

## Screen Time

Screen time is the amount of time spent using a device with a screen such as a smartphone, computer, television, or video game console. The One Room Schoolhouse LLC uses screen time to maximize student learning. We limit screen time to **no more than 30 minutes per week** with the exception of CDL time. We know that hands on activities provide the best learning opportunity for students and that occasionally, screen time may enhance the hands on learning. Children in the One Room Schoolhouse LLC may be exposed to screen time in the following ways:

**Virtual Volunteers/Teachers**-Occasionally, a guest teacher /classroom volunteer will join us remotely on Zoom, FaceTime or GoogleMeets. The remote guest teacher may read a story, share about a special topic or listen to a student read or retell a story. Every virtual meeting will have clearly stated learning objectives. Grandma Sally, a retired teacher in Central Oregon, also serves as a pen pal for students so learning is extended beyond the screen.

**Virtual Field Trips/Library Visits**-Carefully selected video clips will be shared with students in order to enhance content taught in the classroom. During our unit on sharks for instance, we watched a 3 minute video of a shark aquarium so students could identify different types of sharks. As new PE equipment was introduced, a 1 minute video was shown demonstrate how a child used climbing dome. Teachers plan then select materials prior to the lesson so that the teachable moment is cued up and ready to share to reduce exposure to advertisements. Content is always age appropriate, non-violent and culturally sensitive.

**Support Remote Learning**-Students in our program may also be enrolled in comprehensive distance learning (CDL) at public elementary schools or through the local ESD. We partner with outside agencies to ensure students participate in virtual meetings and complete assigned homework. We've found that local teachers use a wide range of free virtual resources that may expose children to advertisements. Because we are supporting our students as they participate in free and appropriate public education delivered remotely, we explicitly teach students about the goal of advertisers and challenge them to think critically about how the advertiser is trying to sell the product in the 5 seconds before the ad can be skipped. We link this analysis to our reading anchor standards 6 (assess how a point of view or purpose shapes the content and style of a text) and 8 (delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, including the validity of the reasons as well as the relevance and sufficiency of the evidence).

**Interactive Virtual Read Aloud**-When a book is out of print or unavailable, we may use video of the book with our children. Just as we would during our regular read aloud time, we can pause and discuss the text throughout.

**Non CDL Student Projects-**There may be times when students will use technology as part of their learning. Because tools are constantly evolving, we work with families to determine how technology will enhance a student's learning. In the past, one student created a story then used stop motion animation to bring his story to life. When students created an obstacle course, they made a video explaining it to others. As students work on reading fluency, they make recordings to see how they've changed over time.

**Screens to Communicate with Families-**Our smartphones are an important communication tool to keep us connected to families. We are important models for your child so we limit our use of screen time during the school day to necessary communication with families. We will take pictures of students learning throughout the day and respond to urgent texts from families.