



## Best Practices Guide

### Big Picture Use Cases

- ▶ whole class
- ▶ small groups
- ▶ suggested home reading
- ▶ independent reading time

## How should I use TrueFlix in my classroom?


### ▶ Introduce students to TrueFlix in a whole-class setting.

- Use a whiteboard or projector. Show students how to open a browser to find TrueFlix or how to locate your TrueFlix bookmark.
- Point out the unit groupings: People, Places, and History to the left of the screen and Science and Nature to the right. Talk about the different categories in each group—Biographies, Earth Science, and so forth—and what students might find in those categories.
- Demonstrate how to browse the categories and select a unit. Once in a unit, show how to access the elements that accompany the e-books. These include a video, related content (Explore More), a project idea, a quiz, a word match game, and links to related Web sites.
- Preview the video, explaining to students that it is an introduction to the topic. Open the e-book, showing how to flip the pages, mouse over highlighted words to see their definitions, and turn read-along on and off.
- When finished, show how to browse more titles in the unit's category, and how to get back to the main page.
- Choose a student from the class to repeat/model the process.

 Students become independent in accessing TrueFlix at school and at home.

### ▶ Mark the corresponding print True Books in your classroom library and your school library as books available in TrueFlix.

- Download the TrueFlix title list. This can be found in the TrueFlix resources section under downloadables.
- Mark the corresponding True Books in your classroom library and school library with a special label or sticker.
- Encourage students to read the e-book on TrueFlix and then read it again with your print copy.

 Students practice mastering print concepts and e-reading concepts.


### ▶ Use TrueFlix with the whole class to introduce the topic.

- Show the video to the class. When finished, ask students to tell in their own words what the video was about. Discuss with students what they already know about the topic. Then have students ask questions about what more they would like to learn.
- Preview the list of vocabulary words and their definitions in the e-book. Pronounce each word and help students repeat them. Have students read and discuss each definition and use each word in a sentence.

 Students build background knowledge and key vocabulary around a topic.


### ▶ Use TrueFlix in small groups for classroom activities involving group/partner reading.

- Encourage students to read a book on TrueFlix as a class or individually.
- Divide students into small groups to read to each other and complete a writing activity or answer a discussion question.
- Regroup as a class to share learning.

 Students become more confident readers and take pride in their reading abilities.

### ▶ Use TrueFlix units that correlate to the unit you are teaching and to make cross-curricular connections.

- Use the science and social studies texts in TrueFlix to supplement your curriculum. Use the video to introduce a new science or social studies unit. Use the project idea, quiz, and other resources for extension activities.
- Identify TrueFlix units that align with certain holidays and anniversaries, such as Earth Day, Constitution Day, and Black History Month. Use them to broaden student understanding of these milestones.
- Use the Explore More content to encourage related reading across a variety of text types—reference articles, fiction, current events stories, primary-source documents, and related multimedia.
- Use the related Web sites for each unit to extend and enrich your lessons. (Web sites are found in the menu for each unit and are also listed alphabetically under Resources.)

 Students improve literacy skills and build content-area knowledge.



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### Quick Access Tip



Bookmark TrueFlix on your school computers or mobile devices.



Create and print a QR code for TrueFlix and post it in your classroom so that students with mobile devices have easy access.

## How are other teachers using TrueFlix?

*“The projects provide great opportunities for hands-on learning.”*

- Use the activities (Show What You Know quiz and Word Match game) that accompany each unit to gauge student comprehension and vocabulary acquisition.
- Refer to each unit’s lesson plan for classroom activities and other tips.
- Assign the unit project; allow wrap-up time in class for students to share their work.



*“The projects provide great opportunities for hands-on learning.”*

- Use the Find the Truth question on the topic home page and the extension questions at the end of each lesson plan as writing prompts and to spark classroom discussion.
- Encourage students to re-read their books on TrueFlix before taking Accelerated Reader quizzes.
- Use TrueFlix in a flipped classroom.



*“Having students explore a topic at home—whether reviewing an article, watching a video, or reading a primary-source document—lets them come to class ready to engage in discussions and activities that I facilitate.”*

## How can my students use TrueFlix at home?



**Download** the TrueFlix Parent Letter explaining the benefits of TrueFlix and how to access it from home. Letters are located under the Downloadables link on the Resources page.



**Copy** the letter and send it home with students or distribute it at open houses or parent-teacher conferences.



**Customize** the letter by adding your school’s username and password and your name.