

# How to Catapult Student Engagement by using Microsoft Flipgrid Videos

~ 21-minute read ~

Welcome to the EdTechEnergy podcast! Today we will be discussing how to use Microsoft Flipgrid in the classroom to create impact in the classroom. Flipgrid is a video discussion platform that allows students to record videos, respond to each other, and collaborate on topics. I've been using Flipgrid in my classroom for a while now, and it has been a fantastic tool for engagement and collaboration among my students.

We'll be exploring this video creating tool that has the potential to transform teaching and in your classroom in instruction, student learning, and assessment. I'll be discussing its importance in the classroom, benefits to teachers and students as well as steps to use it.

Let's start by reading some of the video statistics about teens in the Pew Research Teens, Social Media, and Technology 2022 study.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2022/08/10/teens-social-media-and-technology-2022/>

This study also explores the frequency with which teens are on each of the top five online platforms: YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, Snapchat and Facebook.

Fully 35% of teens say they are using at least one of them "almost constantly." Teen TikTok and Snapchat users are particularly engaged with these platforms, followed by teen YouTube users in close pursuit. A quarter of teens who use Snapchat or TikTok say they use these apps almost constantly, and a fifth of teen YouTube users say the same. When looking at teens overall, 19% say they use YouTube almost constantly, 16% say this about TikTok, and 15% about Snapchat.

- YouTube stands out as the most common online platform teens use out of the platforms measured, with 95% saying they ever use this site or app. Majorities also say they use TikTok (67%), Instagram (62%) and Snapchat (59%).
- About three-quarters of teens visit YouTube at least daily, including 19% who report using the site or app almost constantly. A majority of teens (58%) visit TikTok daily, while about half say the same for Snapchat (51%) and Instagram (50%)
- YouTube tops the 2022 teen online landscape among the platforms covered in the Center's new survey, as it is used by 95% of teens. TikTok is next on the list of platforms that were asked about in this survey (67%), followed by Instagram and Snapchat, which are both used by about six-in-ten teens.
- There are some notable demographic differences in teens' social media choices. For example, teen boys are more likely than teen girls to say they use YouTube, Twitch and Reddit, whereas teen girls are more likely than teen boys to use TikTok, Instagram and Snapchat.

Engage and motivate your students like never before with this innovative multimedia feature that allows students to post video responses to your online discussion prompts.

By using Flipgrid, your students will be able to express their thoughts and ideas easily, allowing for increased participation, motivation, and engagement in the classroom. Not only that, but our product comes loaded with a variety of strategies you can use to maximize the potential of Flipgrid within your classroom.

A Flipgrid is a video discussion platform used by teachers and students to promote discussions and interaction within the classroom. It is a simple tool that allows students to video record their thoughts. Teachers can ask questions, and students are then given an opportunity to give their answers through video recording. The recorded videos can then be organized and shared to create a collaborative learning space.

Now, let's talk about how to get started with Flipgrid. To start, you will need to create an account on the Flipgrid website. To sign up for a Flipgrid account, one needs to go to Flipgrid.com and click on the "Sign up" button. Once there you need to create your details and include your email address, password, and school name. Then the system will prompt you to create your first topic.

Once you have created your account, you can create your first grid. If your school is an MS 365 school, click on apps, and look for the Flipgrid title and icon.

Once you are in Flipgrid, you'll start creating a grid is a collection of topics or discussions that are organized by a teacher when you create your first prompt. You can create grids for each class, unit, or project. I like to create a class grid, and then post inside that one Microsoft grid for each of my classes. Once you have created a grid, you can add topics to the grid.

Prompts, or topics, are where the magic happens in Flipgrid! Topics are essentially discussion prompts or questions that students can respond to with a video. When you create a topic, you can add a description and set a time limit for the video response.

Teachers can use Flipgrid to assess their students by creating a prompt related to a particular learning outcome or skill they want to test. The video response and creativity of each student's video can be assessed using a grading rubric. Or teachers can give feedback to students or even use video to grade students.

You can also choose whether to allow students to view and respond to each other's videos. The ability for students to comment on each other's videos allows for collaboration and peer feedback.

You can share the recorded videos with the students or even with other teachers or guest speakers. For guest speakers, I recommend creating a separate grid so the guest speaker

can only read and view the activity based on the prompt or topic you create for the guest speaker to collaborate and communicate with your students.

It seems like it has a range of applications in the classroom. Now that you understand how Flipgrid works, let's talk about how to use it in the classroom.

First, Flipgrid is extremely versatile. Teachers may use Flipgrid in some very creative ways, from icebreakers at the beginning of the year to more complex discussions about a particular topic inside of class, to an exit ticket at the end of class. It can be used in any subject and can assist with a variety of classroom activities including debates, discussions, presentations, and more.

Let me share ten different ways you may use Flipgrid in your classroom:

1. Flipgrid as a hook: As an icebreaker to get the students comfortable with each other
2. Flipgrid for reflection: At the end of a lesson or unit, students can reflect on what they have learned and share their thoughts with the class.
3. Flipgrid for collaboration: Students can work together on a project and share their thoughts on the project through Flipgrid.
4. Flipgrid for peer feedback: After completing a project or assignment, students can share their work with the class and receive feedback from their peers.
5. Flipgrid for presentations: Students can create a video presentation and share it with the class through Flipgrid.
6. Flipgrid to encourage reading in your classroom: As a tool for doing book reviews
7. Flipgrid for role-playing: As a way for students to role-play or act out a situation
8. Flipgrid for collaboration: Or even as a way of doing collaborative projects
9. Flipgrid for math problem-solving.
10. Flipgrid for science fairs.

Secondly, it promotes active participation from your students, as each student can participate by giving their responses using a recorded video.

Thirdly, the app promotes collaboration, as students can view each other's videos and start a discussion. Fourthly, it allows for some meaningful feedback, both from teachers and students.

Some additional tips for successful Flipgrid use in the classroom are:

- Teachers should always post either a video to ask the question, prompt, or introduce the topic.
- Another plus would be for teachers to answer their own question, prompt, or thoughts about the topic in video form, as students will do. This teacher exemplar serves as a model to students prior to them creating their video response.

- Ask students a question or prompt that doesn't have a right or wrong answer. Ask, instead for their perspectives, insights, and questions or predictions about a topic or prompt.
- Create clear expectations: Teachers need to be clear about what is expected, including the timing of the response and how the response should be formatted.
- Always state a maximum time length for videos so all the content in one topic or prompt is equitable
- Keep the videos short: keeping videos digestible helps maintain attention and enhances quality.

Finally, I'm offering a FREE Flipgrid in the Classroom Guide in my TeachersPayTeachers store, EdTechEnergy EDD. This guide provides tips and tricks for using Flipgrid in various classroom settings, as well as a printable guide for students to use when creating their videos.

I've also included 50 strategies designed specifically to help you utilize Flipgrid in your classroom, you're sure to find the perfect method for your students or lesson plan. And to ensure you don't miss a beat, we've created a handy checklist to help you hit the ground running and get your students involved in online discussions in no time. Plus, I added a checklist for you to follow when you begin to create a class and prompt in Flipgrid.

By using Flipgrid in the classroom, you are providing students with a platform for engagement and collaboration. You're also providing students with an opportunity to develop important skills such as communication, critical thinking, and creativity. And remember, you may invite the special education teachers or the principals also into a specific topic or discussion to participate with students.

Say goodbye to uninspiring classroom discussions and hello to the dynamic and engaging world of Microsoft Flipgrid video online discussions. Start using Flipgrid in your classroom today and watch your students' enthusiasm, motivation, and engagement soar!

Thank you for listening to the EdTechEnergy podcast and remember to always keep learning!

Also, don't forget to subscribe so my teacher timesaving tips, techniques, and tools come to you automatically when I post my podcast episodes.

Thanks again and have a super week ahead.

***Valuable FREE FlipGrid Teacher Guide to get you started:***

[Video Online Discussion Guide - 50 Strategies & Start Up Checklist \(teacherspayteachers.com\)](https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Video-Online-Discussion-Guide-50-Strategies-&-Start-Up-Checklist-11111111)

