



Hearts over Hands Virtual Resources

We have compiled a list of resources for you to use while working with your Lil Sibs, all of which is linked below. We have a [sample activity list here](#) that also includes ice-breakers and games. The first section includes resources that cover a variety of topics, oftentimes with links to even more resources. After that, there are sections dedicated to [science](#), [math](#), [reading & writing](#), [computer skills](#), and [virtual games](#).

We'd love to continue adding to this list of materials, so **please reach out to shirley@heartsoverhands.org with any resources** that you've been using. We'll be sure to update as we receive recommendations. Thank you all again for everything you do!

How to Talk to Kids About COVID-19: This is a helpful resource for talking to your Lil Sibs about the pandemic, should the topic come up. Please be sensitive and thoughtful about how you approach it. Also feel free to share with parents who might be interested, as there is a wealth of information and resources about virtual distance learning.

Daily Schedule Templates for Kids at Home: Khan Academy came up with schedule templates for kids who are at home due to school closures. They provide different schedules for different ages that come with resources. The schedules are also available in other languages!

MIT K-12 Learning Packages: MIT has released weekly learning packages to keep children engaged as they stay at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. The packages are thematic sets of videos, resources, and online/offline activities for different grades. If you are struggling to think of lesson plans for your Lil Sibs, consider going through these each week with them!

PBS Learning Media: PBS has compiled a list of preK-12 resources in light of the emergency school closings. There are videos, lesson plans, and activities that support learning at home. They also have content available in Spanish [here](#).

Go on a virtual field trip: This document includes links to various virtual field trips, ranging from zoos to museums, even to Mars! We recommend you opening the links yourself and screen sharing with your Lil Sib so you can explore together.

MAC Access: The Museum, Arts and Culture Access Consortium created this webpage to connect children to at-home learning resources and activities that NYC cultural institutions and museums offer. Check out what these places are offering week-to-week and consider exploring one with your Lil Sib! This is an incredibly extensive list of resources and we encourage you to take some time to look through it.

Websites for Upper Elementary Students: This page includes links to a variety of websites curated by an experienced elementary school teacher. This is perfect for **kids in grades 3-5**. Resources range from language arts to math to science and beyond!

BrainPop: A collection of videos and exercises for late elementary to middle school kids that cover a range of subjects. It's free during school closures!

BrainPop Jr.: A collection of videos and exercises for kindergarten to third grade kids that cover a range of subjects. It's free during school closures!

Science Resources

MysteryDoug: Subscribe to get fun 5-minute videos on various science questions. Doug answers questions ranging from “Why do we get goosebumps?” to “Why does soap make bubbles?” This is a great way for kids to take breaks while learning something new and interesting.

Mystery Science: A collection of free online science lessons available to children amidst school closures. Mini-lessons are 15-30 minutes while full lessons are 45-90 minutes. Lessons include an exploration/lecture part as well as an activity part. Considering watching the lectures with your Lil Sib and doing the activities together!

National Geographic Kids: Play games, watch videos, and explore the world of animals, science, and geography with your Lil Sib!

BioGame UCLA: A game released by UCLA that allows players to diagnose pathologies by examining microscopic data. This would be a very fun game to play with your Lil Sibs who are interested in science.

Citizen Sort: Do you have a Lil Sib who is interested in insects and nature? This website allows them to classify various species of animals, insects, and plants! As you play, you'll help classify plants, animals, and insects, producing valuable scientific data to aid scientists in their work.

LabXChange: An online community for learning about, sharing, and collaborating on science. Learn about the scientific process, hear stories from real scientists, and more!

Intrepid Museum Education Resources: Some awesome resources to engage with the Intrepid Museum from home. There are activity packets, design challenges, and lessons available! You can even take a [virtual tour of the museum's spaces](#).

Stemnova: This STEM education nonprofit offers high quality teaching resources. Scroll down to “Curriculum” to access lesson plans for teaching astronomy, biology, chemistry, epidemiology, and geology. There are also more resources available below that.

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory: Launch rockets, build robots, explore your world and beyond. There are projects, toolkits, and contests to expose kids to space.

Fold It: Crowdsourcing computer game that allows players to contribute to important scientific research!

EyeWire: A game to map the brain, where no scientific background is needed. Hundreds of thousands of people from around the world are collaboratively mapping the 3D structure of neurons.

Math Resources

Math in English: An online resource with thousands of free teacher-made math worksheets, workbooks, math puzzles, and brain teasers for kids. Everything is categorized by grades and topics.

SolveMe Puzzles: A collection of puzzle games based on addition and subtraction. Improve your quick math skills while having fun!

Math Worksheets: Use this website to create practice math worksheets. Topics include algebra, data, geometry and more.

Reading & Writing Resources

First Flight Magazine: First Flight is a free, educational, children’s magazine made by University of Chicago students. Our magazine centers on a fictional town called Ember Oaks. Members of this town teach readers about subjects ranging from English to Science.

Quill: Free writing and grammar activities for elementary, middle, and high school students. A user account must be made

SquigglePark & Dreamscape: Online reading game to help build reading and comprehension skills. An option for ages 3-8 and another option for 8-15+ available. Free, but an account needs to be made.

FunEnglishGames: Free English resources online, offering a range of interactive games, classroom activities, and printable worksheets. For example, this [Story Writing Game](#) is a fun way to teach children how to create the right atmosphere when planning stories.

Audible: Audible is offering free access to their collection of children's books while schools are closed. There are books in English, Spanish, French, German, Portuguese, Italian, Dutch, and Japanese.

Starfall Education: Resources for PreK-3rd grade children to learn basic reading and writing skills. It also includes other resources for general education.

Computer Skills Resources

TypingClub: Teach your Lil Sibs to type with this great online resource.

Dance Mat Typing: Another fun typing game!

Blockly Games: A series of education games that teach programming. They are designed for children who have not had prior experience with computer programming. By the end of these games, players will be ready to use conventional text-based languages.

Scratch: Basic coding exercises in game form—Scratch helps young people think creatively, reason systematically, and work collaboratively. A perfect resource for Lil Sibs who are interested in learning how to code. Scratch was created by the Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the MIT Media Lab.

Virtual Games

FunBrain: Educational online games for kindergarten to eighth graders. If you have Lil Sibs who love playing video games, this is a fun educational alternative you can share with their parents!

Toy Theatre: A collection of interactive educational games for elementary school aged children. These are all free and designed to work on computers, tablets, and mobile devices!

World Geography Games: Study maps and learn about the world with your Lil Sibs!

Seussville: If your Lil Sib is a fan of Dr. Seuss, this resource is perfect for you! It includes activities, crafts, games, and recipes inspired by the works of Dr. Seuss. They also have some fun coloring printables.