



### **So, what is so great about Open Educational Resources and Curriki?**

1. It's free. Yes, that's right. [Curriki is completely free.](#)
2. The OERs have been [created and contributed](#) by educators, curriculum designers, curriculum partners, and school districts.
3. They are "mashable." Teachers may select resources (lesson plans, videos, animations, photos, units, etexts, etc.) want to use, access it, mix it up with other resources if you wish, and generate your own custom teaching tools.
4. Many OERs have already been [mapped](#) to standards.
5. And finally, Curriki encourages you to add, subtract, and edit anything that will make the materials better for **your** purposes.

### **What can I do with OER?**

Here are some real-life examples of people using and contribution to OER.

- As a teacher, you could reuse and repurpose material for use in your own classroom, and augment your school's limited resources. A physics teacher could use video from an introductory physics class at MIT, or use interactive simulations from University of Colorado at Boulder's PhET project.
- You can contribute to open math and science textbooks that will be used by students in over 194 countries.

### **What is Curriki?**

Curriki is an online community for creating and sharing curricula and teaching best practices. Curriki:

- **Provides High Quality Free Resources** – The Curriki repository contains over 45,000 free K-12 lessons, units, assessments and multimedia learning objects across all subject areas.
- **Empowers Educators** - Curriki's free platform enables educators to build their own curriculum by assembling Curriki resources, as well as their own, into collections similar to an iTunes playlist.
- **Helps Eliminate the Education Divide** - Curriki originated from the idea that technology can play a crucial role in breaking down the barriers of the Education Divide – the gap between those



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who have access to high-quality education and those who do not. Curriki helps bridge this divide by providing free and open resources to teachers who need them most. The Curriki community is composed of over 5.6 million users and more than 235,000 official members, and over 630 collaborative networking groups.

- **Leads the Open Education Resource Movement** - Curriki is a leading organization behind the OER movement - a movement based around the idea that teaching materials should be freely available for educators and students to use, mix, modify and share.
- **Engages in Dynamic Partnerships with a Global Reach** - Curriki is working with partners in the US and abroad to develop multilingual educational content that supports local education initiatives and goals.

## What do educators do on Curriki?

When you join Curriki (at no cost), you can:

- **Build a Personal Library** - Teachers can replace their file cabinets with a personal space in Curriki to store and organize their lesson plans, units, etextbooks, assessments, videos, animations—virtually any type of learning object. Again, free of charge.
- **Find Resources** – Curriki allows users to search for K-12 educational resources by subject, grade, rating, instructional type and more.
- **Contribute Resources** – Curriki empowers teachers across the globe to share their best lessons or units of study. By contributing to the Curriki repository, the global community can find the resources they need, when they need them free of charge.
- **Connect with Other Educators** – Curriki invites teachers across the globe to work together to create new curricular materials and share best practices using the site’s easy-to-use collaboration tools.

## How does Curriki help teachers?

“I think that teachers are constantly looking for resources and communities that can enhance their teaching. Curriki has many great resources compiled from a variety of subjects that are helpful when planning new lessons or sprucing up old lessons.” - Curriki Educator

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- **Free and Comprehensive Resources** - Curriki's repository contains full courses, units, lesson plans, multimedia files, assessments, and more – all free of cost, saving valuable time and money.
- **Global Community of Educators** - Curriki allows teachers to connect with like-minded colleagues around the world and form communities around shared curricular goals.
- **Helping ALL Students Succeed** - Curriki allows teachers to join a worldwide community to help all students succeed by sharing the knowledge they have with teachers around the world.

## How does Curriki help administrators and district leaders?

- **Cost Savings on Teaching Resources** - On average, school systems spend \$4,500/teacher on teaching resources. It is estimated that by using the free and Open Educational Resources available on Curriki, schools and districts can reduce that cost by approximately 50%.
  - **Dynamic Teaching Resources** - Curriki liberates school systems from static methods of teaching and learning, and helps all educators innovate in their classrooms on a daily basis, which we know leads to increased student achievement.
  - **Innovating at All Levels** - Curriki connects principals and districts to a community of innovative educational professionals from around the world.
  - **Managing Valuable Knowledge** - Curriki ensures that even if teachers leave the system, their knowledge is still available for use in schools.

## Can I find practice sheets, quizzes, outlines, and lesson plans?

Yes, Curriki hosts various Instructional Component Types and types of media including:

- **Activities**
  - Assignment/Homework
  - Exercise
  - Experiment/Lab
  - Game
  - Graphic Organizer/Worksheet
  - Problem Set
  - WebQuest
- **Books**
  - Fiction
  - Non-Fiction



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- Readings/Excerpts
- Text Book
- Curriculum
  - Assignment/Test
  - Full Course
  - Lesson Plan
  - Rubric
  - Scope & Sequence
  - Standards
  - Study Guide/Notes
  - Syllabus
  - Tutorial
  - Unit
  - Workbook
- Resources
  - Animation/Simulation
  - Article/Essay
  - Audio/Speech/Lecture
  - Diagram/Illustration
  - Glossary/Vocabulary List
  - Index/List
  - Photograph
  - Reference
  - Script/Transcript
  - Study/Data/Research
  - Table/Graph/Chart
  - Template
  - Video/Presentation/Slides
  - Webcast/Podcast

## **Are these materials copyrighted?**

All Curriki editorial content is copyrighted by Curriki. These materials are shared under a [Creative Commons Attribution License](#). More information about [Copyright & Open Licenses](#).

## **Does it cost anything to join?**

No, membership is free! [Join here](#).

## **Do I have to pay to download any resources?**

No.



**I'm comfortable with my text books, but I know they don't cover everything I need to teach and they definitely don't help me reach the struggling students. Does Curriki offer training on how to use Curriki and OERs?**

Yes, Curriki offers both free and paid options for training on EVERY feature of Curriki, as well as ways to incorporate Curriki Open Educational Resources into your classroom, school, library and district. Start by visiting our library of [free Tutorial Videos](#).

[Curriki Professional Development Workshops](#) focus on innovative concepts and practices related to open education curriculum, digital and social learning. Curriki will show you how to use Open Educational Resources (OERs) with simple, step-by-step tools. *Each workshop can be delivered at your facility face to face, asynchronously online, or as a hybrid of the two delivery methods.*

**I've heard that free and open means low quality. How can Curriki ensure high-quality?**

While some say that low-cost (or free) comes at the expense of quality, but Curriki is different. Curriki has the advantage of being free of cost, while, at the same time, providing *greater* value to the users. In fact, many Curriki contributors are teachers who use these materials themselves, so they have a strong interest in keeping the quality as high as possible.

Curriki's Content Review Team of content-area experts and teachers review and rate resources in the Curriki repository. CRS allows people seeking high-quality materials to find content in the Curriki repository that has already been vetted by subject-area experts.

**I don't have time to search Curriki every day, so how can I easily keep up with any new resources?**

Sign up for Curriki's [monthly newsletter](#) and subject-area emails (opt in when you join), subscribe to [Curriki's blog](#) via RSS, and join us on [Facebook](#).

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## **About Curriki**

A non-profit organization, Curriki is the leading K-12 global community for teachers, students and parents to create, share, and find open learning resources that improve teacher effectiveness and student outcomes. Our community of 5.6 million users and 210,000 members from 194 countries has access to over 45,000+ learning assets. Join us today at [www.curriki.org](http://www.curriki.org)

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