

# ONLINE LEARNING QUESTIONS

## A Guide to Thinking about Online Learning for Elementary Librarians

### A New Frontier

Facing a new reality where educators are working from home, I have collaborated with colleagues on how we can best connect with students and provide them the resources they need. These are initial questions that I have been asking about teaching elementary curriculum in an online environment. This is not meant to be an exhaustive list, but instead a core initial set of questions that focus on learning objectives, the technology in place, and communication using that technology. Which ones resonate with you?

### Learning Objectives and Content

- What are the essential objectives?
- What objectives that we typically teach may be considered secondary or optional?
- Where have resources—that are not currently available—driven our objectives? Are those objectives still essential?
- Where have activities—that cannot be currently duplicated—driven our objectives? Are those objectives still essential?

### Connecting and Communicating

- Where is a teacher-student communication essential for this specific piece of learning?
- Where is student-teacher communication essential for this specific piece of learning?
- Where is student peer-to-peer communication essential for this specific piece of learning?

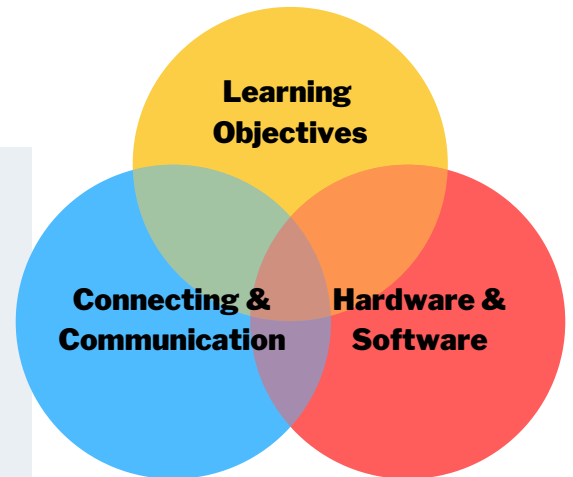
### Hardware and Software

- What is the existing hardware and software available to students?
- Does the software behave differently at home than it does at school (for example, passwords)?
- What available software are students already comfortable using?

# INTERSECTIONS

## Learning Objectives and Content + Hardware and Software

- Can objectives be taught with current software offerings?
- Are there low cost or no cost content offerings that are reliable and meet student privacy standards?



## Connecting and Communicating + Hardware and Software

- What are the opportunities and limitations when using the available hardware and software for:
  - Teachers to share information with students?
  - Students to share information with the teacher?
  - Students to share information with each other?
- Can students receive and share text, video, and audio?
- Can teachers share information in a “live” format and an asynchronous format?

## Learning Objectives + Content and Connecting and Communicating

- How and when can students communicate with the teacher or class to convey questions, frustrations, or understanding?
- How does student communication and responses allow for formative assessment, and help the teacher differentiate and support student learning?



### About the Author

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