



Digital Picks

From your Elementary Library Media Specialists

March 2019

Please enjoy this month's educational, informational, and entertaining websites and apps—"digital picks"--selected by the Elementary Library Media Specialists for the families of the Grosse Pointe Public Schools. We hope you find our reviews helpful and we welcome your suggestions. (Follow [text links](#) for additional information.)



Starfall Starfall.com® a free website to teach children to read. It has expanded to include language arts and mathematics for preschool, kindergarten, first grade, second grade, and third grade. Starfall's emphasis on phonemic awareness, systematic sequential phonics, and common sight words in conjunction with audiovisual interactivity has proven effective in teaching emergent readers. Starfall activities are research-based. FREE!



Funbrain Kids in [preschool](#) through Grade 8 will love Funbrain, a site that makes developing math, reading and literacy skills fun. Check out games like Math Baseball and Grammar Gorillas. Kids can even [read books](#) on the go. There is also www.funbrainjr.com for children in preschool and kindergarten. Both websites are free to users. FREE!



Teach Me: Kindergarten is an educational app that allows you to fine tune your child's learning experience. You can adjust the number of correct answers a child must make in order to earn a reward; you can determine which awards will be available (most are virtual "stickers" to place on one of several backdrops; there are also fish and ornaments for a virtual aquarium). You can also manually raise your child's skill level if you believe the app is starting him or her at too low a point, and you can toggle which subjects you want on or off. Other grade levels can be purchased as well. iPhone, iPad, iPod Touch \$1.99



MeeGenius! Kid's Books Has more than 400 children's fiction and nonfiction digital books with audio narration. Download the app for free and you'll get a few free books to try. Select books categorized in many ways: subject (fables, animals, and holidays, for example), featured books, *MeeGenius!* originals (age 3–5 and 6–8), and more. Books also are searchable by author or title. The "read-along technology" highlights each word while a narrator reads the story aloud. There's a read-to-myself option, too, in which narration is turned off. Books include text, audio, and illustrations. iPhone, iPad, Android \$4.99/month

Elementary Library Media Specialists

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- Amy Hermon
- Sherry Martin
- Cheryl Quinlan
- Rachel Walpole

