

## Community Parent/Guardian Resources for At-Home Schooling

### General Websites/Tips and Tricks for Students and Parents/Guardians

- *NPR* “[Tips For Homeschooling During Coronavirus : Life Kit](#)”: A short six-section list packed full of tips and tricks for organizing homeschool schedules, alleviating stress, and moral support for people tossed into the world of homeschooling during the pandemic.
- *TODAY* “[How to home-school during the coronavirus crisis](#)”: A comprehensive list of free resources, printables and activity sheets, suggestions for time management and scheduling activities, and recommendations for outside the “classroom” learning divided into sub-headings. Although many of these resources are geared to the younger student crowds (K-5), websites and recommendations can be adjusted to align with learning standards of older learners.

### Pre K-2

- Suggested Daily Calendar/Schedule:
  - Khan Academy [Grades Pre K-2](#): This schedule offers parents the opportunity to have a daily schedule for students while also incorporating play and family time. The schedule allows for flexibility in the time frame of subjects and the order of how students are to complete school subjects. Additionally, the schedule offers suggestions on how to fill the time with a sample lesson.
- Subject resources and Tutoring:
  - **All Subjects**
    - IXL [IXL Personalized Learning](#): offers a variety of skills based practice for students from kindergarten until students graduate high school in

subjects such as math and language arts. There are also skills based practice for students from kindergarten until eighth grade in subjects such as science and social studies. Additionally, there are seven Spanish units available for students who are in the process of learning a second language. All skills are directly connected to the Texas standards and IXL has a webpage explaining the connections to the standards.

- ck-12 [Free Online Textbooks, Flashcards, Adaptive Practice, Real World Examples, Simulations](#): offers a variety of lessons for different subjects ranging from photography to science at any grade level. The website also offers the lessons in six different language translations.
  - PBS [PBS Early Elementary](#): Includes a variety of resources for parents ranging from videos to lesson plans. The website can also be separated by subjects that include traditional subjects as well as the arts and health and physical education.
  - Wide Open School [Online Teaching Resources for Teachers and Families | Common Sense Media](#): hosts a variety of resources for families ranging from lessons on life skills and virtual field trips to traditional subjects such as math. Additionally, there are resources for English Language Learners and family resources that help with childcare or a list of schools that are continuing to provide meals for students.
- **ELA/ Reading**
    - Scholastic [Book Lists & Recommendations by Age](#): offers a variety of parent resources including book lists depending on a student's age and

grade level. These book lists are great supplements for academic work and can be used to fill time! Scholastic also offers articles that can point parents to different resources to aid with at home learning and printable activities for students to complete.

- Reach Out and Read [Resources for Families](#): offers a variety of reading activities for students. The website offers read-alouds to students as well as activities in Spanish. Additionally, there are options for virtual field trips and activities that do not involve a screen.
- **Math**
  - K-5 [K-5 Math Teaching Resources](#): offers grade appropriate activities that are directly connected to standards and based on specific math topics such as geometry or numbers. Additionally, there are onsite consultants that can aid a student who may struggle with a math concept.
  - Khan Academy [Khan Academy | Free Online Courses, Lessons & Practice](#): offers courses on math concepts for students of any age as well as videos to support the learning of the math concept. Khan Academy has expanded to other subjects as well.
- **Science:** Mystery Science [Mystery Science: Lessons for elementary teachers](#): offers step by step lessons for students as well as a list of all materials needed for the lesson to be printed out at home by parents. The video lessons are intriguing and easy to follow.
- **Social studies**

- Virtual Field Trips [Virtual Field Trips – All Videos](#): presents videos based on curriculum, grade or location. There is also a list of what videos to watch based on the Texas standards so that students can watch age appropriate videos that are aligned to Texas standards.
- Boston Children’s Museum [Museum Virtual Tour](#): offers a virtual tour of the museum. Students are also able to read about different exhibits hosted by the museum such as the Art Lab and the Construction Zone. Additionally, the museum offers activities for students to do at home and different play activities that younger students can engage in to aid students’ development. Although this recommendation is specific to Boston’s museum, hundreds of museums, aquariums, and zoos host virtual tours and 24 hour live streams for free!

### 3-5

- Suggested Daily Calendar/Schedule:
  - Khan Academy [Grades 3-5](#): This schedule offers parents the opportunity to have a daily schedule for students while also incorporating play and family time. The schedule allows for flexibility in the time frame of subjects and the order of how students are to complete school subjects. Additionally, the schedule offers suggestions on how to fill the time with a sample lesson.
- Subject resources and Tutoring:
  - All Subjects
    - IXL [IXL Personalized Learning](#) offers a variety of skills based practice for students from kindergarten until students graduate high school in subjects

such as math and language arts. There are also skills-based practice for students from kindergarten until eighth grade in subjects such as science and social studies. Additionally, there are seven Spanish units available for students who are in the process of learning a second language. All skills are directly connected to the Texas standards and IXL has a webpage explaining the connections to the standards.

- ck-12 [Free Online Textbooks, Flashcards, Adaptive Practice, Real World Examples, Simulations](#) offers a variety of lessons for different subjects ranging from photography to science at any grade level. The website also offers the lessons in six different language translations.
  - PBS [PBS Upper Elementary](#): offers a variety of resources for parents ranging from videos to lesson plans. The website can also be separated by subjects that include traditional subjects as well as the arts and health and physical education.
  - Wide Open School [Online Teaching Resources for Teachers and Families | Common Sense Media](#): hosts a variety of resources for families ranging from lessons on life skills and virtual field trips to traditional subjects such as math. Additionally, there are resources for English Language Learners and family resources that help with childcare or a list of schools that are continuing to provide meals for students.
- **ELA/ Reading**
    - Reach Out and Read [Resources for Families](#): offers a variety of reading activities for students. The website offers read-alouds to students as well

as activities in Spanish. Additionally, there are options for virtual field trips and activities that do not involve a screen.

- Scholastic [Book Lists & Recommendations by Age](#): offers a variety of parent resources including book lists depending on a student's age. These book lists are great supplements for academic work and can be used to fill time! Scholastic also offers articles that can point parents to different resources to aid with at-home learning and printable activities for students to complete.
- **Math**
  - K-5 [K-5 Math Teaching Resources](#): offers grade-appropriate activities that are directly connected to standards and based on specific math topics such as geometry or numbers. Additionally, there are onsite consultants that can aid a student who may struggle with a math concept.
  - Khan Academy [Khan Academy | Free Online Courses, Lessons & Practice](#): offers courses on math concepts for students of any age as well as videos to support the learning of the math concept. Khan Academy has expanded to other subjects as well.
- **Science:** Mystery Science [Mystery Science: Lessons for elementary teachers](#): offers step-by-step lessons for students as well as a list of all materials needed for the lesson to be printed out at home by parents. The video lessons are intriguing and easy to follow.

- Crash Course Kids [Crash Course Kids](#): s a youtube channel that explores science concepts for fifth grade students. The videos are packed full of information and graphics to keep students interested.
- **Social studies**
  - Virtual Field Trips [Virtual Field Trips – All Videos](#): presents videos based on curriculum, grade or location. There is also a list of what videos to watch based on the Texas standards so that students can watch age appropriate videos that are aligned to Texas standards.
  - Smithsonian’s [Virtual Tour](#): offers free virtual tours of many of the museums. In addition to learning activities and vast amounts of information on the Smithsonian website, students are able to view current and past exhibits as well as receive narrated virtual tours.

## **Middle School**

- Suggested Daily Calendar/Schedule:
  - Khan Academy [Grades 6-9](#): This 12 hour suggested daily schedule by Khan Academy plans a student’s day from start to finish. While it includes reasonable time-stamps and recommendations for learning and academic work, it also builds in time for relaxation, meals, meditating, and physical fitness. Although it is structured, the schedule leaves plenty of room for student/guardian modification.
- Subject resources and Tutoring:
  - **All Subjects:**
    - ck-12 [Free Online Textbooks, Flashcards, Adaptive Practice, Real World Examples, Simulations](#): From geometry to photography, ck-12’s provides

in-depth lesson plans by subject/grade level that align with (almost) every state's learning standards. Each subject is broken down into smaller lessons that integrate note taking, reading, and interactive activity.

- IXL [IXL Personalized Learning](#): Like ck-12, IXL offers a variety of online study tools broken down by subject and grade level. While the site does offer pay-for-membership options, the majority of the site and learning tools are completely free to users. The skills taught align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
- PBS's [Resources For Middle School Lesson Plans](#) covers a variety of different subjects and disciplines through age and grade-appropriate visual media. From Current events and news to films and clips about the visual arts, students, parents, guardians, and at-home teachers can supplement teaching and learning for a variety of topics.
- **Math:** While [Khan Academy | Free Online Courses, Lessons & Practice](#) now boasts an impressive curriculum and help center for many subjects, its initial focus was mathematics. Students and directors of at-home learning may find this website helpful for learning and clarification on mathematical processes and skill practice.
- **ELA/Reading** While students should never supplement these websites for reading assigned novels and texts in class, summary websites like [Shmoop: Homework Help & Study Guides For Students](#), [SparkNotes: Today's Most Popular Study Guides](#), [Bookrags](#), and [LitCharts | From the creators of SparkNotes](#) offer students general help and explanation of common literature. While students



are often drawn to these websites, parents and guardians or at-home teachers may find [CommonLit | Free Reading Passages and Literacy Resources](#) text pairings, lesson plans, and unit guides helpful--all it takes is creating a free account!.

- **Science:** Visual learners may find the University of Colorado: Boulder's [PhET](#) science and math simulators helpful. The site offers science help and simulations ranging from Introductions in Gaseous States to Quantum Phenomena.
- **Social Studies:** While students can turn to [PBS Learning Media](#), [IXL Personalized Learning](#), and [ck-12](#) for subject specific tutoring help in the classroom, middle school students may need extra help and visual learning media to stay focused and interested in historical content. Before he became a best-selling author, John Green and brother Hank Green created a comprehensive, educational Youtube channel called [CrashCourse](#). In addition, [Smithsonian's History Explorer](#) offers lesson plans, resources, and interactives organized by grade level for students, parents, guardians, and at-home teachers to use and explore when working on social studies.

## Secondary

- Suggested Daily Calendar/Schedule:
  - Khan Academy [Grades 10-12](#): This 12 hour suggested daily schedule by Khan Academy plans a student's day from start to finish. While it includes reasonable time-stamps and recommendations for learning and academic work, it also builds in time for journaling with provided writing prompts centered around current events), meals, meditating, and physical fitness. Although older students generally

need less guided structure, sub-sections could also be used as a daily checklist for student tasks.

- Subject resources and Tutoring:
  - **All Subjects:**
    - ck-12 [Free Online Textbooks, Flashcards, Adaptive Practice, Real World Examples, Simulations](#): From physics to astronomy, ck-12's provides in-depth lesson plans by subject/grade level that align with (almost) every state's learning standards. Each subject is broken down into smaller lessons that integrate note taking, reading, and interactive activity. Some subjects even go as high as entry level college courses which is a great feature for older grades.
    - IXL [IXL Personalized Learning](#): Like ck-12, IXL offers a variety of online study tools broken down by subject and grade level. While the site does offer pay-for-membership options, the majority of the site and learning tools are completely free to users. The skills taught align with the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS).
    - PBS's [Resources For High School Lesson Plans](#) covers a variety of different subjects and disciplines through age and grade-appropriate visual media. From Current events and news to films and clips about the visual arts, students, parents, guardians, and at-home teachers can supplement teaching and learning for a variety of topics. Students exploring future career paths may find their subsections connecting subject to career especially interesting. Check out [Math in Fashion](#) to see this in action!

- **Math:** While [Khan Academy | Free Online Courses, Lessons & Practice](#) now boasts an impressive curriculum and help center for many subjects, its initial focus was mathematics. Students and directors of at-home learning may find this website helpful for learning and clarification on mathematical processes and skill practice. Khan Academy has even partnered with AP content creators to develop these same resources for AP mathematics classes.
- **ELA/Reading:** While students should never supplement these websites for reading assigned novels and texts in class, summary websites like [Shmoop: Homework Help & Study Guides For Students](#), [SparkNotes: Today's Most Popular Study Guides](#), [Bookrags](#), and [LitCharts | From the creators of SparkNotes](#) offer students general help and explanation of common literature. While students are often drawn to these websites, parents and guardians or at-home teachers may find [CommonLit | Free Reading Passages and Literacy Resources](#) text pairings, lesson plans, and unit guides helpful--all it takes it creating a free account! Parents and guardians or at-home teachers assisting with AP Level English courses may also find the [AP LIT HELP - a Talks with Teachers site](#) of use.
- **Science:** Visual learners may find the University of Colorado: Boulder's [PhET](#) science and math simulators helpful. The site offers science help and simulations ranging from Introductions in Gaseous States to Quantum Phenomena. Students should also check out Khan Academy's [Science](#) section for extra help.
- **Social Studies:** While students can turn to [PBS Learning Media](#), [IXL Personalized Learning](#), and [ck-12](#) for subject specific tutoring help in the classroom, high school students, parents and guardians, and at-home teachers may

find historical archives and databases helpful. [The National Archives](#) and the [Library of Congress](#) are great sources of information and research. In addition, [Smithsonian's History Explorer](#) offers lesson plans, resources, and interactives organized by grade level for students, parents, guardians, and at-home teachers to use and explore when working on social studies.