



ISTE Seal Review Findings Report

Seesaw

2023



TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABOUT	3
About ISTE	3
ISTE Seal	3
RESOURCE DESCRIPTION	4
What is Seesaw?	4
How is Seesaw Implemented?	4
ISTE SEAL REVIEW	5
Review Methodology	5
Scope of Review	5
Review Findings	6
CONCLUSION	11

ABOUT

ABOUT ISTE

The International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) is home to a community of global educators and solution providers who are passionate about using technology to revolutionize learning. Our vision is to create a bold community where education innovators are supported in reimagining and redesigning learning with a focus on using technology to create transformational and equitable experiences for learners. We're making this vision a reality by delivering practical guidance, evidence-based professional learning, virtual networks, thought-provoking events and the ISTE Standards.

ISTE SEAL

The ISTE Seal serves as a mark of high-quality product design for solutions that enable and guide high-quality learning. By choosing to demonstrate their commitment to supporting best practices for teaching and learning, these products show a purposeful and meaningful dedication to practical usability, digital pedagogical implementation, and the ISTE Standards. With a focus on user experience, product usability, and the most essential elements of instructional technology today, the ISTE Seal provides a set of criteria and simple indicators to guide educators, students, and technology directors toward the very best products on the market.

ISTE awards a seal only after an extensive analysis conducted by trained ISTE reviewers that ensures a product meets all critical elements under specific review criteria.

By earning an ISTE Seal, ISTE verifies that this product:

- Promotes critical technology skills.
- Supports the use of technology in appropriate ways.
- Incorporates digital pedagogy and the learning sciences.
- Addresses key elements of tech usability, user experience and user interface.
- Aligns to ISTE Standards in specific ways.

RESOURCE DESCRIPTION

WHAT IS Seesaw?

Seesaw is a comprehensive platform for elementary classrooms, empowering students and educators alike. Students can showcase their knowledge and ideas using various multimedia tools, while educators can easily collect and share student work with families. Seesaw combines engaging instruction, assessment, and family engagement in one convenient platform, providing insights into students' growth.

Educators benefit from flexible activities and supplemental curriculum, tracking student progress over time and fostering communication through messages and family accounts. Seesaw's Community Library enables educators to share lessons and activities, thereby creating a collaborative learning environment. With Seesaw, elementary classrooms can foster student empowerment and bring ideas to life.

HOW IS Seesaw IMPLEMENTED?

Seesaw is implemented as an in-classroom digital platform that helps elementary educators meet the unique needs of learners. It offers high-quality instruction, learning insights, and communication features centered on enhancing the learning experience. Educators can create engaging instructional content and utilize multimedia tools for active student participation and expression. Seesaw's assessment and progress-tracking capabilities provide valuable insights for personalized instruction. Effective communication is facilitated through messaging and commenting features, fostering collaboration among students and enabling seamless communication with families. By implementing Seesaw, educators can address the specific needs of elementary learners, delivering quality instruction, leveraging data-driven insights, and fostering a vibrant and engaging learning environment.

ISTE SEAL REVIEW

Product: Seesaw

Product Type: Curriculum

Organization: Seesaw

Date of Award: June 2023

REVIEW METHODOLOGY

ISTE Seal reviews are conducted by a distinguished panel of experts in education, instruction and technology. These experts utilize the most up-to-date data provided by the organization to conduct thorough evaluations of each solution. The evaluations focus on assessing the solution's performance in addressing specific elements outlined in the technical and pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards.

To complete their rigorous evaluations, the reviewers utilize a comprehensive rating system, categorizing each solution as either "meets expectations" or "does not meet expectations." This assessment covers both the required and optional "Look Fors" outlined in the application. To ensure the validity and reliability of their results, the reviewers regularly engage in calibrations. Final review findings are then analyzed and combined, providing an overall score for alignment with each indicator.

At ISTE, we take great pride in our unwavering commitment to delivering results that schools and districts can have full confidence in. To be deemed education-ready learning solutions, products must meet the high standards in learning sciences, user experience and interface, accessibility, and content quality.

SCOPE OF REVIEW

Seesaw was reviewed against the technical, pedagogical usability framework and the ISTE Standards to determine whether **the solution is education-ready**. ISTE reviewers examined all evidence provided by the organization and interacted directly with the product.



REVIEW FINDINGS

ISTE STANDARDS: The ISTE Standards provide the competencies for learning, teaching, and leading in the digital age, providing a comprehensive roadmap for the effective use of technology in schools worldwide. Grounded in learning science research and based on practitioner experience, the ISTE Standards ensure that using technology for learning can create high-impact, sustainable, scalable, and equitable learning experiences for all learners.

1.1.c Empowered Learner

Use technology to seek feedback that informs and improves their practice and to demonstrate their learning in a variety of ways.

2.2.a Digital Citizen


Cultivate and manage their digital identity and reputation and are aware of the permanence of their actions in the digital world.

1.6.a Creative Communicator

Choose the appropriate platforms and tools for meeting the desired objectives of their creation or communication.

1.6.b Creative Communicator

Create original works or responsibly repurpose or remix digital resources into new creations.


FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple tools and media options give students experience with feedback, commenting, and collaborating with a variety of options to demonstrate learning, including audio, video, photos, drawing, and text responses. Content is appropriate to the grade level and scaffolds to build students' awareness and skills. Digital citizenship lessons for K-3 and 4-5 follow a similar format: introduction, practice, connect, and show what you know to allow students to learn about and explore real-world digital choices. 	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Multiple modes of communication and tools are available for students to communicate their ideas. Photo, audio, video, or screencasting, in addition to all the drawing tools, shapes, and text boxes, allow students to demonstrate their learning. • Students are empowered with A wide range of tools and options to create original work, either through their selected medium or by remixing and repurposing existing artifacts. 	
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DIMENSION 1: USER INTERFACE AND AGENCY

Definition: The design of the product interface and user experience helps teachers quickly and reliably achieve instructional goals. This dimension includes features related to interface design, learnability, navigation, maximizing time on task, control over actions, and general usability.

FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navigation is intuitive, simple, and has been arranged in consistent categories of information and tasks. • Design responds to the user with icons appearing and disappearing as needed, not cluttering the screen. • Tools are available to customize the student experience at every level, including class, folders, and activities. • Support resources include an on-demand chatbot, support library, and easily searchable product Help Center. 	


DIMENSION 2: LEARNING DESIGN

Definition: The product has features that exhibit and promote design and customization of learning episodes in ways that align with research-based best practices, including those rooted in the learning sciences.



FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outcomes, standards, and objectives are included in lessons with “I will statements” for students to understand their learning goals. • The combination and variety of media types used in lessons support engaged learning. • Content can be created and remixed from existing lessons and customized to meet individual needs. • Lessons and activities include templates or embedded tools that ask students to reflect on concepts and ideas and make personal connections. 	
<p>DIMENSION 3: DIGITAL PEDAGOGY</p> <p>Definition: The product is designed to support the development of digital age learning skills, capacities and knowledge. This dimension focuses on how technology can help students and teachers experience the best possible learning experiences, including the social and learning affordances that digital educational products uniquely offer.</p>	
FEEDBACK	OUTCOME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessons presented in real-world contexts with opportunities to create or remix artifacts to demonstrate learning. • Open-ended problem-solving challenges guide students through the design process and offer opportunities to curate information into a final product and reflect. • Content organizational structure reflects problem or concept deconstruction. 	



<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class and project blogs are available for ongoing group collaboration, and settings can be enabled to allow students to comment on each other's work. 	
<p>DIMENSION 4: INCLUSIVITY</p> <p>Definition: The product helps teachers provide learning experiences that are relevant to students of many cultures, backgrounds, and abilities, and support learner motivation and agency in the learning process. The product meets current guidelines around accessibility, and supports a positive classroom culture.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">FEEDBACK</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OUTCOME</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Diverse community represented throughout the platform, including through narration, images, and avatars. Recurring theme of "I Am A..." allowing students to take on roles and tasks from different perspectives. Many lessons address inclusivity through the lens of Social Emotional Learning (SEL). 	
<p>DIMENSION 5: ASSESSMENT AND DATA</p> <p>Definition: The product uses formative assessments – learning experiences that help make visible what students know and don't yet know – to generate data that inform teachers about student knowledge and skill gaps, and provide students assessment feedback that is specific, actionable, and constructive. As such, it guides teachers' instructional decisions and students' learning journeys.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">FEEDBACK</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">OUTCOME</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Various assessment types are available for educators to use or create within lessons and activities. Instructions are clear and set student criteria for success. Multiple ways for students to submit artifacts, including activities within the platform and uploading. 	



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Robust feedback features allow educators, students, and families to receive and send feedback. Work can be sent back and forth until both student and educator are satisfied with the product.• Progress/skills views allow educators to see activities completed and mastery of skills. | |
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CONCLUSION

Seesaw provides an intuitive and user-friendly navigation system, ensuring a seamless user experience while also offering customizable tools and comprehensive support resources to enhance student engagement and facilitate individualized learning experiences. By incorporating learning goals, diverse media types, customizable content, and reflective activities, the platform is designed to actively promote student engagement and support personalized learning journeys. Moreover, Seesaw immerses students in real-world contexts through its lessons, encouraging the creation of artifacts, facilitating open-ended problem-solving challenges, and fostering collaborative group work through class and project blogs. With a commitment to diversity and inclusivity, students explore roles and tasks from different perspectives and participate in numerous lessons focused on Social Emotional Learning (SEL).

The platform also offers a comprehensive range of assessment types accompanied by clear instructions and well-defined success criteria. Students benefit from multiple options to submit their work, while robust feedback features enable effective communication between students, educators, and families. Overall, Seesaw empowers students by providing them with a multitude of tools and media options to showcase their learning, fosters digital citizenship skills, facilitates various modes of communication, and encourages creativity through creating original works and remixing existing artifacts.