Google Terms Glossary

Here are some quick descriptions of the most common education technology tools your student may be using, with links and tips to help make getting started fast and easy.

Google Workspace for Education Core Services and Chromebooks

Rest assured your learner and their school account data is protected with Google Workspace for Education Core Services and the Chromebooks used in the classroom. These tools are private, ad-free, and support rigorous local, national, and global privacy and security standards.

Tool	Definition
Chromebooks powered by ChromeOS	Chromebooks are secure, simple, and powerful devices that update automatically and enable access to all of the Google Workspace for Education tools. Chromebooks are available as tablets, laptops, and more. And they have accessibility tools, an emphasis on security, and features designed for learning. Parents and guardians can use Family Link to block apps on Chromebooks, set screen time limits, and manage their student's personal and school Google Accounts.
Google Workspace for Education	Google Workspace for Education is a suite of easy-to-use tools that help school communities improve productivity, collaboration, and class management. It includes popular tools like Gmail, Google Classroom, Docs, Google Meet, and Drive, enabling educators and students to connect, provide and receive feedback, access classwork, and more in a secure digital learning environment. **Continue reading to discover more Google Workspace for Education Core Services.**
Classroom	Google Classroom is where teaching and learning come together. It helps educators create engaging learning experiences they can personalize, manage, and measure, and it's where your student can find their assignments, grades, and feedback – and communicate directly with their teacher. Guardians can opt in to Classroom guardian email summaries to keep up with your student's progress.
Meet	Meet is a secure video conferencing platform where teachers can host or record classes and hold parent-teacher conferences, office hours, and virtual field trips. With advanced safety and moderator controls, educators can manage meetings and keep students safer. With accessibility features like translated captions, automated transcription, and multipinning, more students can meaningfully participate.

Tool	Definition
Docs, Sheets, and Slides	Using Google Workspace tools like Docs, Sheets, and Slides, your child can create documents, spreadsheets, and presentations that they can share with others, receive feedback on through comments, and edit in real time. And best of all – work is saved automatically in Drive.
Forms	Forms are often used by teachers for creating quizzes, parent feedback surveys, or even field trip forms. Your child may also use Forms for in-class activities like creating a poll or sending out a survey to their class.
Drive	Drive is your child's virtual backpack, where they can hold all of their assignments, projects, and notes online. It saves automatically, can be shared with others, and is accessible from any device – all they have to do is sign in to their school Google Account.
Calendar	Each class in Classroom has its own calendar, which helps your child know when assignments are due and when they have upcoming events. Teachers can also use Calendar to create appointment slots to meet with students or hold parent-teacher conferences.
Sites	Teachers can create Sites to share curriculum, learning materials, and class announcements and to post easily viewable class schedules. Teachers can also add announcement banners on their Sites to share updates with families and guardians.
Assignments	Assignments connects Google Workspace for Education to your school's learning management system (LMS). Within their LMS, students and teachers can use Google tools like Docs, Slides, and more to submit classwork and view grades. Administrators can also use this tool to maintain records and data.
Read Along	Students can access Read Along right within Google Classroom to build independent literacy skills. Teachers assign stories based on a story's selected grade level and an in-app reading buddy, Diya, gives students real-time feedback on their pronunciation. Read Along also uses gamification to engage and inspire, and provides educators with auto-generated insights into student progress.

Additional learning tools from Google

For learning at home, Google provides tools for parents and guardians, who know best what their child needs. These tools are different from our Core Services mentioned earlier that your student may use in school. With these tools, families can help kids explore the web in a safe way at home and support their digital well-being.

Tool	Definition
Google Search	Google Search helps learners easily find information and deepen their understanding of tough concepts. When your student searches for a homework problem, Google Search connects them to possible explanations and resources to help them reach a solution. Google Search also has a 3D and augmented reality (AR) feature so students can get in-depth looks at body systems, animals, and more.
Google Lens	Lens lets learners search what they see. Use your camera or an image to identify plants, animals, and landmarks. Lens can even help translate written words or help with homework problems.
Be Internet Awesome	Be Internet Awesome is a collection of guides, activities, and games that can help teach kids the fundamentals of digital citizenship and safety so they can explore the online world with confidence.
YouTube Kids	The YouTube Kids app provides a more contained environment that makes it simpler and more fun for kids to explore on their own. With YouTube Kids, parents and guardians can easily guide kids' journeys as they discover new and exciting topics on YouTube.
Google Arts & Culture	The Google Arts & Culture app lets learners view the collections of over 2,000 museums, art galleries, and other cultural institutions – no matter where they are. It can also transport students around the world with Google Street View tours of over 1,000 historical and cultural sites and more.

Google also partners with organizations like Common Sense Media, ConnectSafely, and Family Online Safety Institute to help guide families in protecting students online.

Want to learn more?

Access learning resources for home, school, and beyond:

Guardian's Guides to Google Tools | Family Link | Google Safety Center