



NID-Collection of E-Learning Ideas

-2025-

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Suggested Websites:

Flipgrid

The students can log on and record a short video about a topic I give them. When they log on to the site, they can see each other. I get to see them as well.

3 Preschool Sites/links to enhance your child's remote learning. [See Attachment A](#)

We have employed [Seesaw](#) with new activities every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. We enabled it for students to see each other's work and this is where they can often share STEAM materials that they have worked on.

I also have used [Seesaw](#) to help make topics/things we used to do at school interactive and more age appropriate, as it would be in the classroom. It's been great and my families love it. It's a way for me to assess their learning in their home environment.

I offer weekly activities from [pinterest](#) involving science, math, language arts, as well as outdoor exercise and various scavenger hunt activities. Next week, for our final week we will complete some review items

We use [Marco Polo](#) to 'talk' to each other often

All our students were able to get a log in and password for [IXL](#) which works with language arts and math lessons via an app. They are loving this! Each week, new assignments are given in the preschool level.

I've done a zoom story time where I share my screen and use a book from [getepic.com](#). Kids loved having a virtual read aloud

I also give links for [scholastic](#) weekly reader

I video tape on my phone and use [google Photos app](#). It saves your photos and videos. You create an album and send the link to album to parents. Children can view it on their own.

I've also used [Hoopla](#) from my library

Post a fun '[Kahoot](#)' quiz on your school's facebook page

Create a [closed/private Facebook](#) page to post daily challenges and ask families to share pictures.

We used [Realm](#) for each class (similar to Facebook). Teachers can add links/videos, messages, and parents can post pictures.

Pre-recorded videos:

Pastor makes a chapel video

Videotape story time

I record myself reading stories, singing songs, doing our calendar time and doing science experiments and email them to the parents at least 3 times a week. This week we are going to take a "field trip" to my sisters' farms. We will record the different animals and send it to the families.

Daily religion pre-recorded lesson (approx 10 mins)

Daily Circle Time pre-recorded lesson (approx 10 mins)

Cooking, movement, read aloud and science pre-recorded lessons (approx 5-10 mins)

Each of us teachers also send 2 YouTube, private videos a week. That way students and parents can access them when it is most convenient for their family. I send home video lessons of our CPH One in Christ curriculum and attach additional craft project ideas. Another teacher is skilled with guitar and music and she leads a video dance and sing party. Our third teacher does a read aloud that coordinates with the songs of the week and incorporates a craft project as well.

Tammy Agnello a Preschool Teacher at St. Paul Lutheran School in Aurora IL.

<https://youtu.be/HIBXp4W-Xp4>

We are attempting to keep on track with our letter and number learning by recording teaching videos I created a YouTube page with Jesus Time, stories, crafts, science experiments, and activity suggestions.

We also post Art Time and Jesus Time videos on our Facebook page and do craft supplies porch drops each Friday to go along with those videos.

I am doing stars of the week to promote more social-emotional development. I have them videotape themselves telling and showing 5 things about themselves. Then their peers are making them pictures or dictations on what they miss about that friend. Trying to make social connections.

Videos of group time: song, calendar, read aloud, and Jesus Time. Videos reviewing numbers and letters, showing a science experiment.

Ideas sent electronically:

Remote learning T-F (same as K-8)

Literacy/Math learning mat each week with 19 play-based choices

We have a mixed population of stay-at-home and full time working parents, and about 75 students in three preschool classrooms. Our students are used to seeing all of us teachers and students to some degree throughout the week prior to our closing. Therefore, when we send things out, all students are getting the exact same email at the same time from the teacher that is heading that activity.

We have sent PDF packets of lesson plan ideas complete with recipe ideas every two weeks that originated from Pocket of Preschool on Teachers Pay Teachers.

Gross/Fine Motor learning materials each week, 19 play-based choices

Daily religion pre-recorded lesson (approx 10 mins)

Daily Circle Time pre-recorded lesson (approx 10 mins)

Cooking, movement, read aloud and science pre-recorded lessons (approx 5-10 mins)

Enrichment exercises for differentiating

I also send out a daily email with Story and music links.

We sent out daily emails from our entire prek. This would give appointment times for group music and exercise. We also purchased caterpillars from Insect Lore and then had a Diary of a Caterpillar. We allowed the children to suggest caterpillar names and then created a survey monkey so they could vote for their favorites.

Zoom/Facetime Ideas:

Host Jesus Time

We do a zoom call once a week with our class and teach a mini lesson that's interactive with the kids.

We end our week with a field trip Friday. We do a zoom field trip somewhere that goes with our theme. If we continue this type of learning in the fall, I think we will make each theme for 2 weeks with a field trip on the Friday at the end of the theme.

We have "visited" our veterinary office, a pig farm, a plant nursery, and will be visiting the grade school with the kindergarten principal

LCC offers virtual Comfort Dog visits.... The flier will be in the May 7 School Newsletter or can be gotten off the LCC website.

Storytime

Daily Pledge and announcements for whole school

We have also offered to have FaceTime type meetings with students that are interested or phone calls.

Science Experiments, Cooking Lesson, Bug Hunt, Art Project, Story Time, Singing Songs together, All Singing Happy birthday to Birthday Students, STEM Projects: Bird House projects, Wind Chimes, Planting Seeds

I post a Jesus Time on Mondays, a FlipGrid activity on Wednesday, and a story/game/activity on Friday.

Our classes Zoom twice a week and I have offered individual zooms as well. During our Zooms, we socially meet (which is so important for these littles ones), having show and tell, sharing 'brain break' dance videos from youtube, creating and sharing powerpoint memory games, book readings by me and online readers (Pete the Cat is their favorite), and even going on scavenger hunts around their homes to find things. One of their favorites is 'I spy' when I describe one of our pk friends and they all try to guess who I am talking about. The mute all button is used to control the conversation and let every child have their moment:) We will have a final end of the year 'family' zoom to recognize kids:)

I meet with my 3 preschool kiddos (all invited) from 8:30 am-9:10 am for Calendar and Jesus Time (Religion/Chapel) and again from 10-10:20 to work on letter sounds--I use Jolly Phonics, and a read aloud story based on a unit that we are covering. We also have daily "sound and share" it's like show and tell but the goal is for help the kiddos start to associate things with letter sounds.

We are offering Zoom Story Times 10x per week which include a Chapel with our Pastor and a Show and Tell time. We work on letter sounds, rhyming words, exploring differences of animals in our stories, sequencing, comprehension and predicting skills ... but mostly sharing and connecting ... Zooms last about 20 minutes or so with more talking / sharing time.

Last week we did a virtual field trip to the zoo using the San Diego Zoo's website live cams and prerecorded videos. In between we did our favorite Go Noodle dance for a brain break. We also sang Hello Everybody to find out which animal each child liked the best. I had them bring something to write on and write with to draw/write "I like" and then the animal they liked the best.

Scavenger hunts are great! We did a 30 second hunt challenge where I told them "Go find something in your house that is your favorite color" and put a 30 second timer up. we do scavenger hunts. we use zoom and share the screen with books and games That's all my children want to do during zoom snacktimes.... scavenger hunts. Today they looked for shapes in their homes

We used "Mystery Reader" sessions for some selected class Zoom sessions

I've invited other familiar faces to Zoom meetings such as the Spanish teacher, gym teacher, comfort dogs

ISBE recommends 30 min. minimum and 60 min max. (see [attachment B](#)). I do Zoom two times a week for 30min. Everyday I have a story time video, and Thinking Game (letter sound association) Then I add one more video each day except days that I do a zoom meeting.

I did a bedtime story zoom which was a huge hit. They wore pjs and brought their stuffed animals. Several siblings joined in too. I also did 1:1 zooms with my kids and had great feedback from parents. Several of my kids asked to do it again. That was a great way to connect individually and catch up on things since a group zoom can be overwhelming for some.

We host zoom music and exercise classes for all of our prek students

Two times per week our prek teachers host a Teacher/Parent prayer time.

ZOOM Meeting Ideas for Preschoolers

1. Scavenger Hunts around the students homes to find colors, shapes, or other theme related items
2. Boom Cards <https://wow.boomlearning.com>
3. Free Google slides by Tara West
<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Read-It-GOOGLE-READY-WITH-GOOGLE-SLIDES-Distance-Learning-4444809>
4. Playing Musical Instruments
5. Snack with the Teacher
6. Mad Scientist <https://chicago.madscience.org>
7. Steve Spangler Science Experiments
https://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiment-library/?utm_source=pmail&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=3162020_500k_letter&obem=PHMPcoqMNPcR_nxCsikFxGPUWwXtdj83P7X12iY-t7l%3D&bc_lcid=t5897572177707008lw5104818489163776li5
8. Bring & Brag (Show & Tell) Activities
<http://teachersmag.com/posts/zoom-based-show-and-tell-activity-for-preschoolers/>
9. Mystery Readers- The readers comes onto Zoom with only a "Question Mark" picture and orally gives clues to who they are. Once the children hear the cues and are guessing who it is (even though they are muted), the Mystery Reader reveals their face and has a short story time with the students.
10. Read a book and have the students use Paper Plate Emotion Masks to show the feelings that they are finding/having in the book's characters and situations
<https://www.weareteachers.com/social-emotional-activities-early-years/>
11. Use lots of visual cues to catch the preschoolers attention. Great examples can be found at:
<https://pocketofpreschool.com/zoom-ideas-and-tips-for-distance-learning/>
12. Zoom Talent Show- Tell them ahead of time to come prepared to share a talent if possible. They showed their talent and then called on the next student to go. Clap after each talent. It's fun to see them showing off what they're good at or see them being silly (some talents were funny), and to see them all enjoying time together. Talents can include
 - Showing pictures they had drawn or painted, just by holding them up to their screen
 - Play a homemade musical instruments
 - Talk about a book they have read
 - Doing splits, some other exerciseIf a someone doesn't have a talent, others would encourage them and say, "but you're good at singing, sing us a song!" or "show us how you can stand on one foot". And not all youth participated, some were called on and said they wanted to pass, and that was totally okay! They would just call on the next person.
13. Zoom Bingo Game: mail out bingo cards ahead of time or use [online printable bingo cards](#) and email them to everyone.
14. Yoga activities. <https://awakeandmindful.com/best-kids-yoga-videos-on-youtube/>
15. Toy Car Activities: <https://www.home-speech-home.com/things-that-go-zoom.html>

Other General Ideas for using Zoom with Preschoolers:

(from <https://happystronghome.com/how-to-engage-preschoolers-on-zoom/>)

Call on participants verbally rather than wait for volunteers. Because of the lag time, it's best if you just call a name and ask them to answer or show you something. With everyone watching everyone else, some kids hang back from volunteering and that creates downtime. Downtime on Zoom is a real attention killer! I usually say, "I'll start with Jackie, and then call out your name when it's your turn to answer." Then I make sure I get through each participant.

Use a numbered clipboard to let kids pick options: I put post it notes numbered 1-9 on a [clipboard](#). Under each number was an activity the kids couldn't see. When it was their turn, the child picked a number and I revealed the activity! This is the equivalent of "picking sticks" in a physical classroom. A clipboard with a stand might be helpful so you don't have to hold it.

Use action – kids hate to sit still! If reciting or answer questions, have kids perform an exercise like bending to touch toes, reaching to pick apples, or another quick motion while saying their answer.

Use puppets – surprise kids by having a puppet give answers for you. [Hand puppets](#) (or make some with paper bags!) are visually engaging and the surprise will keep kids focused on the screen to see what you do next!

Use a [mini whiteboard](#) for quick demos. Holding up a piece of paper is flappy and distracting. Instead, get a mini-whiteboard and a very dark dry-erase marker to write out a quick answer. Or if you're artsy, you can draw a picture for kids who get correct answers, etc. No whiteboard? Create your own by laminating a piece of card stock or putting card stock in a page protector, or as a last resort, cover a piece of cardstock with clear packing tape.

- If kids at home can have a little whiteboard too, they can show you their work or draw a picture in response as well!

Form "groups" for responses by playing "If you like..." games:

- If you like dogs, repeat after me...
- If you like to cook, say this with me...
- If you are a fan of soccer, shout your answer...

Use the share screen feature to share images and other visuals. The easiest way is to put the material you need into a Word document, with each item on one page. Then simply scroll through as you need to use it. Alternatively, you can use the whiteboard to doodle, write, type, and "point" to items with a highlighter. This is handy for sharing maps, science illustrations, history pictures and more.

Play a mashup of Red Light/Green Light/Freeze Tag! So if your kids are working on any kind of memory work with you, like math facts, poetry memorization, learning song lyrics, etc, this is a fun game to break up the chanting. Get a red and green piece of construction paper. Hold up green and kids start reciting. Hold up red, they stop. Keep going through the work. It just creates a sense of anticipation for them to watch to see when you'll switch up the papers.

Dress Up! Gather some silly dress up / [photo booth props](#). When your students answer a question correctly or show good engagement, take an item out and put it on. Keep laying the items until you look absolutely absurd. They will love it!

Google Classroom

We provided students with write and wipe folders. That way, any of our class work we put in google classroom (ie name practice sheets) they can slide in folder and re-visit should they need more practice.

All work has also been printed and offered as a 'pick up' in our building, safely distancing of course. Parents are constantly contacted with weekly news and any important updates. I have found that google classroom is fantastic. Kids also send pictures of work they are doing in the google classroom

Interesting Finds

<https://pin.it/tT6Mkfu>

Family or Parent-Child Activities

Building birdhouses

Make and fly a kite

Set up an obstacle course

Do a scavenger hunt

Take everyday activities (like mealtime) and add a little twist. See [attachment C](#).

I have done cooking, science, crafts, math, I prepare parents a week in advance of items needed. I use items that can be found in most homes. I have asked for a list of craft materials they have.

In our daily prek email, we included parent/child activities. 1 per day, sent on Monday as an attachment. [Attachment D](#)

Parent Considerations

Record videos of story time vs. live so parents that are working can choose a time to view that works for them.

Provide materials for projects. Assume that families will have markers, crayons, tape, etc, but not things like construction paper or poster board

We are trying work together with parents to reach all levels and all types of learners. Activities are optional. At the end of each lesson we ask an open ended question or give a task and ask them to post to our Google Classroom site. We have 26 out of 28 families participating.

Offer a variety of times for Zoom meetings. Parents working from home might not be able to connect their child at your preferred time.

One of our teachers started collecting recipes from parents to put in a prek cookbook.

Some parents have asked for enrichment paper packets weekly and we have sparingly supplied families with these materials.

Lastly, I allow the parents to share information between the other parents so that their children could do more one-on-one social Zooms with their friends.

Parents as Teachers See [Attachment E](#)

Physical Packet

Coloring pages

I have made packets of activities every 2 weeks with activities.

We provided students with write and wipe folders, Jesus time booklets, sight word booklets, and science activities are also offered.

We provided a weekly packet (see [attachment F](#)) by preparing them, and putting them in boxes outside of our schools prek entrance.

Include craft supplies, bubbles, books, and stickers.

Mailings

We have been implementing a weekly theme for our students. Each week they receive a packet in the mail with a few fun activities included in their envelope. Cutting practice, number game, letter recognition, things like this that are themed based.

Send your students a flat teacher. Ask children to share photos of your adventures with you.

Our aides helped by mailing two postcards per child during May

Saint Paul hosts a tot open gym each month. We mailed an apple theme tot pack through the mail, and invited them to a weekly music and movement zoom

<https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/The-Flat-Teacher-Project-Poem-5493320>

Survey Questions

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8lZbdT4J6zVB3yfnjIVFh0UFYwYLgQUnakj_nrt38pDQ9w/viewform?vc=0&c=0&w=1

Ending the School Year

The week of May 25th, we will join the 'big school' in giving students end of the year gifts, certificates, progress reports, summer packet work, and any additional class materials they may need. (this will all of course be done safely; all teachers will wear masks and it will be in a drive through fashion)

As for end of the year testing, we decided as a staff it would be too difficult and inaccurate should we 'zoom' test each student. We usually commit the final month of school to observing students for spring progress results. This year, we and the parents are working together to write narratives on any items their child may 'GLOW' and need to "GROW" in. See [Attachment G](#).

Also, this year, we unfortunately were unable to perform our spring program. We are using videos and pictures (we previously took) to put together each class singing their song they would have 'shined' for on the stage.

We typically have our Spring Program and slide show in May. To celebrate our year, each teacher created their own slide show in Power Point and then save it to a flash drive for each child.

Potential E-Learning for the Fall

The NID office gathered a task force to discuss and research ideas for a Reopen Report that will give churches, schools, and early childhood centers. Watch emails from the NID with this report.

When children are allowed to go back to school, we are considering still offering e-learning to families that might not want to send their child to school (we think this might be our half-day students more than full-day). For the e-learning group, we may host some one-hour sessions on our early childhood playground with small numbers of students at one time. We think we'll need a designated staff member to manage e-learning. It is possible that preschools in the area will not offer both. This might be a good marketing opportunity to get more students into our programs.

We are considering adding a portable sink to our prek lobby. This will give children a chance to wash their hands before even entering the classrooms. A lobby sink also gives an image to parents that we really care about our student's wellbeing.

Transitioning children back into school could be emotionally and socially challenging. Consider doing a home visit for each child. This could be a visit on the front porch, or in a family's backyard.

Tell parents what your school/center is doing to provide a safe and healthy environment.

The NID school newsletter from May 7th has a link to this article:

<https://www.npr.org/2020/04/24/842528906/what-it-might-look-like-to-safely-reopen-schools>

Look at the CDC for resources for schools and childcare programs:

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-schools.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fspecific-groups%2Fguidance-for-schools.html

CDC checklist for parents & checklist for teachers:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/checklist.html>

The CDC website has 'Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open'. Consider implementing some of these strategies for opening in the fall:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html>

For example:

Keep classes with the same group each day. Avoid bringing two groups together for things like gym, music, or outdoor play.

Keep naptime mats/cots spread out as much as possible

Stagger arrival and drop off times. Consider 'curb side' drop off.

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