

Tips for Engaging Students with Video

Consider the following list when using video with students and families. These tips are helpful whether you are interacting with students and families in real time, or pre-recording a video to be watched later.

- **Keep It Simple:** Shifting to a video conference platform is one of the easiest shifts for both students and teachers.
- **Shorter is Better:** Provide opportunities for students to interact with you and their fellow students. Provide engaging activities for students to do on and offline and share with each other when you meet again.
- **Record:** Remember to record online sessions for those who can't join you in a live session or for those who want to see it again.
- **Lighting is Key:** Make sure you are not standing in the shadows or that lighting is behind you. Lighting should highlight your face.
- **Make Eye Contact:** The camera is your classroom. Set the angle so that the focus is on your eyes, not up your nose.
- **Use Polls:** Multiple choice polls and asking students to respond to questions in chat helps to engage students remotely.
- **Keep Your Students at the Heart of Your Thinking and Practice:** The technology is just a tool. The most important thing you can do is engage your students with you and their classroom community.
- **Experiment:** But don't worry if things don't work! You are not alone. Seek help from your helpdesk or fellow colleagues. We are all in this together!