

Chapter Seven

Technology Choice

Companion Materials

Resources for Exploring Student Choice and Technology Integration This resource hub offers curated tools and ideas to help you bring meaningful choice and technology into your instructional practice. Explore the links and categories below to enhance your planning, promote student engagement, and support diverse learners.

1. Strategies for Student Choice

- [9 Ways to Provide Choice in Your Classroom](#)
- [How I Use Choice Boards to Increase Student Engagement](#)
- [What Giving Students Choice Looks Like in the Classroom](#)

2. Curriculum Resources

Literacy & ELA Tools

Building strong literacy skills requires flexibility and diverse resources. Here are some digital tools and ideas to support all types of readers and writers:

- **Virtual Libraries:** Virtual libraries can be created in Google Slides and then published to the web for students to easily access. Many free websites offer books, like [Project Gutenberg](#) and [Epic!](#). Online [videos](#) can teach you how to create your own virtual library, and [Ms.M](#) offers several virtual libraries.
- **Virtual Audiobooks:** Offering audio versions of books is a great way to cater to many learners. Audio books can be found on resources such as [Hoopla](#), [Libby](#) and [Audible](#). You could also include books read by yourself, or others, on YouTube.
- **Virtual Literature Games:** Games such as [LetterQuest](#) and [Scribblenauts](#) offer opportunities for students to master spelling and vocabulary, and there are [dozens of other games](#) for learning such as online [Scrabble](#) or [Wordle](#).
- **Virtual Choose Your Own Adventures:** As established, choice empowers students. If you can offer hesitant readers access to digital adventures, they may enjoy reading more than they realized. [PBS Kids](#) offers storytelling games, and there are resources to both find and create ["Pick-a-Path" stories](#).
- **Virtual Lessons:** There are dozens of online learning softwares to teach ELA skills. Check out this list from Common Sense Media of the [10 Best ELA Tools for Elementary School](#) for fun ELA lessons and games to teach K-5 learners.

Mathematics Resources

Encourage conceptual understanding through exploration and problem-solving, digital tools, and virtual manipulatives:

These are a great way for them to try out their ideas or get hands-on with their learning. Virtual manipulatives are virtual, so students can complete and learn tasks without needing supplies. This helps greatly for learning at home!

- **Virtual Manipulatives:** These are a great way for them to try out their ideas or get hands-on with their learning. Virtual manipulatives are virtual, so students can complete and learn tasks without needing supplies. This helps greatly for learning at home! [Toy Theater](#) has a lot of good virtual resources and games, and their [Virtual Manipulatives page](#) has a lot of tools including counters, place value mats, money, fraction strips, and more. [Math Learning Center](#) is another site that offers a number of good math manipulatives for students to explore and solve problems with including geoboards, number frames, and a number rack.
- **Virtual Lessons:** There are more online math softwares than could be listed in this text. [Illuminations](#) offers free lesson plans for teachers and games for learners. [Khan Academy](#) offers free video lessons and personalized learning resources for individual learners. [SplashLearn](#) offers fun Math lessons and games to teach K-5 learners.

3. Interactive Tools & Exploration

- **EdSurge Product Index**
<https://www.edsurge.com/product-reviews> Discover reviews, product features, and implementation ideas for thousands of EdTech tools.
- [Spruce up Your Centers with Technology](#)- Ideas for enhancing traditional learning stations with digital tools.
- [20 Ways to Ditch That Textbook in K-2](#)- Practical strategies for replacing static materials with interactive, tech-infused learning activities.

Tracking Student Progress with Technology

Using free Google tools can simplify the collection and analysis of student data:

- [How to Track Student Progress with Google Sheets](#) – Techy Coach (YouTube)
- [Tracking IEP and 504 Accommodations with Google Forms](#) – Teacher Blog Example

4. Videos & Media

- "How Students Make Meaningful Choices in Learning" – Edutopia
https://www.edutopia.org/article/giving-students-choice-classroom/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- "Using Choice Boards to Increase Student Ownership" – Teaching Channel
https://www.teachingchannel.com/k12-hub/blog/choice-boards/?utm_source=chatgpt.com
- "Technology Integration Models: SAMR & TPACK Explained"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SC5ARwUkVQg>

5. Templates & Checklists

- **Digital Choice Boards: Editable Templates**
https://wakelet.com/wake/R_2ifDZ_JwUdr4A56dfbx

6. Recommended Reading

- Schmid, R. F., Bernard, R. M., Borokhovski, E., Tamim, R. M., Abrami, P. C., Surkes, M. A., Wade, C. A., & Woods, J. (2014). The effects of technology use in postsecondary

education: A meta-analysis of classroom applications. *Computers & Education*, 72, 271–291. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0360131513003072?via%3DiHub>

- Shi, Y., Tong, M., & Long, T. (2021). Investigating relationships among blended synchronous learning environments, students' motivation, and cognitive engagement. *Computers & Education*, 168, 104193. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0360131521000701?via%3DiHub>