

Resources for Children’s Literacy Tutors

Summer Reads



Title: Apps, Websites and Podcasts for Virtual Tutoring: PreK–Middle School Youth

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Target audience: Elementary school children; Preschool children; Middle school youth

Topic(s):

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Advocacy | <input type="checkbox"/> Fluency | <input type="checkbox"/> Phonics | <input type="checkbox"/> Vocabulary |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alphabetics | <input type="checkbox"/> GED | <input type="checkbox"/> Pronunciation | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteer |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Citizenship | <input type="checkbox"/> Grammar | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reading | Management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College Prep | <input type="checkbox"/> Job Skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Speaking | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Writing |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comprehension | <input type="checkbox"/> Listening | <input type="checkbox"/> Spelling | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Culture | <input type="checkbox"/> Math | <input type="checkbox"/> Standards Aligned | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Enrichment | <input type="checkbox"/> Navigation | <input type="checkbox"/> Teaching Techniques | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> ESL | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-to-One Tutoring | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technology | |

Format:

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Instructional Kit | <input type="checkbox"/> Video |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Curriculum | <input type="checkbox"/> Lesson Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> Worksheet |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Handout | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tutor Tip | |

About Summer Reads:

This children’s literacy tutor resource was created by Summer Reads VISTA members. Summer Reads is an [AmeriCorps VISTA national service](https://www.americorps.gov/vista) program of Literacy Minnesota. For 8 weeks over the summer, Summer Reads VISTA members volunteer full-time as children’s/youth literacy mentors in schools, libraries and out-of-school-time programs across Minnesota. They bring literacy to life for low-income students through a variety of activities – one-on-one tutoring, creative enrichment activities like using arts and drama to explore language or practicing vocabulary and comprehension in science and other subjects. They also connect students and parents/caregivers to community resources through wrap-around basic needs support. At the same time, the VISTA members build their own leadership, explore career paths, pay for college and become lifelong advocates for the communities they serve due to the power of their experience. www.literacymn.org/summerreads

Apps, Websites and Podcasts for Virtual Tutoring Pre-K through Middle School

For online learning, it can be hard to get and keep students engaged. Online resources can help the learning process be more fun and allow students to practice on their own, if they want. There are three subgroups below that have the different resources for Pre-K through elementary, middle school, and high school.

Also, if some of the resources will need subscriptions or you may need to purchase them. Especially for the subscriptions, contact a teacher, principle, or someone from your school and see if the school already has a subscription to it. It will save you money and still provide you the same service. You can work with a group of families to pay for a subscription, so it is not as expensive. If you and a group decide to do this, is if you can access the program or app on multiple devices.

Here are some of the resources that students in Pre-K through Middle School would benefit from. The lists below tell what are some key words or summaries that describe the app, what the price is, and what devices the app is compatible with.

Apps

[HOMER](#)

Summary/key words: Personalized learning and reading activities for the child's age. Also, there are similar apps through Homer that focus on different parts of reading like HOMER Reading: Learn to Read, HOMER Reading & Stories, and HOMER Stories: Kids Library.

Ages: 2-8

Price: 7.99/month and has a free 30-day trial

Devices: Requires iOS 9.0 or later for any computer, iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch

[Endless Alphabet](#)

Summary/key words: Helps with learning ABC's and building vocabulary. There is [Endless Reader](#) (Free) and [Endless Wordplay](#) (Free + in-app purchases).

Ages: 4+

Price: \$8.99

Devices: Android, iPhone, and iPad

[Metamorphabet](#)

Summary/key words: It is a fun way to learn the alphabet.

Ages: 4+

Price: \$4.99

Devices: Android, iPhone, and iPad

[Reading Raven](#)

Summary/key words: It has varied lessons for children based on their age. There is Reading Raven Vol 2. Both versions are available in HD.

Ages: 4+

Price: \$2.99

Devices: Android, iPhone, and iPad

[SimpleMind](#)

Summary/key words: Helps with organizing what you want to write.

Ages: 4+

Price: Free

Devices: iOS and Android

Online Activities and Programs

[ABCmouse Early Learning Academy](#)

Summary/key words: It offers reading, math, science, and art activities for kids. There are 10 levels total with about 850 lessons for students to go through. It also includes letter recognition, phonics, rhyming words and word families, digital library, sentence structure, and parts of speech.

Price: Free for the first 30 days; \$9.95/month

[Adventure Academy](#)

Summary/key words: Has activities for reading, math, science and more for kids. When it comes to reading, it helps with main idea and key details, comprehension, writing, spelling, etc.

Price: Free for the first 30 days; \$9.99/month; \$79.99/year

[BrainPOP](#)

Summary/key words: Covers many subjects like science, social studies, English, math, arts and music, health and SEL, engineering and tech, and new and trending. For the English portion, it has 4 units that include famous authors and books, study and reading skills, writing, and grammar.

Price: Free

[Headsprout](#)

Summary/key words: Individualized learning activities centered around reading development.

Price: minimum of \$209.95

[Reading Horizons](#)

Summary/key words: It is a reading curriculum for K-3 that focuses on foundational reading and spelling curriculum and grades 4+ reading intervention program.

Price: \$199

[Seekadoo](#)

Summary/key words: This is an online search engine for students to use.

Price: Free

[Time For Kids](#)

Summary/key words: It is a reading magazine for grades K-6. There are online and print version that you can get access, too.

Price: Digital \$4.50; Digital and Print version \$4.95

[RV AppStudios](#)

Summary/key words: It is a website that has resources to other educational games for children that you can download on your phone, tablet or computer

Price: Free

[iWriteWords \(Handwriting Game\)](#)

Summary/key words: Allows students to practice drawing their letters.

Ages: 4+

Price: \$2.99

Devices: iPhone and iPad

Online Printable Resources

[Clever Tykes](#)

Summary/key words: Activities, lesson plans, and chapter walkthroughs that connect to stories.

Price: Individual per resource

[edHelper](#)

Summary/key words: Printables and worksheets that are on the topics of literacy.

Price: basic subscription \$19.99/year and everything subscription 39.98/year

[Student Center Activities from the Florida Center for Reading Research](#)

Summary/key words: When you go to the website, click the grade that your student is in. Then decide which skill they need to work on. After clicking on the skill, it will give you pdf vesions of free downloadable activities.

Price: Free

[Trend Enterprises](#)

Summary/key words: Free Resources for at-home learning. The website also has other guides, tips activities, and much more.

Price: Free

Podcasts

[Podclassed](#)

Summary/key words: Reading Horizons has this podcast by Laura Axtell with a variety of topics.

Designed focus group: Teachers, educators, families

[Julie's Library](#)

Summary/key words: Read aloud stories

Designed focus group: Children ages 4+

[Stories Podcast](#)

Summary/key words: Read aloud stories and chapter books

Designed focus group: Children ages 5+

[Bedtime History](#)

Summary/key words: short bedtime stories that are centered around history

Designed focus group: Children 6+

Resources for Teachers

[Breakout EDU](#)

Summary/key words: It is a fun way for students to learn through games that align with standards.

Price: Teacher Membership \$199

[Lalilo](#)

Summary/key words: Creates personalized exercises for students (grades K-3)through research-based phonics and comprehension programs and it available for in-school and distance learning.

Price: Teacher Membership is free

[Literably](#)

Summary/key words: An online assessment for students reading aloud. The teacher then gets the results.

Price: Varies on number of students and the school district's plans

[ReadingIQ](#)

Summary/key words: An online website that has a digital library of leveled books for pre-K to 6th grade readers.

Price: Free for teachers

[Hand2Mind](#)

Summary/key words: Online website that has materials to help teach literacy and has grade specific materials for purchase.

Price: Things are in packages individually prices

Books

Ways to purchase good books:

- [DK books](#) is a website that organizes childrens' books

For purchasing cheaper books:

- Go to the app [BookBub](#) which will have books at a cheaper price every day
- On kindles, Apple products, and nooks there are free books that come with those accounts and devices
- [Scholastic](#) has \$1 books and is a good resource for purchasing books for any age

For donating books:

- Use the [BookMooch](#) to donate the books you have and receive the books you want

Online/app books resources:

- [Benchmark education](#)
- [Fabulinga](#)
- [Highlights for Children!](#)
- [Hoopla](#)
- [Inclined2Learn.com](#)
- [Kids Discover Online](#) is free online or \$4/month
- [Libby](#)
- [OneDrive](#) is most likely free through your local public library and school.
- [PebbleGo](#) is \$1299-\$2399. Ask your school if they already have a subscription to this website.
- [Vooks](#) is \$4.99/month

Other Online Resources:

Here are other websites that give more resources and information:

- <https://www.zaner-bloser.com/learn-at-home-literacy-resources.php>
- <https://www.readingrockets.org>
- <https://www.literacymn.org/resources-for-teaching-learning-digital-literacy-skills>
- <https://www.weareteachers.com/free-online-learning-resources/#elementary>
- <https://www.capella.edu/blogs/cublog/literacy-tools-for-early-childhood-education/>
- <https://www.originorkids.com/?p=564>
- <https://www.weareteachers.com/best-free-apps-for-students/>
- <https://growingbookbybook.com/great-podcasts-about-childrens-books-and-literacy/>