. With that in mind, this set of resources and tools can help educators understand why blended learning is vital and how to develop or improve their approach to it.



When you're ready to take your Flipped Teaching and Learning Professional Development to the next level ...

The Flipped Classroom Workshop-in-a-Book



[Click here to learn more](#)

4 Week Online Flipped Classroom Workshops



Several times a year, EmergingEdTech founder and author Kelly Walsh offers an immersive online workshop for educators. Over the course of this 4 week workshop, you will develop your own plan for bringing flipped teaching techniques into your classroom, at your pace. This workshop is highly affordable and offers a tremendous value when compared to other professional development offerings.

[Click here to learn more](#)