

PebbleGo Next



16 Creative Ways to Use PebbleGo Next in the Classroom

Create Rotation Stations

Did you know you could implement PebbleGo Next in your rotation stations? Choose one or more articles for students to explore. Copy the link and use a free online QR code generator. Print out the QR code and place it at the station. Students will then be able to use their tablet to scan the code and be taken directly to the PebbleGo Next article. Students show what they learned in a creation tool like Buncee, Google Slides, or another tool.

Discover a PebbleGo Next Fact of the Day

As part of your daily class activities, create a class role, “PebbleGo Next Fact Finder.” The PebbleGo Next Fact Finder can find an interesting fact to share with the rest of the class. To extend the learning, the student can create a question for the class to research. If you have one-to-one or multiple devices, ask students to race to see who can locate the answer first.

Share Interactive Choice Boards

Empower your students to choose their own learning path! Create a choice board to support a standard, unit, or theme. Start by designing your choice board in a creation tool, like Buncee or Google Slides, and add links to different PebbleGo Next articles. When you’re ready, share your choice board with your students. Students choose which articles and activities they want to explore!

Write eBooks from PebbleGo Next Research

Ask students to explore a PebbleGo Next article and create an eBook based on what they learned. They could write a nonfiction eBook, or build a fun story inspired by their learning. There are many wonderful apps that allow students to create their own eBooks to demonstrate understanding. For example, students can get creative with a creation tool, like Buncee or Google Slides, using a variety of media assets to write, illustrate, and even narrate their own eBooks.

Master Key Vocabulary

Mastering vocabulary words within an article can help students gain a deeper understanding. Provide students a list of key words to keep an eye out for as they read through a particular PebbleGo Next article. Encourage students to keep a list of words they don’t know or fully understand as they read. When they’re ready, they can use the dictionary function to look up the definitions to these words. Students can then record their words and definitions in their notes, in a vocabulary journal, or in a creation tool, like Buncee or Google Slides, to illustrate their vocabulary words. Visualizing key terms aids retention and makes learning stick.

Keep a Research Journal

Have students take ownership of their learning with their own research journal! Students can use a traditional pen and paper notebook, or choose from any number of apps to keep notes using a variety of media assets. Ask students to follow a research journal template, or create their own. They can use the journal to collect and organize information about their topic for research.



Engage in Free Reading Time

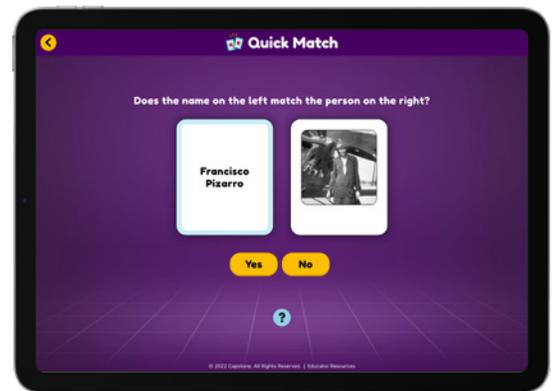
PebbleGo Next is an excellent way to honor student choice and support student inquiry and reluctant readers. Students can follow their interests, or find out more about the subject of a book they are reading. When students have some free time, ask them to search for an article to read on a subject that interests them.

Supplement and Contextualize Observations

Students can gain vital research skills by observing experiments or natural occurrences all around them, and PebbleGo Next can provide a way for them to gain a deeper understanding of their observations. Students can observe an event or object and research it in PebbleGo Next. For example, students can observe the moon every night for a month, and keep a moon observation journal. They can check out the PebbleGo Next article about the moon, learn more about moon phases, and make connections between what they read and see.

Play Classroom Games

Many of the embedded games in PebbleGo Next modules lend themselves well to classroom games. For example, you can play the Quick Match game in the Biographies module as a class. Project the game for the class. In small groups, have the students race to find the information in PebbleGo Next. Once they raise their hands to show you the article and tab, they can answer the question and earn a point for their group.



Interview a Historical Figure

The Biographies module in PebbleGo Next is full of important figures from history and modern day. Put a fun twist on a traditional research project by having students “interview” an individual of their choice from the Biographies module. You can have your students choose their own questions, or create an interview template for students to follow. Students can conduct their research in PebbleGo Next, and answer the questions as if they were the interviewee. Not only is this a fun way to learn about important figures, but it’s also a great opportunity for students to put themselves in someone else’s shoes.

Create a Geography Brochure

PebbleGo Next can be your ticket to virtually explore our world! Students can learn about a particular landmark, or landform, or choose a US state to research from the States module. Ask students to pretend they are a travel agent and design a brochure encouraging others to visit this place. Using their research, they’ll be able to highlight fun facts and noteworthy features about their place, as they create their brochure. Not only will this project enable students to demonstrate their learning, but it’s also a great opportunity for them to practice persuasive writing.

Dive Deeper into a Topic

The content within PebbleGo Next is aligned to Ohio’s Learning Standards. When you are studying ecosystems or forms of energy, pull up an article from the Science module. Read it together, talk about the academic terms, and watch a video explaining the topic further. When you are celebrating Martin Luther King Jr.’s birthday, pull up his biography article in the Biographies module. Look at the timeline of important events from his life, then watch the video excerpt of his “I Have a Dream” speech. For a complete content list of articles, visit <https://www.infohio.org/resources/item/pebblego-next>.

Teach How to Cite Sources

Every article in PebbleGo Next includes a citation, so it's the perfect place to have students familiarize themselves with the right way to give credit when using ideas from someone else. Encourage students to search for five interesting facts that interest them in PebbleGo Next. Then, have them practice using the citation popup, copying the citation for each fact they find, and collecting them into a works cited page.

Conduct Experiments with Hands-On Science Instruction

With PebbleGo Next, reading about a topic is only the beginning! Students get a comprehensive view of a topic when they engage through hands-on experiments and activities. Plus, when students actively participate in creating something, they'll retain what they learned and feel confident come test time! Within the Science module, you'll find a number of activities and experiments that students can do individually or as a class. These hands-on activities can also be performed at home with a family member if students want to explore further outside of class.

Practice Inquiry-Based Discovery

Create a simple graphic organizer with four sections: "I Know," "I Want to Know," "I Predict," and "I Learned." For example, introduce a topic, like "cells." Have students write three things they already know about cells. Next, have them write 3 questions about cells in the "I Want to Know" area, and make one prediction based on a question they have. Then, have them conduct their own research in PebbleGo Next as they strive to fill in the "I Learned" section. If you wish, you can use PebbleGo Next as a starting point, and have students add in library books and other print materials, other digital resources, and hands-on experiments.

Compare Fiction and Nonfiction, Realistic and Not Realistic

Teach critical thinking skills with PebbleGo Next. Read an article, or find a current social media blurb as a class, then "fact-check" it in PebbleGo Next. You could also explore the question: "Are there some kinds of fiction that are more fact-based than other kinds?" Choose books you've read as a class, and use PebbleGo Next to discuss realistic aspects of the story, characters, and setting, vs aspects of the story that are fictionalized. This could be an interesting way to explore fictionalized stories featuring real people, realistic fiction, and historical fiction.

Get More Ideas Online

Don't forget about the power of social networking! Search for PebbleGo Next on teacher blog sites, Pinterest, Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube to get inspired and encouraged by the examples shared by educators across the country.

Share Your Ideas

If you have examples of how you are engaging students with reading and research using PebbleGo Next, we'd love to hear about it!

- Share on social media with #INFOhioWorks
- Contact us at support.infohio.org

