

Useful Google Chrome Extensions



Summer
2017





Are You Using Google Chrome Extensions?


Most of the technology you use in the classroom and in your professional practice should have two goals: transform learning and make life easier and more efficient. One of the best tools to help with these goals are **Google Chrome Extensions**, which we always describe as free extras that add functionality to the Chrome Browser. Extensions are found in the **Chrome Web Store**, where you can also find add-ons and apps.


One of our goals this year was to explore extensions more and develop a list of the essentials for education, to use both with teachers and students. We often share these during PD sessions and teach others how to install them and use them to make life easier in the classroom. We find that extensions get a lot of buy in from a lot of educators because of their simplicity to find and install, and their power to make complex tasks so much better.


Our Favorite Chrome Extensions...we think you'll like them too!


 **Adblock Plus**
Adblock Plus is the most popular ad blocker ever, and also supports websites by not blocking unobtrusive ads by default

 **Books that Grow**
Books That Grow is a leveled reading application with eBooks that adapt to each user's reading ability. It's a great tool for teachers to assign reading to their classroom, and be able to monitor student reading progress. Teachers can also set students to a suitable reading level. Books That Grow also allows the budding reader to sign up on their own to read diverse content at their level of comfort.


 **Crafty Text**
This extension allows the user's text to be displayed on screen on top of a web page in large type


 **Apps for Common Core**
Overwhelmed by all the Common Core Standards? Apps For Common Core gives you quick access to all Common Core Standards by grade level while saving you time by suggesting apps that solve those standards! Teachers and parents will no longer have to search for apps that help their children learn a particular standard.


 **Booktrack Classroom**
Booktrack Classroom allows students to read eBooks with a movie-style soundtrack, or to create their own soundtrack for any story, essay or other text. Students can also create and publish their own Booktracks, reading them on the web or on mobile phones and tablets.


 **Bitly**
Bitly lets you do more with your links. Instantly save, share and brand content straight from your browser to your Bitly account with the Bitly Chrome Extension.

 **ClassDojo**
ClassDojo helps teachers improve behavior in their classrooms quickly and easily. It captures and generates data on behavior that teachers can share with parents and administrators.


 **Cite This For Me**
Simply browse to the page you wish to cite and click the button to generate a correctly formatted citation. Then copy-and-paste the citation into your assignment, or add it to your online bibliography for safe keeping until later.

 **Black Menu for Google**
Quickly search almost everything google is capable of - get easy access to the most commonly used google services, available at any time.

 **Desmos Graphing Calculator**
Explore math with Desmos! Plot functions, create tables, add sliders, animate your graphs, and more -- all for free.

 **EDpuzzle**
EDpuzzle empowers teachers to make any video your lesson. Crop a video, explain it with your own voice and embed quizzes at any time

 **Blendspace**
Create digital lessons in 5 minutes! Engage your students and differentiate instruction by creating interactive digital lessons. Blendspace makes it easy to plan, build, and deliver a lesson by integrating content from YouTube, TES resources, your own files, and other digital media. Personalize your students' learning with free lessons!

 **Early Literacy Lite**
The AL - Early Literacy application has activities that are developed for students in pre-kindergarten through first grade. Each activity is geared towards understanding different fundamentals of reading while supporting the Common Core State Standards. The activities are designed to supplement and support an educator's course plan.



Technology Training Sessions

This summer, we are offering ongoing training sessions at the Technology Training Center to SCS faculty and staff. These training sessions are offered on a variety of programs such as SmartBoard, Promethean, Tech Tools, Achieve 3000, iReady and much more. To register, visit PLZ at: <https://shelby.truenorthlogic.com>. Click the calendar tab to view a full list of available trainings and dates.



...but wait, there's more!



Fluency Tutor for Google

Great for time-stretched

teachers, Fluency Tutor for Google makes reading aloud more fun and satisfying for students who need extra support. It's a big help for struggling and reluctant readers, as well as students learning English as a second language.



GoAnimate for Schools

Engage Your Students With

Video! GoAnimate for Schools makes it simple for teachers and students to make videos in the classroom!



Kaizena (Voice Comments)

Kaizena makes it easy for teachers

to give high quality feedback on student work - simply highlight and speak to give verbal feedback, or attach reusable resources for common problems.



Google Tone

Google Tone turns on your computer's microphone (while the extension is on) and uses your computer's speakers to exchange URLs with nearby computers connected to the Internet. You can use Google Tone to send the URL for any web page, including news stories, pictures, documents, blog posts, products, YouTube videos, recipes—even search results. Any computer within earshot (including over a phone or Hangout) that also has the Google Tone extension installed and turned ON can receive a Google Tone notification.



Polling in Google Slides

Poll Everywhere replaces expensive clickers with the audience's own mobile phones and devices, using either the web or SMS text.



PowToon Presentations Edu

PowToon is great for teachers and students. Over 10,000 teachers and students are joining PowToon every month to engage Students attention and animate difficult topics.



Google Translate

Highlight or right-click on a section of text and click on Translate icon next to it to translate it to your language. Or, to translate the entire page you're visiting, click the translate icon on the browser toolbar.



LastPass: Free Password Manager

Only remember one password - your LastPass master password. Save all your usernames and passwords to LastPass, and it will autologin to your sites and sync your passwords everywhere you need them.



Snagit

With TechSmith Snagit for Google Chrome™ you can take screenshots or screen recordings of anything on your screen including your browser, desktop, and applications you have running. TechSmith Snagit for Google Chrome™ will share your screen, so you can share your ideas and insights with anyone you'd like.



Grammarly

The free Spell Checker & Grammar Checker by Grammarly helps you write clearly and confidently on Gmail, Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn, Tumblr, and nearly anywhere else on the Web. With Grammarly, you can always be sure that your words are mistake-free and say what you mean.



OpenDyslexic

Open-Dyslexic is an open sourced font created to increase readability for readers with dyslexia. This extension overrides all fonts on webpages with the OpenDyslexic font, and formats pages to be more easily readable.



Storybird

Creative digital story-building tool for readers, writers, and educators.



iStoryBooks

Free books that read itself to your little ones! Yes the books include text and audio. We publish a new book every 2 weeks. Kids can enjoy these books on their own or you can read to them.



Padlet

Padlet is the easiest way to create and collaborate in the world. It works like a sheet of paper where you can put anything (images, videos, documents, text) anywhere, from any device (pcs, tablets, phones), together with anyone.



SpeakIt!

SpeakIt reads selected text using Text-to-Speech technology with language auto-detection. It can read text in more than 50 languages.

From Chris Yancy Your SCS Instructional Technology Analyst

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