

Getting the Most out of Classroom Video

Videos for classroom learning have never been more available or accessible to teachers. Of course, using video effectively in your classroom requires more than simply pressing play. And while active viewing is a great way to get students to comprehend what they watch, it's not enough. To maximize students' learning, help them comprehend and critique by being both active and reactive viewers. What does that mean? It means students watch and react, get knowledge, and create some knowledge, too.

Tips for Getting the Most Out of Video in the Classroom



- **Have students take notes as they watch.**

- Encourage students to comprehend what they see but also critique and question.
- Better yet, take notes together in real time — using an online backchannel tool.

- **Pause to ask questions as you watch.**

- Before you start, help your class develop an essential question. Be sure to return to this question each time you pause and discuss.
- Also ask questions that elicit students' opinions, not facts alone. Push students for arguments, not only answers.

- **Offer multiple viewings of the video.**

- Some videos require more viewings than others. To keep kids engaged, try assigning a project — one that *requires* multiple viewings.
- You could have students annotate a video using a tool like **EdPuzzle** or remix a video using a tool like **MediaBreaker/Studios**.

Suggested Tools



Screencastify

Easy screen-recording tool facilitates outside-the-box teaching.

www.commonsense.org/education/website/screencastify



EDpuzzle

EdPuzzle

Crop, customize, and remix online videos for your classroom.

www.commonsense.org/education/website/edpuzzle

Today'sMeet

Today'sMeet

Easy online conversations supplement and extend the classroom.

www.commonsense.org/education/website/todaysmeet