The Collaborative for Inclusive Education

Transcending Boundaries through Family Literacy: An Exploration of ENL Learning and Teaching with Technology

By: Jasmin Cowin, Ed.D.
Touro College, GSE
jasmin.cowin@touro.edu
What comes to your mind when thinking about:

Transcending Boundaries through Family Literacy: An Exploration of ENL Learning and Teaching with Technology

https://www.mentimeter.com/app
A Guide for Parents of English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners in New York State

Community Organizations & Advocacy Groups

**Advocates for Children of New York (AFC) [https://www.advocatesforchildren.org/](https://www.advocatesforchildren.org/)**

Advocates for Children of New York is "dedicated exclusively to protecting every child’s right to an education, focusing on students from low-income backgrounds who are struggling in school or experiencing school discrimination of any kind."

**Atlas DIY**

Atlas DIY works on "Collaborating with young people to provide direct services in legal, educational, career and life skills realms, 2) Developing young people’s individual strengths and encouraging them to become community agents through a cooperative model and 3) Constructing an online hub of legal information and self-advocacy tools that youth across the United States can easily access and understand."

**New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC)**

The New York Immigration Coalition "aims to achieve a fairer and more just society that values the contributions of immigrants and extends opportunity to all. The NYIC promotes immigrants’ full civic participation, fosters their leadership, and provides a unified voice and a vehicle for collective action for New York’s diverse immigrant communities."

**New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU)**

The NYCLU mission "is to defend and promote the fundamental principles and values embodied in the Bill of Rights, the U.S. Constitution, and the New York Constitution, including freedom of speech and religion, and the right to privacy, equality and due process of law for all New Yorkers."

**Long Island Advocacy Center (LIAC)**

The Long Island Advocacy Center "is a private non-for-profit agency dedicated to protecting the legal rights of students and individuals with disabilities."

**Empire Justice Center**

The Empire Justice Center mission is "to protect and strengthen the legal rights of people in New York State who are poor, disabled or disenfranchised through: systems change advocacy, training and support to other advocates and organizations, and high quality direct civil legal representation."
Mobile Apps

https://www.parentschoice.org/product-category/mobile-apps/
Websites

https://www.bookshare.org/cms/

FREE for U.S. Schools and Qualified Students
Bookshare is free for U.S. K-12 public and private schools, colleges and universities, trade schools, Perkins School for the Blind, and Hadley School for the Blind to support students with reading barriers. Qualified U.S. students can also sign up for free personal memberships.
A bilingual website for families and educators of English Language Learners which is a project in partnership with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). It includes information about teaching English Language Learners.
www.readworks.org (Links to an external site.)

This reading website is a great resource for grade K-12th grade. It offers a great variety of reading passages on different topics and text genres. The reading passages can also be chosen based on the Lexile level which, is great for differentiating for your students. It offers the same passage in a less complex version. The passages all come with question sets for comprehension and vocabulary. This is great for ELLs because it offers the passages in a less complex version including audio for the students to follow along with. This is a great resource for upper-grade students since it provides relatable topics while still offering differentiated support. Here content for ELL’s https://www.readworks.org/find-content#!q:/g:/t:/f:0/pt:/features:ell/
This website offers older students and parents to pick a language of their choice and they are able to prompt to levels of categories where they can hear translations in the language. Duolingo is a great resource to use especially for, entering ELLs, in classrooms. Use this website for older students as a helpful tool to help in their English acquisition after a lesson. The best part of Duolingo is that the website offers different tabs on life skills such as shopping, people, etc. This is essential for ELLs and their parents to know and use on a daily basis. It’s relatable to them as a way to help build on their communication and pronunciation skills as they acquire English.
The Starfall pre-k and kindergarten website can be utilized by all students as well as benefit English Language Leaners (ELLs). ELLs can learn the letters of the alphabet in the English language as well as listen to the sound each letter makes. On the ABCs block, students can press the letter and listen to the sound as well as listen to words with the same initial sound. By using Starfall students are able to reinforce phonological awareness as expected in the prekindergarten reading standards. The students see visuals of each of the words represented and with support isolate and pronounce the initial sound which also expands their English vocabulary.
LiteracyCenter.net emphasizes the importance of home language learning. The website is geared to preschool aged children but is also geared to English language learners in Kindergarten.
Reading is Fundamental website

https://www.rif.org/literacy-central/search/field_support_type/video-935?query=read%20aloud&field_themes=All&type=All
This site provides over 400 fun and educational games for grades PreK through 6.

Use a CCS: L.3.2: Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English capitalization, punctuation, and spelling when writing.

ABCYA
https://www.abcya.com/about/
RL.2.1: Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, why, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

ABCYA
https://www.abcya.com/standards/
Top ten free tools used in middle schools

Spaceteam ESL

Chaotic game offers silly yet novel way to practice English vocab

**Bottom line:** An irresistibly fun way for ELLs to practice high-frequency English vocabulary, but as an app it's a bit rough around the edges.

https://www.commonsense.org/education/top-picks/10-great-free-websites-for-middle-school

Middle school is an opportune time to expand students' horizons, and plant the seeds for critical thinking skills and content knowledge that'll propel them to success through high school and beyond. On this list, we've narrowed down the huge market of edtech out there for grades 6-8 to ten great choices free across just about every subject area. You'll find tools for literacy, math, science, social studies, arts, and creation. Each pick and this list is both highly-rated and deep, offering resources and experiences that can go the distance in your classroom and beyond. Looking for more resources for the middle school classroom? Be sure to check out [10 Great Games for Middle School](https://www.commonsense.org/education/top-picks/10-great-free-websites-for-middle-school).
Open Educational Resources
https://www.oercommons.org/

Materials Types
Activity/Lab (11256)
Assessment (3039)
Case Study (928)
Data Set (1186)
Diagram/Illustration (5951)
Full Course (3586)
Game (434)
Homework/Assignment (1442)
Interactive (2681)

Lecture (6218)
Lecture Notes (1513)
Lesson (1917)
Lesson Plan (10756)
Module (3056)
Primary Source (3633)
Reading (8806)
Simulation (1150)
Student Guide (303)
Syllabus (1072)
Teaching/Learning Strategy (2789)
Textbook (1690)
Unit of Study (1520)
Poly - Explore the world of 3D, Virtual Family Fieldtrips

https://poly.google.com/
Using Virtual Field trips one can assign various excursions
The Collaborative for Inclusive Education

Transcending Boundaries through Family Literacy: An Exploration of ENL Learning and Teaching with Technology

By: Jasmin Cowin, Ed.D.
Touro College, GSE
jasmin.cowin@touro.edu
drcowinj@locationindependentteach.org