



Milwaukee Academy of Science

2020-2021 Virtual Learning School Year

Technology 101: Zoom, PearDeck, PowerSchool, and Google Classroom

Zoom Video Calls

- All High School Classes will take place on “Zoom” this trimester. This allows for students to interact with their teacher and their peers on a regular basis, five times a day (once for each class). Attendance will be taken using Zoom and teachers will have daily office hours via Zoom if students have questions.
- How to access Zoom: You can go to the website (if on a chromebook/computer) by going to [Zoom.us](https://zoom.us) or you can download the app for your phone. Both will work.
- Once on a Zoom class call, please keep your camera and your mute button “on.” If students have questions, they should first utilize the “chat” box where they will have the option to message just the teacher or the whole class.
- Students should make sure that their display name is their full name and not a nickname--this is very important for taking attendance.
- If students are absent and miss a Zoom call, they should meet with their teacher during their office hours to see if there is a video of the lesson the student can receive.
- Students should try to arrive five minutes early to a class so that they can avoid any technological issues. Students should be professional while on Zoom calls; they should be fully dressed and use school-appropriate language. Any distractions or inappropriate behavior may cause students to be removed from the Zoom call.

PearDeck

- PearDeck is an interactive slideshow that teachers will use with students to engage them in lessons. There are no additional downloads or programs that students need to use to access this. Students will just need to click on a link that the teacher provides during a Zoom class.
- PearDeck will be used to assess student knowledge and could count towards students’ participation grades.
- PearDeck works best with a computer or chromebook. If you try to use it with a phone, you may get booted off of the Zoom call.

PowerSchool

- To check grades, students and parents can visit the Milwaukee Academy of Science website OR go to this website:
 - <https://ps.milwaukeeacademyofscience.org/public/home.htm>

- Once there, students and parents should enter their login specific information that they received during registration. If students/parents don't have that information or lost it, they can ask any administrator or teacher to help them find it.
- PowerSchool also has attendance information for parents.

Google Classroom/Google Voice

- Daily classwork will be assigned for each class on Google Classroom. Students and parents can access this by going to Classroom.Google.com and adding the "class code" that was given to students during registration and on Class Dojo. If students didn't receive this information or lost it, they can contact any teacher or administrator to get it.
- Grades and assignment feedback will also be given to students via Google Classroom and should be opened every day to see if there are important announcements.
- Teachers may be using "Google Voice" to contact parents through text messages and e-mail to streamline convenient communication.