

CLASSROOM MEDIA REVIEWS

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NewPath Learning (Online Learning Program, <http://www.newpathlearning.com/onlinelearning/>)

NewPath Learning offers districts, teachers, and students an online headquarters for education. This Web-based program is a one-stop shop for teachers looking for ready-made lessons that can be tweaked to meet classroom needs or resources to help students broaden their understanding. The website functions in three major ways: as an interactive gradebook that tracks student progress, as a lesson plan builder, and as a repository of educational videos, activities, and interactive tools, such as virtual labs. In addition to life sciences, the online learning program also offers resources for physics, chemistry, and other sciences.

Teachers who log into the site can use the digital gradebook—a significant component of the program. By adding classes and students, teachers can easily share a variety of well-organized, interactive tools and assignments, including quizzes, worksheets, games, virtual labs, and self-contained multimedia lesson plans. Students create safe, simple profiles and

log in to access classroom content. A basic, easy-to-use digital calendar keeps students organized, reminding them of assignment due dates and providing links to content. The program assesses quizzes and activities, reducing the amount of grading time. The gradebook also keeps track of student work that has been completed. Students receive immediate feedback, so it's easy to check on their progress.

This online learning suite allows teachers to build lessons either by using the large content repository on the website or by uploading additional material. Teachers can share lessons with students or the entire community of educators using the NewPath Learning program. All materials are Web-based and accessible from any computer or device—Internet connection required! Content cannot be downloaded, but everything is printable. Resources meet the demands of various state standards, including those of Florida, New York, and Texas. The content has also been vetted by classroom educators.

The resources offered by NewPath Learning are not intended as teacher-replacements. As a caveat, some of the multimedia lessons and

interactive assignments, particularly in life sciences, lack engagement. Students sit and listen to a recorded lecture and view slides. Quizzes gauge lower-level thinking skills, like recall and comprehension. But, with teacher input, these activities can supplement the learning taking place in the classroom.

Interested teachers can log in free using a limited 30-day free trial. Subscriptions start at \$199.95 per year per teacher for a maximum of 150 students. NewPath Learning provides a list of grants and funding sources that can contribute to the purchase of a subscription.

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