



The Back-to-School Checklist for Your Educators

It's that time of year again! Prepping for back-to-school. But this year holds new challenges, especially learning recovery, as many students return to the classroom and some teachers plan for a hybrid school year. To make planning easier—regardless of environment—we've outlined a few key resources and tools all educators can rely on to accelerate learning and reach all students.

1. Timely, Relevant Content + Useful Teaching Tools All in One Place

There is a universe of content out there that teachers and schools can use to support learning, but it can be of varying quality, unreliable, hard to find, or difficult to incorporate. Educators are struggling to juggle so many resources and tools, pulling focus away from instruction and their students. No matter what the subject or how students learn, [teachers need one place](#) to find vetted, attention-grabbing content and reliable tools to design interactive learning experiences that spark curiosity, make daily quizzes and discussions more engaging, and find embedded supports that give all learners their “light bulb” moment.

2. Ready-to-Use Activities and Research-Based Strategies to Save Time and Give Them New Inspiration

Even after embracing all the benefits of digital tools, teachers remain some of the busiest professionals in the world. Every minute counts. That's why it's vital that we limit the intimidation and friction for educators between introducing a new instructional technique and seeing that spark of interest in students.

Instead of starting from scratch, teachers can use ready-to-use activities—like those found in the Discovery Education learning platform—that combine the best high-quality content with research-based SOS Instructional Strategies ([get a sneak peek](#) of one of these strategies here). With Discovery Education activities, educators can:

- Use them for quick turnkey assignments or customize them in in Studio to fit the needs of their students and their classroom.

- Take advantage of lesson starters, background builders, curiosity builders, and more to jumpstart daily instruction and keep students engaged throughout the day.
- Easily find activities throughout Discovery Education content channels and in dedicated collections like Instructional Inspiration and the Student Learning Activities Channel.

3. Innovative Tools to Monitor Student Progress in Real Time

What we've experienced in the past year and a half has given us the opportunity to take a hard look at the purpose of assessments and how summative or formal or standardized methods may not always be the way to go. Instead, tools for formative and informal assessments at strategic moments in time can provide better, more accurate insight into a student's learning journey and help teachers take more strategic, impactful action when it's most beneficial for the learner.

For example, Discovery Education's Quiz feature gives teachers many creative ways to promote active learning and track student progress in real time. Features include:

- **Ask Live Quiz:** Teachers can ask interactive questions live and share responses through virtual meeting solutions—like Zoom, Google Hangouts, and Microsoft Teams—or in person to spark lively discussions and class participation.
- **Standard Quiz:** Check for understanding and student readiness with a range of question formats, from polling to open-ended, multiple-choice to image annotation.
- **Video Quiz:** Choose a video from DE's treasury of high-quality content, embed questions on the video viewing timeline, and assign in class.

Quiz results display in real time, by question or by student, so educators can take timely action, like gauge class participation and identify remediation needs, to ensure student progress. Teachers can find all the information they need, displayed the way they need it, to help guide instruction the very next day.

4. Equitable Resources to Accelerate Learning for All Students

We know how important it is to reach all learners, and the urgent need for instruction to adapt to specific student needs and requirements. Teachers need a robust collection of compelling, standards-aligned content that empowers educators with instructional resources that can be deployed to suit varied learning patterns and interests. This allows both your curriculum developers and teachers to select learning materials closely aligned to the makeup of your student populations.

With Discovery Education, students have the flexibility to learn at their own pace and level while exploring areas of their own interest and using exciting content to make relevant, real-world connections to in-class topics. Supports include:

- [Culturally responsive content and resources](#) to help promote inclusivity, like the African American Experiences Channel, *Equity Talks* collection, and the Dissent, Equity, and Inspiring Change Channel.
- Closed captioning, video transcripts, translation options, and text-to-speech to make learning more accessible to diverse learners.
- Additional strategies and collections that help teachers adapt content to specific student needs, such as the English Language Learners (ELL) Center, Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Center, and supports for Special Education.

5. One Secure Platform That Plays Well with Others

Now more than ever it's important to [consolidate and simplify your educators' and students' online experience](#) with the systems you depend on every day. New login methods like SSO or QR codes make accessing digital learning platforms effortless without compromising security. It's also important to look for deeper LMS integrations so educators and IT staff can easily merge content and resources into the workflows and environments you already have in place.

Luckily, there's already one place to find all these things and much more.

Meet the new Discovery Education. We're your daily learning platform.

Built around the amazing, timely content we're known for, it's one secure place you can rely on to create engaging learning experiences, closely track student progress, and gain professional inspiration—every day.

Take a Virtual Tour Today DiscoveryEducation.com/Educator-Checklist-Virtual-Demo