

A Guide to Using Apps Effectively in the Classroom



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"What's App" in Class?

UPDATING EDUCATION

Today's classrooms have gone digital! We now have tablets, smartphones, iPads, laptops, Kindles & Kobos, and many more portable devices to choose from. Many schools have embraced technology and have provided these devices to teachers and to students, as their budget permits. Some schools are also now allowing students to use their personal devices for academic purposes.

As a teacher, I have found that there are an infinite amount of ways to integrate technology into classrooms. Also, having the ability to check emails and stay on top of all my responsibilities in a normal (and always hectic) working day, at a busy school, helps me be more productive. Maintaining daily communication with school administration and parents has become a part of a teacher's job. For a teacher, the iPad has tons of apps available to keep all administration "paperwork" filed and organized, safe and secure, on one device (backed up, of course). For students who have iPads, if they are home sick or absent for whatever reason, the classroom can be organized on one of many apps where the student can retrieve the work for the day. With the iPad, teachers' prayers have been answered - no more excuses like "I was sick" or "I forgot my book at school" for not done homework, or "I left my textbook/work at home", for students who like to lag behind.



UPGRADING CLASSROOMS

Today, instructional technology should also be a regular part of a teacher's job, primarily because students today become *connected* to technology at early ages. While there are many options of instructional technology to choose from, I feel that Apple products, mainly the iPad and Apple TV, when used together in a classroom, has more to offer than other interactive whiteboards. Also, other interactive whiteboards, such as the SMART Board, are quite costly, whereas the iPad/Apple TV combination sells for a fraction of the price. Of course every school is different; some schools have one computer lab for the school to share, other schools may have lap tops for each student. I understand that each school has their own budget, but for the schools considering upgrading their education system and updating their classrooms now, the smartest and most cost effective decision would be the iPad and Apple TV. Some may say that the cost of apps will add up, however, I have done the research, and I can honestly tell you that there's a plethora of free apps and inexpensive apps out there. Even the bundled apps that come installed on the iPad can do a lot of good in a classroom. As well, there are also apps that can be fully customized to suit the needs of each class, teacher, or student.



This guide should help point out what the iPad & Apple TV setup can do in a classroom (which is EVERYTHING) and how easy the set-up process is, along with a variety of the many diverse and creative ways apps can be APPlied in the classroom.

"I THINK THEREFORE iPAD!"

The iPad, when used properly and effectively, can help keep both teachers and students organized, productive, and most importantly, keeps us connected to one another. The iPad can engage people of all backgrounds, in any language. It helps people communicate and express themselves, verbally and creatively. It is an extremely user-friendly device, making it a great learning tool for both teachers and students of all ages. The iPad is a powerful tool that offers endless possibilities for both teaching and learning. Whether the class only has one master iPad or each student has one, the sky is the limit. However, the most efficient and effective teaching and learning methods are implemented in the one-to-one (1:1) iPad classroom. As a teacher, it has bettered my working relationship as a facilitator to my students' learning because I can move around the classroom as needed or I can sit and talk with them.

Incorporating these devices into any classroom is not difficult, however, certain steps need to be taken in order to prepare each classroom accordingly. The school must ensure that there is proper internet access & safety, tech support, and IT support in place.



ZIP IT

Keep your personal stuff private and think about what you say and do online.



BLOCK IT

Block people who send nasty messages and don't open unknown links and attachments.



FLAG IT

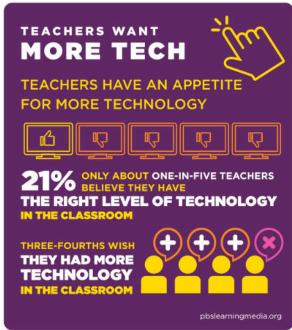
Flag up with someone you trust if anything upsets you or if someone asks to meet you offline.

"TO INFINITY AND BEYOND!"

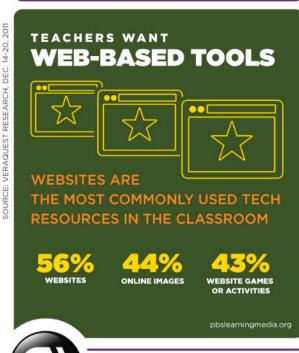
You can learn so much from your peers, and that goes for both teachers and students alike: exchanging ideas and resources, and sharing the various ways we can use iPads and Apple TV effectively in the classroom. While everyone has different uses for their Apple TV and iPads, the general method of use is pretty much the same. As sharing apps and tutorials via the iPad are becoming more popular, so is the Apple TV in the classroom. I believe that because Apple products are so simple and easily adaptable, there is more focus on the learning content then there is fidgeting with the device. Because the Apple TV can act like a mirror through AirPlay, any iPad, as of the second generation, or iPhone 4 or older, will let you wirelessly display your device's screen on a HDTV or projector screen that is connected to your Apple TV. And considering that mirroring works iOS wide, you can pretty much share *anything* you do on your iPad with your class.

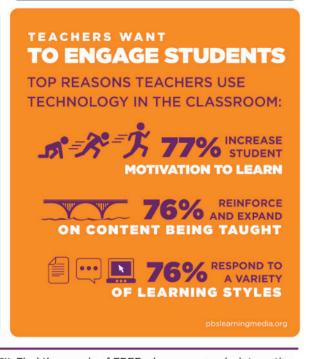


TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM: WHAT TEACHERS WANT











PBS Learning Media™ Find thousands of FREE, classroom-ready, interactive resources when you visit poslearning media.org

SIGN UP TODAY!

Old School VS. New School







Old School Books + Laptop = Heavy & Bulky iPad = Light & Compact

Old School Chalkboard = Dusty + Boring + Lifeless

iPad + Apple TV = Perfect Classroom Combo Digital + Colorful + Engaging = Fun Learning!

THE PRICE OF FREEDOM

You don't see SMART Boards in people's homes! Today's generation functions on portable devices, which a SMART Board is not. Apple products, which are mostly portable, such as the iPad and Apple TV, are seen in homes across North America, and all over the world. They can be purchased anywhere, at anytime (thanks to online shopping) and are meant for today's modern "average" Joe. Therefore, if the average home can afford it, surely schools can make some wiggle room in their budgets. Apple TV runs for \$99, which is less than the average DVD/ Blu Ray player, so you really can't go wrong, and a Netflix subscription doesn't cost much. Plus, once connected to wireless, the Apple TV can access YouTube videos, which has an abundant amount of learning resources available. Then adding the iPad into the mix enables the Apple TV to act with interactive whiteboard functionality, along with so many more **APP**licable options and learning opportunities.

The freedom that having the iPad and Apple TV combination gives teachers the ability to engage with students around the classroom because the iPad is cordless and portable. As well as being able to allow students to see their work side by side with their peers and to be able to have classroom discussions in a meaningful way, is invaluable. The Apple TV can mirror 6-7 iPads at one time, making it easier and quicker to share work. There are also many add-on accessories for the iPad that can be purchased for accessibility purposes, such as protective cases and carrying cases, as well as different kinds of stands, keyboards, speakers, etc. Also, each iPad comes with various accessories, such as earphones and chargers.

THE COST OF LEARNING

In terms of costs, the basic set up of an iPad/Apple TV classroom versus a SMART Board classroom is significantly cheaper. In fact, for the price of one SMART Board, you can buy 2-3 iPad/Apple TV set ups (depending on if purchased with or without the projector or TV screen).

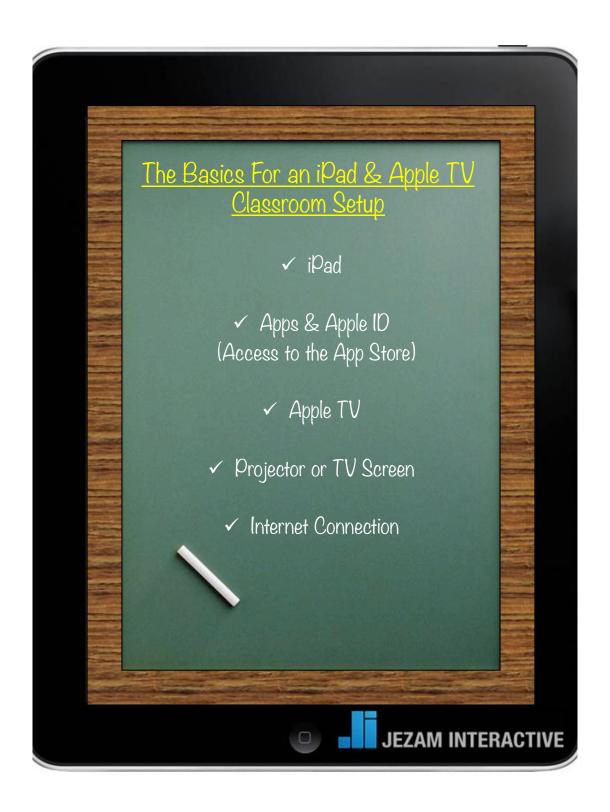
In terms of diversity, there is no contest. The SMART Board is just a glorified touchscreen/ projector without SMART programs, which are not necessarily cheap. While SMART Board comes with its own Notebook software which can produce some fun and engaging lessons, you are limited to using SMART technology and the internet. The Apple TV classroom can serve the SAME interactive white-board purposes, in addition to the wonderful world of the App Store.

When you combine Apple TV with a WiFi enabled projector (or TV screen) and an iPad, your adaptability of technology is nearly endless. You could use the Apple TV and iPad in various combinations to enable different types of activities. The best part is that you don't always need the whole system for functionality to be present. For example: You can stream Netflix or surf YouTube from the Apple TV projector and still have the iPad to use for something else... note-taking perhaps?

Apple Education Pricing

Faculty and staff of K-12 schools, as well as college and university students, parents buying for a college or university student, professors, faculty, and staff can take advantage of special pricing on Mac computers and Apple software for both individual and institutional use.



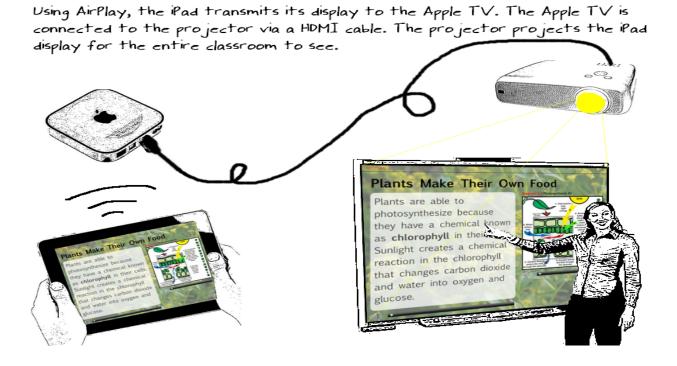


Classroom Set-Up



"IT'S AS EASY AS (APPLE) PIE!"

- 1.HDTV or a projector with a HDMI input. (There are add-on devices available if you do not have an HDMI enabled device for VGA input, which the majority or projectors and interactive whiteboards have.
- 2.A connection to a network. To connect the Apple TV to your network you must obtain the wireless key from your IT coordinator and simply enter that code when prompted (when you first plug in your Apple TV). If the set-up process has been done before, just go to Settings -> Network, and then enter the setup for a new wireless network.
- 3. Your school should be set up with a wireless plan with the appropriate bandwidth. If there's not a great plan, don't fret, there are still many ways to use these devices without the internet, but obviously internet access is optimal. Also, if you have a Mac, you can quickly create an AdHoc network to which you can connect your iPad and your Apple TV.



"There's an APP for That!"

APPLY YOURSELF

There are many apps that are made specifically for educational use and these apps are fantastic learning tools. On the plus side, there are also many existing apps that are not made exclusively for education, but can still be applied in the classroom and used for effective teaching and learning. What's even cooler is that you can customize certain apps to suit the needs of your class!

iTunes U (free), as well as other apps such as Touch Theatre, allows you customize the content on the app to suit your class needs. You can build and tailor your courses and lesson plans using the iTunes U app. And Apple makes it so easy for teachers to learn how to set up their courses on iTunes U, with education seminars available online, anytime, as webcast series.

Sure, the App Store may be overwhelming if you don't know where to go, but thanks to reference guides (like this one), teachers can discover which apps will suit their teaching needs and learning styles best. Yes, there is a learning curve when switching over to a connected, interactive classroom, no matter which route you take. However, teachers shouldn't be afraid to learn, as an integral part of teaching is keeping up with the times. And because Apple products are really user-friendly, it's not hard to learn the ropes. There are tons of websites, online forums, and video tutorials that can walk anyone through any issue that you might come across. Also, the most helpful tool of all is having a network of colleagues who are tech and app savvy.

iTunes U

Your courses. Like you've never been able to teach them before.

Now it's easier than ever to unleash the full potential of iPad in your classroom by creating your own courses for iPad. You get to share your ideas in a powerful new way, and your students get a rich, immersive learning experience using the iTunes U app for iPad. iTunes U is available no matter where you teach — at any college, university or K-12 school.



TEACHER APPRECIATION

The App Store is home to thousands of apps available, and while some apps are free and others are costly, they all have a purpose and suit needs of people all over the world. The best part of the Apps Store is that they are inclusive of all learning needs, featuring *Accessibility* apps for special education needs, offering apps for the audio and/or visually impaired, including a braille settings, as well as many other useful apps to choose from. The App Store has also conveniently compiled an *Education Collection* of selected apps that can help guide teachers in the right direction of the apps suggested for educational purposes. You will find helpful apps for all courses: English language arts (or any language), mathematics, science, history and geography, language development, as well as for art, music, and creativity. There are apps that are for referencing purposes, as well as for productivity and for collaboration. There are even apps for enhancing physical education, including Yoga apps for stress management and coping skills. However, as I already mentioned, there's a plethora of great apps that exist, not made specifically for education, that can be great additions to classroom learning activities - so don't limit yourself to the Education Collection section.

With the app store, there are no limits on potential. The iPad is such a powerful tool that literally put the world's accessibility within the reach of our fingertips. What's even more incredible is that Apple knows how valuable their products can be for education, that they offer Apple Education Pricing plans to schools and other learning institutions. As well, they have Volume Purchase Program plans available.

The Apple Volume Purchase Program

The Volume Purchase Program allows educational institutions to purchase iOS apps and books in volume and distribute them to students, teachers, administrators, and employees.*

How to Enroll

It's quick and easy to set up your organization for volume purchasing. First, designate yourself or someone else in your organization as the Program Manager. Then you can sign up Program Facilitators, which will allow them to make purchases.

If your institution is tax exempt, you will not be charged sales tax. The program also allows app developers to offer special pricing for purchases of 20 apps or more.

Enroll Now ▶ Frequently Asked Questions ▶



Here are some of my favorite examples of the various diverse and creative ways apps can be used for basic classroom needs, making the iPad, not just handy and useful, but also, the most efficient classroom tool available:

INTERACTIVE CHALKBOARD & WHITEBOARD APPS

There are so many apps to choose from to obtain interactive whiteboard (or simple chalkboard) functions. Explain Everything (\$2.99) is a great interactive whiteboard app that allows the teacher to annotate, animate and narrate the presentation and explanations that appear on the screen. By using Explain Everything, you can create dynamic interactive lessons, activities, assessments and tutorials that can then be shared via email or social network sites.

The Educreations Interactive Whiteboard app (free) functions as an interactive, recordable whiteboard that can upload any image as a background (great for maps for geography, etc), with the option to save and record the written lesson for playback or reference. Creating a video tutorial is as simple as touching, tapping and talking. This app is great for both teacher and students because any lesson can be shared email or social media and you can broadcast ideas from anywhere. Students can also create and share.

And if you're ever feeling nostalgic, you can still kick it old school style with the Chalkboard app, which is also a free app. The app turns the iPad into a simple blackboard (or greenboard) which can be clean or dirty. There is also the whiteboard or image upload options as well on this app. Chalk can be sized to suit your writing/ drawing needs and there's a variety of colors to choose from. All work can be saved and shared as well.





iREAD

In my opinion, iBooks is one of the most useful learning apps around, and the best part is - it's free and already installed on the iPad as a part of their bundled package. Displayed on the classroom screen, iBooks allows students to see teacher annotations and highlighting, which is likely to engage students more., as well as helping students who struggle or lose their place often to keep up. There are so many different ways that the iPad can be used as a reader beyond iBooks, as there are also apps for the Kindle, Kobo, Nook, etc, which are also all free downloads. Books can cost money, but there are also tons of free classics that can be downloaded for free. For PDF documents, iBooks will work too, and there are also many other apps which PDF can be viewed on, such as Evernote (free), which also functions as a word processor.

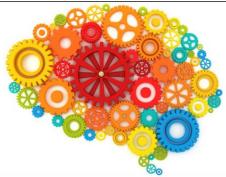






AND SO MUCH MORE...





The App Store features amazing educational apps that cover a wide range of subjects for a variety of levels and learning styles. Whether you're a student, teacher, or lifelong learner, these handpicked collections will engage you on academic topics of all kinds and inspire creative development in music, photography, and more. For teachers, they supply indispensable tools that will inspire students in every classroom.



Build early reading skills by playing, enjoying fun stories, and practicing the alphabet, phonics, and vocabulary.



From learning your 1-2-3s to testing your limits in calculus, these apps will help you study and play with numbers.



Explore the science behind our universe with apps about motion, electricity, and more. Plus, enjoy physics-based games.



Study the science of matter with apps to help you master the elements, atomic structures, and chemical reactions.



Musicians of all levels will enjoy these apps for music appreciation, theory, history, performing, and composing.



Get the right words on the page with excellent apps for storytelling, research, outlining, publishing, and



Whether you're experimenting in the lab or the backyard, these apps help explore biology, anatomy, and wildlife.



Put our world at your fingertips through maps, earth science, cultural perspectives, and world facts and history.



Travel the universe and our own planet with apps for learning the science behind the sky above and the earth below.



Study languages with apps for learning how to speak, read, and write Spanish, Japanese, French, Italian, and more.



Stock your classroom with innovative curriculum and productivity tools designed to engage learners of all ages.



The Best Way to Take Free Courses

Learn anytime and anywhere with complete courses from leading institutions and instructors.



Take music tools anywhere with this collection of the best apps for learning, practicing, and playing.



Explore the world of these magnificent prehistoric creatures with apps and games millions of years in the making.



Master English with apps for practicing reading, vocabulary, and grammar. Plus, browse dictionaries and translators.





A Few of My Favorite Classroom Apps...

CONCENTRATE

- ✓ Audio Note = notepad and voice recorder
- ✓ Dictation = voice recorder app to quickly transfer talk to text
- ✓ Show Me = record voice-overs to whiteboard tutorials
- ✓iBrainstorm = brainstorming ideas has never been more fun
- ✓iWriteWords (\$2.99) = handwriting practice games
- ✓ Sight Words 2 = games and learning activities for young readers
- ✓ Brain Pop Featured Movie = Educational, student-friendly videos & quizzes
- ✓ Math Academy = basic arithmetic practice for elementary students
- ✓ Math Drill Lite = Learn basic math skills through various drills
- ✓ CIA World Fact Book (\$1.99) = Information on history, people, economy, etc...
- ✓ Geo Master Plus = Geography tools
- √Tell Time = practice and master telling time
- ✓ Professor Garfield = important internet information for children
- ✓ Newseum = Today's front page headline news from all over the world
- ✓ Poll Daddy = create class polls, insta-quiz
- ✓ Diigo = all-purpose digital library
- ✓ Dropbox or Google Drive = cloud file transfer services
- ✓TED = videos of amazing people sharing fascinating thoughts and ideas









... A Few More of My Favorite Classroom Apps

CREATE

- ✓ Explain Everything (\$2.99) = annotate, animate, and narrate explanations and presentations
- ✓ **Keynote** (\$9.99) = advanced presentations for mobile devices (like PowerPoint)
- √Pages (\$9.99) = beautiful word processor with creative templates available, perfect for both teacher and students
- ✓ Voice Thread = great tool for projects and presentations
- ✓ Haiku Deck = stunning presentations for pitching an idea, teaching a lesson, telling a story or igniting a movement
- ✓ Idea Sketch = diagrams for any organizational chart
- ✓ SketchBook Express for iPad = art sketchbook
- ✓ Comic Book! (\$1.99) or Strip Designer (\$2.99) = make comic strips, storyboard, etc...
- ✓ StoryBuddy 2 = create, read and share multi-page stories
- ✓ LEGO Creationary = virtual Pictionary using LEGO blocks, Guess That Build
- ✓ Doodle Buddy for iPad = paint, draw, scribble, sketch, write, etc...
- √iBooth for iPad = photo booth for class pictures, student profiles
- ✓ Notability (\$1.99) = takes notes, annotation
- ✓Book Creator for iPad (\$4.99) = create your own beautiful iBooks
- ✓iPhoto (\$4.99) = create books, class calendars, etc...
- ✓ Flashcards & Quizlet = find pre-made flashcards and quizzes for almost any subject or Do-It-Yourself to customize your class needs







Creative Ideas for Using iPads in Your Classroom

- ✓ Do a VocabBattle, a helpful way to make learning your vocabulary fun, especially if you have multiple iPads at your disposal.
- You can 'write' an entire e-book via dictation. Just use the voice recorder and transcription tools to see how good a 'verbal writer' you are.
- ✓ Use SoundCloud to record students and then share their discussions with classmates.
- Become a news reporter and use an iPad to do everything from note-taking to photographs to multimedia production. Pages has a great newsletter template which could be good for weekly class updates, with a different reporter selected every week.
- Record an animal of your choosing and produce a short presentation in iMovie, Keynote, or Pages to discuss what you learned about the animal.
- ✓ Host an outdoor scavenger hunt and take pictures of the items you need to find.
- Do a show-and-tell with multiple pictures of things that are a long distance away. Now you can show interactive media, pictures, and video of objects that you never would have been able to show in the classroom. You could do this with family member as well if you're doing a few lessons about genealogy, family trees, etc...
- Conduct interviews, produce entire podcasts, record role play scenarios, and use iMovie to create and edit films. Also, create commercials for projects, digital stories about particular lessons you're teaching, and more using iMovie.
- Give the students questions and then have them find answers doing treasure hunts/ web quests.
- ✓ BON VOYAGE! Take students to Paris by taking them on virtual tour of the Louvre museum to see the Mona Lisa, or take them to Italy to see the Vatican and the Sistine Chapel. NOW, THAT'S AMORE!



THE TEACHER'S IPAD SPECTRUM

CONSUME

Monitor multiple twitter streams, hashtags, and @ responses via **tweetdeck**

Trace a character's journey in a work of fiction with **Google Earth**

Visualize how certain themes or motifs emerge from certain geographical regions, and infer the causeeffects relationships that may contribute to that with Google Earth

View presentations that model elaborate multimedia idea development with **Prezi**

Skim channels to identify non-obvious but "real" examples of "academic" ideasbias, straw man arguments, the scientific method at work, allegory, modern civil rights issues, etc. using **YouTube**

Listen to podcasts to gain context on an issue via **Downcast**

Practice math or economic problems as pure test-prep with **Khan Academy**

Take notes--and record lecture and group discussion sound--using CaptureNotes 2

COLLABORATE

Evaluate credibility of a website, blog post, or social media comment with **Skitch**

Haphazardly curate relevant tidbits or sources--and then collaboratively reorder content with **Pearltrees**

Plan necessary project details with **Wunderlist**

Peer-supported writing process with **Google Docs**

Connect with mentors or experts via **Twitter**

Collaboratively pin images of a competitor's design when mock-planning a startup via **Pinterest**

Backwards plan projects and related due-dates using **iCalendar**

Record group work daily for reflection, self-assessment, and digital portfolio curation with **Evernote**

Aggregate constant info streams to skim via **Pulse**

"Crowdsource" implicit themes or character development in the study of a novel with **Edmodo**

PRODUCE

Create "layered" documents that use hypertext to embed supporting sources or media with **Google Docs**

Create a concept map to explain the relationship between a YouTube video and the suggested **YouTube** videos

Collect visual evidence of a problem, issue, or event using **Instagram**

Demonstrate the spread of a philosophical idea using Google Maps

Create infographics that further expository writing where one form provides info the other struggles to using **visual.ly**

Liveblog a personal or academic event via **Storify**

Create photo collage to demonstrate impact of pollution, litter, or even genocide using **Diptic**

Create podcasts to communicate with parents (dates, projects, exams, learning targets) using **Audioboo**

Reflect on metacognitive progress through a unit or project using representative images via **flickr**

Edudemic.com

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<u>apple_tv</u>

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http://www.apple.com/education/itunes-u/

<u>iPads</u>: <u>General Technology:</u>

http://www.apple.com/ipad/ http://www.apple.com/ca/education/resources/

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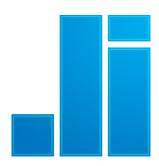
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