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Hey everyone,

You just never know how quickly the world might change. And for those of us in EdTech, moving over to online - synchronous or asynchronous - was not too daunting. That said, there are many for whom this change was not easy, at best, it was overwhelming. For those who teach in diverse learning situations or who work in the world of IEP meetings and/or planning for assistive technology accommodations, it's even more overwhelming.

So, I will tell you what I tell my teachers. Take one day at a time. Breathe. Take advantage of your networks. Here are some really amazing resources for you to help you navigate the challenges you face and will continue to face for a while. Amazing stuff!

1. Center for applied special technology (CAST).
 - a. [Free UDL Resources and Tips](#)
 - b. <http://www.cast.org/whats-new/news/2020/message-covid-19-coronavirus-update.html#.XoJwNZNKjfY>
 - c. [Remote Learning Guidelines](#)
 - d. UDL guidelines
http://udlguidelines.cast.org/?utm_medium=web&utm_campaign=none&utm_source=cast-about-udl
 - e. UDL framework <https://youtu.be/bDvKnY0g6e4>
 - f. UDL guidelines video <https://youtu.be/wVTm8vQRvNc>
2. [Council of Exceptional Children: Teaching Special Education Online during Covid-19](#)
3. Bridging apps. Wonderful resources and ideas for teachers, parents, and students.
 - i. <https://www.bridgingapps.org/>
 - ii. <https://www.bridgingapps.org/2020/03/corona-virus-covid19-awareness-prevention/>
4. Understood.org.
 - i. <https://www.understood.org/pages/en/school-learning/learning-at-home/>
 - ii. <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/coronavirus-latest-updates>
 - iii. <https://www.understood.org/en/school-learning/coronavirus-news-tools-march-30>
5. Center for Accessible Technology (CAT)
 - a. <https://www.cforat.org/services/iep>
6. Assistive Technology Industry Association
 - a. <https://www.atia.org/covid19-resources/>
7. Wide Open School: <https://tinyurl.com/uucavxd>

8. [California Department of Education: Weekly covid updates](#)
9. Quality indicators for assistive technology (QIAT). A terrific listserv. I am finding resources to send to my teachers multiple times a day.

- a. <https://qiat.org/qiat-list.html>

10. Twitter handles

- a. @echo360
 - b. @imathination

[#covid19udlchecklist](#)

- c. @katienovacUDL
 - d. @gamine64
 - e. @speechdude
 - f. @3BlockModelUDL
 - g. @luisperez

If you would like help with any of these resources, let us know! Jennifer and Chris

Equity, Access and Innovation

Supporting Students' Remote Learning During COVID-19 School Closures

Universal Design for Learning Guide

This is a guide to assist you in considering certain UDL elements in your remote learning planning and coursework during the COVID-19 School Closures. This guide is not a definitive list and it is not intended to be used as a rigid checklist. The list includes general elements as well as elements to consider for each of the UDL principles: engagement, representation, and expression and action.

Equity, Access and Innovation

- ☐ I designed a learning activity that recognizes that equitable, accessible, and innovative learning solutions will not be - nor should be - "school as usual."
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that considers the social and emotional responses of the student and their families.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that considers students and families have unequal access to technology and materials.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that considers the responsibilities students have as part of their home and communities.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that considers the access to safe and supportive learning spaces.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that considers access to peers and/or adults to support learning and sense making.
- ☐ I have provided various forms of contact information so students may contact me with questions or concerns.
- ☐ I check in with my students to see how this new mode of learning is working for them and ask them for feedback.

Engagement - The Why of Learning

For purposeful and motivated learners stimulate interest and motivation for learners

- ☐ I designed a learning activity that is cognitive demanding and productively challenging allowing students to select a level of perceived challenge.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that provides choices that are relevant and meaningful, and of high interest.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that provides student choice on how they can participate and/or complete a final product.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity as an assessment, assessing students formatively and with impunity, providing actionable feedback that is frequent, timely and specific.
- ☐ I use instructional methods to involve students in the learning process (reading, lecture, discussion, video, math walks, virtual field trips, labs and/or manipulatives, small groups discussions, discussion board, etc.,)
- ☐ I developed a purposeful question to engage students in discourse (collaborate on a shared document, chatting in small groups or pairs, shared journals, etc.,)
- ☐ I am making use of instructional routines that students are familiar with.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that provides opportunities for students to learn to self-reflect and make use of self-reinforcements.

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Representation - The What of Learning

For resourceful knowledgeable learners present information and content in different ways

- ☐ I designed a learning activity that reinforces and enriches topics that students have already been taught and discussed.
- ☐ I provide explicit and supported opportunities to organize and generalize and to apply generalizations to new situations.
- ☐ I designed a learning activity that has chunked content with built in questions that encourage students to engage in discussions, create questions, and build on each other's ideas.
- ☐ I have designed examples and nonexamples, illustrations, graphic organizers to emphasize critical ideas.
- ☐ I anchor critical ideas by linking to prior and culturally relevant knowledge.
- ☐ I make use of simulations, videos, graphics, audio, captions, manipulatives, interactive web-tools, social media, annotation tools, storyboards, discussion boards, e-textbooks, accessible websites, etc.
- ☐ I highlight and make use of structural relations to build deeper understandings of critical ideas.
- ☐ I have curated tools to provide access to students in their primary languages.
- ☐ I deemphasize speed by allowing time for students to process and make-sense.

Action and Expression - The How of Learning

For strategic, goal-directed learners differentiate the way students can present what they know

- ☐ I encourage the use of assistive, adaptive and/or other tools and technologies to ensure my students can accurately express what they know. (text-to-speech, graphing calculators, dynamic geometric software, spellcheck, grammar check, animations, etc.)
- ☐ I encourage my students to select the media (oral presentation, social media, video, written report, dance, poem, drawing, etc.) they want to express what they have learned.
- ☐ I design learning activities that allow for multiple problem-solving strategies.
- ☐ I deemphasize answer-getting by selecting tasks that emphasize thought-process and sense making.
- ☐ I designed scaffolds and encouraged students to select and use them as needed.
- ☐ I provide actionable feedback that is frequent, timely and specific on assignments. and
- ☐ I set the expectation that re-submission of assignments is expected when appropriate.
- ☐ I provide clear guidelines, rubrics, checklists for assignments when appropriate.
- ☐ I trust my students will work independently and collaboratively to grow and learn without punitive assessment.



Free Subscriptions to Awesome Websites Due to School Closure

Instagram: @SpeechDude

No need to scroll through a gazillion sites to figure out which are the best. This is a list of a few of my favorites (Many of them great for middle and high school students too!)

Website	Description
Age of Learning	Free access to ABC Mouse, Adventure Academy, and Reading IQ. Yeah baby!
Boardmaker	I probably don't even need to describe this.
BookCreator App	Target goals w/ interactive stories, poetry books, comics, 'about me' books, etc. Use in Google Chrome browser.
Boom Learning	Free <u>Ultimate</u> subscription until June 2020. Exercises that are gamified! Video Overview . Extremely versatile. Once you get going it's really easy to use. A How to Use Guide Here . (SpeechDude's store will target older students. Example's HERE)
CircleTime Fun	Learn and bond with your 0 - 6 year old. Follow and interact with an expert instructor. Fun, quick, easy and no-prepping!
ClassDojo	ClassDojo is an excellent tool for parent communication, sharing information, and portfolios provide a platform for teachers to assign and students to complete and submit work online.
Classroom Secrets	Game format targeting a variety of areas. Pick your poison!
ClassHook	Short clips from popular movies and tv shows to target a variety of goals. Super fun to use as intro lessons and engaging for older students.
Code	Super fun and engaging way to teach code. Use those goals and be creative! Fun to use as 5 min. Break. Target following directions, auditory comprehension.
EdPuzzle	Turn any video into active learning. Easy to use. Perfect for social skills, inferencing, and other areas of pragmatics. Let your imagination run wild!
Epic!	Digital library for amazing books, quizzes and videos. Super cool site. You'll love it I promise! Be creative w/ older students. Scaredy Squirrel is a fun series (addresses executive functioning needs to w/ many charts and visuals)
Everyday Speech	30 day trial free and 1/2 price for remainder of year if needed any longer. Awesome social-emotional skills lessons and videos. Easy to use remotely. Easy to save lists and send to parents for activities to do on their own.
Kahoot	Fun game-based site. Search any topic from synonyms to Zones of Regulation.
Kami	Absolute best PDF and Document Annotation and Markup Tool. Works with Google Drive and Google Classroom too! Use your TpT materials here.
Learning Apps	Looks a bit cheesy, but honestly, it's pretty cool. Tons of ways to implement therapy.
Loom	This app/site can record your screen, voice, and face to create an instantly shareable video in less time than it would take to type an email. Similar to ScreenCastify, but better.



Free Subscriptions to Awesome Websites Due to School Closure

Minecraft: Education Edition	A game-based learning platform that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive digital environment. Of course I'm gonna include this. Lol.
Mommy Speech Therapy	Easy free, downloadable artic sheets.
NearPod	Interactive lessons: target comprehension, categories, vocab, and more.
Newsela	Current events/articles w/ leveled reading. Target vocab and other language needs.
Pear Deck	Active learning. Integrates w/ Google Slides and makes learning fun. Create all types of language activities w/ your kiddos!
Quizlet	You're familiar with the digital flashcards, but did you know about the diagrams? Amazing and great for our functional class students. Check it out!
ReadWorks	Tons of stories and articles to target speech/language goals. Easy to navigate and comes with premade quizzes specifically to your area of need (vocabulary, perspectives, etc.)
StoryBoard	Fun way to create digital storyboards.
Vooks	Animated storybooks. Super awesome!
Zoom	Video conferencing (think Skype) The 40 minute time limit has been lifted to unlimited due to COVID 19 and easy to use. Best one in my opinion. Can have up to 100 people in a Zoom call at once. Click HERE on a How to Use Zoom in 3 minutes.

Zoom Bingo Conference Virtual Background	<p>Click the link and it'll open the 'virtual background' in Slides.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Click File then 'download' - 'Microsoft PowerPoint' - Open up file in PowerPoint and edit away!! - Click File then "export" and export as a '.png' file - Save as width 1280, height 720 - That's it. Use this as your 'virtual background in Zoom!
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Additional Resources That You'll Find Super Helpful!	
AAC Training	Six zones/activities where YOU can model words and phrases DAILY on your student's device.
Implementing AAC at Home: Hour by Hour Guide	Amazing presenters: Practical tips, strategies, activities, and ideas for how to create a daily routine. *CEU approved too! (recorded version will be available 3/18)