

## **Teachers' Area**

## Why WILD?

The K-2 classroom presents many challenges with its demands of curriculum adherence and busy daily schedules. In addition, there is the need to share information with parents and to accomplish the many tasks involved in meeting the unique needs of your students.

You may wonder: Why use WILD? Will WILD be beneficial to my students' learning? Will it fit in with my curriculum? Will my students enjoy using it? Will it require special devices or time-consuming log-ins? Will my students be able to navigate the site?

WILD facilitates teaching foundational digital-literacy skills for K-2 students while capturing their interest and imagination. It is built for educators to teach these skills both through modeling and student-centered exploration. And, unique to WILD, an introductory, student-focused lesson on Being a Good Digital Citizen has been included!

WILD is designed to enhance your teaching, no matter your personal style, curriculum requirements, or classroom structure.

WILD is easily up and running on any device (computer, iPad, or mobile device) and can be used by students independently, in pairs, in small groups, or in whole-class activities. It can be coupled with direct teacher instruction or used as a student-choice.

WILD is interactive. Students can choose where they go in WILD. Each click provides a child-friendly place to read, listen, and learn.

WILD introduces the K-2 student to fundamental vocabulary while addressing issues related to "word gap," or "word deficit."

WILD is constructed with multiple levels of exploration embedded in the program, enabling differentiated instruction and learning at all times. WILD includes an abundance of illustrated and photographic images and provides audio pronunciation for each word. Students can journey as far as their interests and imaginations will take them while making connections between words and their meanings. For our youngest learners, ESL/ELL students, and those who may have learning gaps, WILD's many features provide the optimal learning environment for building literacy skills.

WILD is designed to reflect the world we live in with attention to diversity, inclusivity, compassion, thoughtfulness, and global perspectives.

WILD is a safe site, rich in content. It is abundantly illustrated and offers full-sentence, contextualized definitions that are age-appropriate. These features, combined with child-friendly examples of usage, help build a strong foundation in literacy skills that can be accessed for use in your classroom today! You are just a click away .... Go WILD!