Spotswood Primary Online Learning Resources for Learning at Home

As we continue our journey through Covid-19 and other illnesses, there may be times where your child(ren) are continuing their learning at home. We understand that learning at home will be very different from a normal day at school. We encourage you to support your child's learning in a way that is manageable for your family. For home learning to be effective, it is important that there are a variety of activities that are carried out in short time frames while also allowing for regular breaks. It is also important that during the day your child spends the right amount of time off their devices. As well as long breaks throughout the day.

Online Safety

As we continue to use online platforms for home learning, students' safety online is paramount. If your child's teacher is teaching at school while your child is at home, the teacher will not be monitoring your child's school account or online activity. Therefore, it is vital as parents/caregivers, that you monitor your child's online activity while they are at home.

Online resources for parents/caregivers

Common Sense Media - If you are interested in looking into more resources for home learning, this website provides 'best of' lists that includes carefully reviewed recommendations for learning apps, games and websites for your children. You can also use this website to find reviews for what your kids want to read or watch.

Netsafe and Digi Parenting provide information on how to keep yourself and your tamariki safe online.

Learning Websites

Below is a list of websites that might be useful in providing additional learning at home. Website content is constantly changing; therefore, we recommend that parents/caregivers check each website before allowing your child access.

The Ministry of Education Parents Page contains suggestions to support learning at home for years 1 to 8 in reading, writing and maths.

Learning From Home and Ki Te Ao Mārama are two websites from the Ministry of Education to support learning from home. The websites include resources for parents and whānau, teachers and leaders. Resources span the learning pathway from early years , intermediate, all the way to senior secondary.

TVNZ has partnered with The Ministry of Education to deliver educational, entertaining programming for our tamariki.

Literacy

Storyline Online is an award winning children's literacy website. It features celebrated actors reading children's books alongside creatively produced illustrations.

Kiwi Kids News is the news website for New Zealand students and teachers. Three or four relevant news articles are uploaded each day during term time.

Epic! We use this in all classes at school. You will need to sign up, it is free.

Funbrain Reading has a variety of popular books available to read online for free.

[Teach your Monster to Read](#) With the help of friendly monsters, playful design and out-of-this-world storytelling, we work with leading academics to create beautifully crafted games kids love to play. An adult needs to sign up but it is free.

Maths

[NZ Maths](#) is a Ministry of Education website that provides families with ideas to support the maths taught at school, as well as ideas to incorporate maths in everyday experiences at home.

[Math Playground](#) is an American website that provides web based maths games that cover a wide range of mathematical skills and levels.

[Funbrain Maths Zone](#) is another American website that provides fun, web based maths games. Times Tables is a great website for students to practice their basic multiplication facts.

[Khan Academy](#) provides video tutorials on a range of maths skills for Years 1 to 8.

Multiple Curriculum Areas

[BBC Bitesize](#) Years 0-6 and BBC Bitesize Years 7&8 are websites from the United Kingdom which provide learning on a variety of topics. Students can watch videos, then apply what they have learned through online quizzes and games.

[PBSKids](#) is an American website that promotes learning on a variety of topics through engaging online games.

[StarFall](#) is a website targeted at students in Years 0-2 and provides engaging learning videos and activities for literacy and numeracy.

Science

[National Geographic Kids](#) contains lots of fascinating facts, images, videos and games for young people to explore and find out more about just about anything!

https://www.youngoceanexplorers.com/ allows students to explore NZ's underwater world through videos and online activities.

[Nano Girl](#) has NanoGirl, Dr Michelle Dickinson, providing online science lessons for Kiwi kids. There is a subscription fee for this one.

[Kids World Travel Guide](#) is a site which helps children explore different countries around the world, through facts, games and news.

Fitness

[Go Noodle](#) has been a trusted website for use in schools for the last 6 years. They have now developed a free online resource for parents. It offers free movement, yoga and mindfulness videos, and off screen home activities.

[Cosmic Kids](#) has a variety of videos that use storytelling to lead young learners through yoga, mindfulness and relaxation activities.

[Les Mills Born to Move](#) helps children experience the joy and vitality of moving to music, combining fun and fitness in a way that children love.

Art and Music

[Incredibox](#) is a music app that lets you create your own music. You can add pre-recorded rhythms, melodies and effects to create a whole tune.

[TuneTrain](#) is a music creation app, where kids can quickly create and edit melodies through a fun line-drawing mechanic.

[Art for Kids](#) provides video tutorials on drawing, painting, origami and various other art topics.

Doodle Drawings has artist Mo Willems hosting doodle drawing classes on his YouTube channel.

STEAM

Scratch and Scratch Jnr are free coding websites where children can create stories, games, animations and much more. Scratch is targeted at children aged 8-16, while Scratch Jr is designed for children aged 5-7.

Code Spark is a learn-to-code app teaching kids the ABCs of coding. Designed for kids ages 5-9, there is no reading or experience required.

Tynker is another coding app that provides a fun way for children aged 5-18 to learn programming and develop problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Hour of Code started as a one-hour introduction to computer science, designed to demystify "code", to show that anybody can learn the basics.

Typing

Typing Club provides video tutorials and online practice to improve touch typing skills.

Dance Mat Typing is an online typing resource from the BBC that teaches correct hand placement and touch typing.

Languages

Duolingo is a language learning app that uses fun games to help students learn another language.

Speak Māori for Kids For a limited time, you can access our ever-increasing library of lessons and revision material without logging into an account! What's more, it works great on your smartphone or tablet.

Tōku Reo Each episode has its own relevant activities and exercises allowing people to practise and develop language skills. In each block of five episodes, viewers learn vocabulary based around a theme and small number of sentence structures.

Virtual Tours

San Diego Zoo has a website just for kids with amazing stories, activities, videos and games.

Denizen Museums and Art Galleries has access to online exhibits from a wide variety of museums and art galleries from around the world. _Parental discretion advised_ - some art gallery content may be inappropriate for children.

Earth Cam allows you to watch live and recorded footage of a variety of different animals in their natural habitats.

Edinburgh zoo Cam allows you to watch variety animals through a webcam. The website has lots of information about the animals that they have.

The Hidden World of National Parks - explore some of the USA's most beloved and beautiful national parks. The program also includes guided tours from park rangers, where they share their expertise as you explore. Follow the on-screen prompts and let them guide your adventure!

Access Mars – Allows you to view images and information that has been recorded by the Mars rover "Perseverance" .

Smithsonian Natural History Museum With a variety of virtual tours to choose from, the Smithsonian Museum of Natural History is full of ways to get students excited about learning. Students can watch narrated tours of different exhibits ranging from history and geography to the research stations in the museum.