AFIRM — Autism Focused Intervention Resources & Modules | The National Clearinghouse on Autism Evidence & Practice — NCAEP • BRIDGING SCIENCE AND PRACTICE | CSESA — The Center on Secondary Education for Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders | The National Professional Development Center on Autism Spectrum Disorder: TESELA | Family Implemented TEACCH for Toddlers — TEACCH strategies that fit into your day

Access Learning Platforms

Schools offering remote learning options are using a variety of online learning platforms and tools. Each has their own set of procedures, specific to both the platform and the individual schools/sites. Several of the most used are highlighted below, along with some tips about how to ask for help if you or your child is having difficulty using any of them.

How to login to the site: Most online platforms require your child's school email address and/or a login or code set up by your child's teacher. If you do not know that information, contact your child's teacher so your child does not miss any material. Emails for teachers can often be found on the school's website.

Forgot login or password: On most sites there is a cue that will ask "Forgot your Password?" Click that link and it will allow you to reset the password. It is a good idea to keep track of passwords somewhere safe, like your Notes page on your phone, on a private Google doc, or in a notebook.

Device is not working: If the device is not working for some reason, then you need to let your teacher know if your child will miss a class session or an assignment. You can call or email if you have a phone available. Make sure the device is charged and plug it in if necessary (and remember to charge it each night). You may need to ask your child's teacher to connect you with the technology support staff at your school. Save that person's email address/phone number also. If it will take several days for your device to be fixed, let your child's teacher know so they can arrange another way to get materials to/from your child.
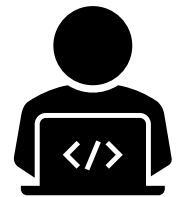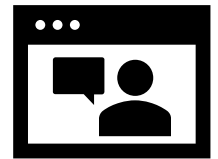
Resources include:
Tips for Online Learning
Creating a Safe Online Learning Environment
Joining Zoom
Joining Google Classroom
Joining Canvas
Educational Resources for Kids
Additional Resources for College Students

Tips for Online Learning

Students with autism may have varied levels of knowledge about accessing online learning, such as how to use equipment, and/or how to participate. Below are several basic tips to provide guidance in what is a new learning environment for many.

1. Use a desktop or laptop with a webcam.

2. Using a computer headset or earbuds will help to greatly reduce the chance for feedback and improve your voice quality.

3. Try to find a room by yourself with a strong internet connection. Do not work outside since wind blowing and other background noises could be distracting.

4. Close all other programs. They can interfere with the quality of the Zoom or other virtual platform sessions.

5. Remember that others will be able to see whatever is behind you.

6. A bright light source behind you, such as a window, will cause you to appear as a dark shadow. It is most helpful to have a light source in front of you—behind the camera.

7. Follow the teacher's directions for when it is time to be muted or unmuted.

8. Do not hesitate to check in with your teacher during their remote office hours if you have questions accessing learning platforms and assignments.
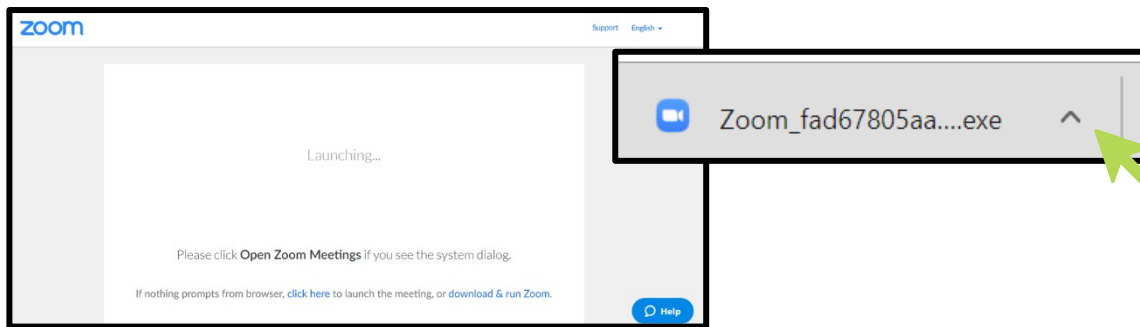
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Creating a Safe Online Learning Environment

Even if students are aware of their screen time limits and appropriate online behavior, internet access is very hard to manage. Simple web searches can accidentally result in mature content. It is unreasonable to expect that parents will provide 100% supervision of their child's online use, especially if they are also trying to work from home. This is why we recommend using the following tips to put parental controls on the devices children use for online learning, gaming, and socializing.
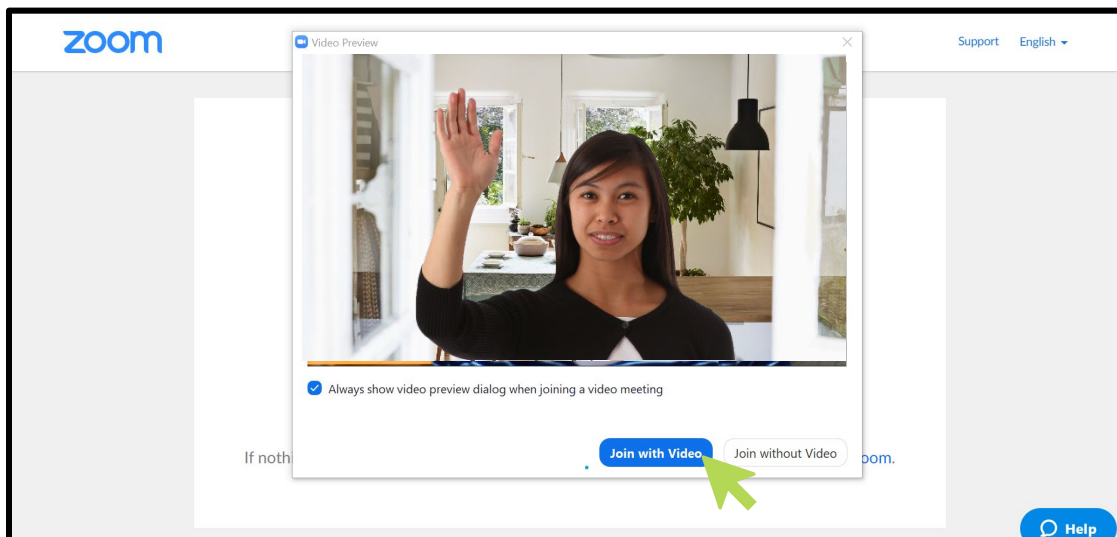
❑ Enable Google Safe Search in whichever browser(s) you use. Make sure that Google is the default search engine on that device and then turn on Safe Search to ensure your child does not see inappropriate content while doing Google searches for school. For younger kids, you may want to delete the default web browser and download a child safe app such Mobicip instead: **https://apps.apple.com/us/app/mobicip-safe-browser-parental/id299153586**

❑ All computer operating systems (Mac OS, Windows, Amazon Fire) have parental control settings. Make sure your operating system is updated to the most recent version. Set individual profiles for users on that device so that your child's profile is most secure. The settings apply to anything the computer accesses.

❑ If your child is particularly distracted by certain online content (e.g., games, searching topic of interest on Google, YouTube channels), you may need to block access to that content entirely during online learning. That may mean taking access to that content off the device used for online learning or blocking it during times that online learning takes place.

❑ Restrict screen time on devices. In iOS, use the Screen Time feature. On Windows 10 devices, use account.microsoft.com/family to set controls. This can also be done through router settings.

❑ Remember to set parental restrictions on app purchases, Amazon accounts, music/movie/game downloads, and other accounts before allowing your child to use a device.
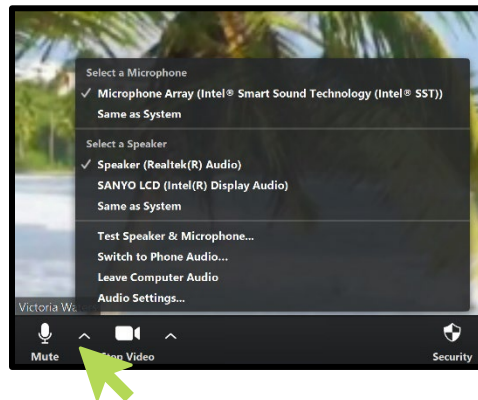
Joining Zoom

1. Click the Zoom meeting link from your email or online learning platform. Zoom should automatically open to download.
    i. If the download does not automatically open, you can right click the file and click *Open* to start the download process. Follow the prompts to download.

2. Test your audio and video settings
    i. Click *Join with Video* or *Join without Video*

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3. Your video screen will open. You can see the volume and video settings in the lower left screen.

    i. Click the *arrow next to the mute button* to select your microphone and speaker, test your speaker and microphone, and click for additional audio settings.
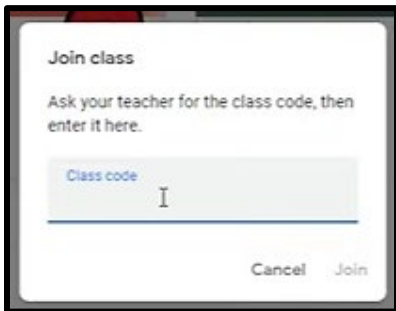

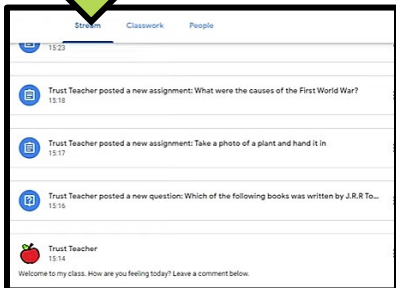| Resource	Description	Access
Zoom Support	Video instructions and additional information for various platforms (Windows, Apple, Android)	https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/201362193-How-Do-I-Join-A-Meeting-
How to Create a Zoom Account and Host a Meeting	Step-by-step screenshots with instructions for how to create a Zoom account and host a meeting	https://afirm.fpg.unc.edu/adult-resources

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Joining Google Classroom

1. Use **Google Chrome** as your browser and you may want to download the Google classroom mobile app.
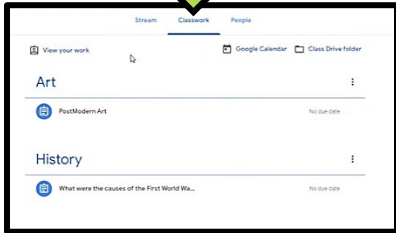
2. Login at classroom.google.com

3. Click *Join class* and then enter the class code if needed. Or click on your class name and click *Join*.

4. The **Stream** is your main source of information and will include announcements and assignment updates. There may be a question there for you to answer. Things you write in the Stream will show up for other students to read.
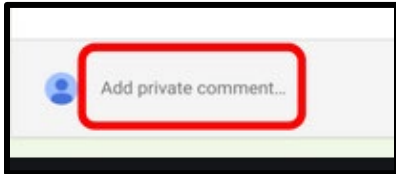
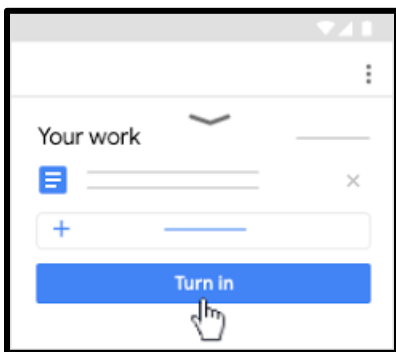5. The left side has your due dates for assignments.

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6. The **Classwork** tab has your assignments and questions from the teacher.

7. Some assignments will require you to attach a document or photo. Look for the *Add* button.

8. If you have a question or comment you ONLY want the TEACHER to see, make sure you choose *Private Comments*. Otherwise all comments will be seen by the whole class.

9. You must *Mark as Done* or choose *Hand it In* or *Turn In* when you are finished with assignments or questions. That is the only way your teacher will know the work is done.
   <u>*Note:*</u> Do not hit those buttons until you are ready to turn it in. You will not be able to keep working on it.

10. The **People** tab will show you who is in your class.
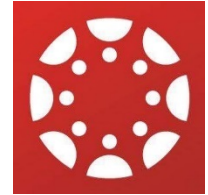

Helpful Resources:

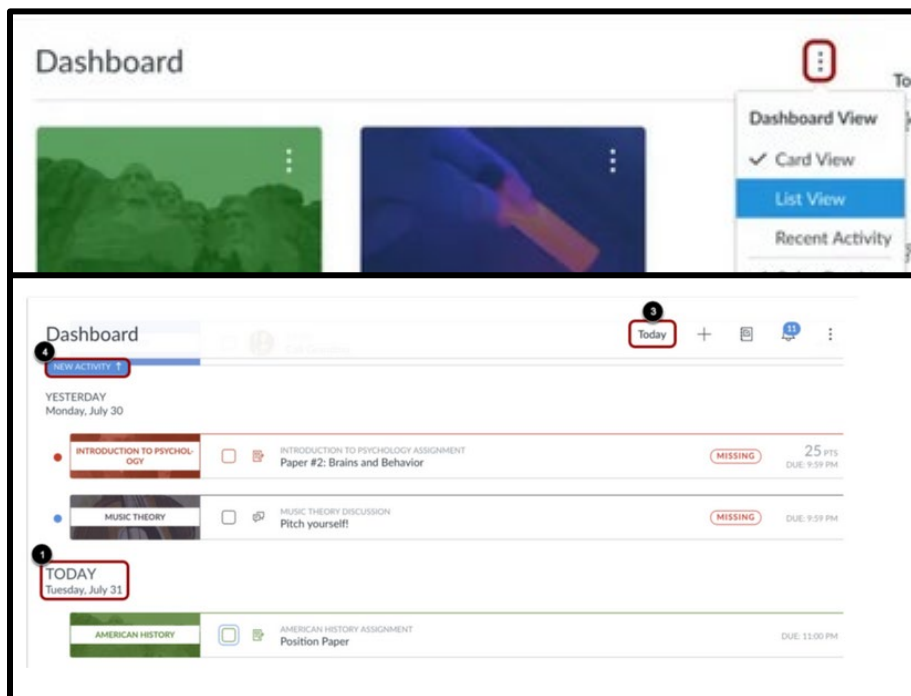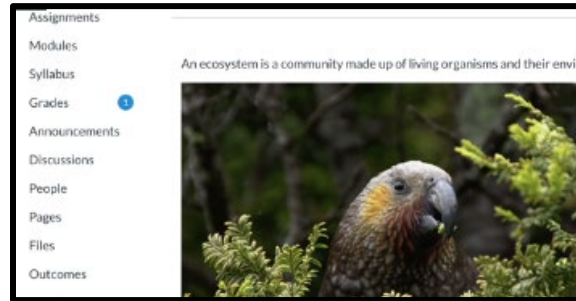| Student Guide to Google Classroom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qSxNLaWm74g	Submitting assignments to Google Classroom: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o4JeCTfhvnI
Student Quick Guide to Google Classroom: http://www.santeesd.net/cms/lib/CA01000468/Centricity/Domain/289/Student%20Quick%20Guide%20to%20Google%20Classroom.pdf	Google Classroom Cheat Sheet for Students: https://www.scusd.edu/sites/main/files/file-attachments/google_classroom_cheat_sheet_for_students_by_shake_up_learning.pdf?1585921875

Joining Canvas

1. **Do NOT** use Canvas with the Internet Explorer browser.
2. Your school should send you the link to login to your Canvas site.
3. Your first screen is called the **Dashboard**. It has a colored card for each of your courses.
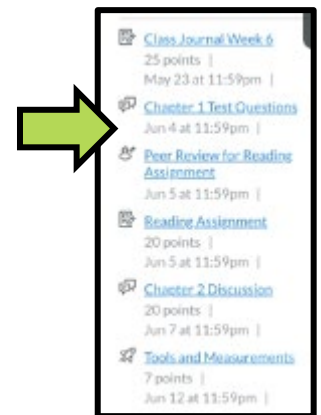   a. This view is called **Card View**.

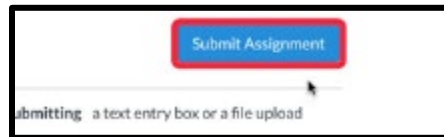4. Icons on the bottom of each class tile will take you to:
   a. Announcements
   b. Assignments
   c. Discussion
   d. Files
5. Choose **List View** to see all your assignments organized by due date. You can check these off when you are finished.

6. Use the **Inbox** feature to message your teachers with any questions.
7. Click on any course from the **Card View** to see the information for each class. Each course has tabs to help you find class content, syllabus, assignments, and discussion information.

8. Assignments are listed on the right side of the page also. Make sure you click *Submit Assignment* to turn your work in.

9. The grades tab will have your course grade information.

Helpful Resources:

Student Guide to Canvas Dashboard:	Canvas Tips for Students:
https://vimeo.com/channels/1325715/74677642	https://gcccd.instructure.com/courses/19248/pages/7-dot-1-canvas-tips-for-students

Educational Resources for Kids

Starfall

MathGames

Scholastic

NASA's Kid Club

PBS Kids Games

The Weather Channel: America's Science Classroom

National Geographic Kids

Google Arts & Culture

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PBS LearningMedia | UNC TV Public Media North Carolina [PBS Curriculum](#)	Khan Academy [Khan Academy](#)
Sumdog [Sumdog](#)	epic! [epic!](#)
Virtual School Activities VSA [Virtual School Activities](#)	FUN LEARNING for kids [FUN LEARNING for kids](#)
TEACH YOUR MONSTER TO READ [Teach Your Monster to Read](#)	originator [Originator](#)

Resources for College Students

General Resources:

Stairway to Step
https://www.stairwaytostem.org/students/
Stairway to STEM is an online resource for autistic students, their parents, and post-secondary STEM instructors. Our mission is to help autistic students realize their capacity for success as they transition to college environments and beyond. We support student confidence, resiliency, and self-advocacy.

College Internship Program (CIP) Comprehensive Transition Support for Autism and Learning Differences
https://cipworldwide.org/
CIPs internship and transition programs offer support to autistic students in college and connect them with job training and independent living opportunities and resources. Offering virtual programming.

College Autism Spectrum (CAS)
https://collegeautismspectrum.com/
CAS provides college counseling and work readiness services to autistic college students.

College Autism Network (CAN)
https://collegeautismnetwork.org/advocacy/typesofsupport/

Navigating College: A Project of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network
http://navigatingcollege.org/download.php

Time Management Tips for Busy College Students
https://www.purdueglobal.edu/blog/student-life/time-management-busy-college-students/

COVID-19 Resources:

NTACT Tech and No-Tech Resources for Transition/Pre-ETS
https://transitionta.org/system/files/covid19/No-tech%20to%20High%20Tech%20Resources.pdf

Coping During COVID-19: Strategies to Reinforce Executive Functioning Skills During Times of Change
https://autismspectrumnews.org/coping-during-covid-19-strategies-to-reinforce-executive-functioning-skills-during-times-of-change/

Autism Society Organization Coronavirus Information Series
https://www.autism-society.org/facebook-live-coronavirus-information-series/

Mount Sanai Resources
https://icahn.mssm.edu/files/ISMMS/Assets/Research/Seaver/AdultTeen-COVID-19-Resources.pdf

NTACT Peer2Peer Engagement Webinar and Resources and Tips for Supporting Teenagers and Young Adults in Virtual Peer to Peer Engagement
https://transitioncoalition.org/blog/webinar/social-media-youth-disabilities-covid/
https://transitionta.org/system/files/covid19/Social%20Mediums%20for%20Peer%20to%20Peer%20Engagement%20-%20May%205%2C%202020%20DRAFT.pdf

NTACT Employment Resources
https://transitionta.org/system/files/covid19/NTACT_at%20home_Employment_resources_4.10.2020.pdf