FlexBooks® Overview

Picking and Getting Started with Your FlexBook®:
I'd also like to welcome everybody to Jumpstart because it's a really exciting opportunity for you to get some support while you're creating your digital textbooks and you're also using all the different things available on CK-12. I know that many of you have actually joined the Jumpstart Program to make a FlexBook® so that's exactly what I am going to show you and I'm going to show you how easy it is.

CK-12 is one of the first organizations that was part of the OER movement, Open Educational Resources. We originally began with digital textbooks that we called FlexBooks®, but since then we've really branched off into other meaningful ways of promoting student learning. And these include Concept Based Learning, our wonderful Interactives which really let the students get involved with a concept, and, finally, our Adaptive Practice which helps the students learn the things they know and don't know.

But today it's all about the FlexBooks® and we're going to get you started in 3 easy steps.

These steps are simply: pick one of the existing CK-12 FlexBooks®, then customize and rename it, and, finally, share the URL with anybody that wants to use your book.

Step 1: Pick a CK-12 FlexBook®
Step 1 - Let's go pick a CK-12 FlexBook®. CK-12 has done a lot of the heavy lifting for you already. We have middle school and high school math and science plus so many other subjects. You can start with one of our books or you can start by creating your own. You can also use a book that was created by somebody else and posted and published on our site. We're going to go look now and see how to the find the content you're looking for on CK-12.

So let's get started now. Signing in is easy because I'm already signed in with my Google credentials, so I'm going to click there. So once I've signed in, it brings me to the CK-12 main webpage. And you can see that all the different branches are available down here. Mostly math and science but like I said we have a number of other subjects, too.

Today, I'm going to be customizing a Biology book, so I'm going to go to the Biology Branch. The first thing you are going to see is all the concepts used as part of our concept based learning about Biology. But I want to start with a complete textbook that CK-12 has already created, so I'm going to click on the FlexBook® Textbook button and then immediately I'm going to open up the CK-12 Biology Book.

Step 2: Customize and Rename a Book
The second step is Customize and Rename the Book. So all we have to do is come over here and click customize. Since this is a made up school I'm going to make up a really touchy feely school--let's call New Horizons Biology--and I click save. And there you have it. We now have

the new Horizons Biology book that is the book based on the CK-12 book. You can continue customizing it by clicking on "Edit,"and you'll be able to change the order, add content, delete content, whatever you'd like.

Step 3: Share the URL
The final step is share the URL. Your customized book has a unique URL. All you have to do is highlight the URL, copy it, and now you can share it in an email through your LMS or any other way with your students or even parents and other teachers.

The great thing about all the content on CK-12 is that you can use it with any device. That can be a laptop or a chromebook, a tablet, or even your student's smartphone. CK-12 content is available anytime, anywhere.

So in just three easy steps you can see how to really get started customizing your own FlexBooks®. You pick the FlexBook® that you want to customize from the CK-12 Library, you give it a new name, and then you share it with your students and other people.

This just gets you started making your own digital FlexBook®. You can keep going and you can add content, you can organize it, and you can delete content. Anything you want: You're in charge. Hopefully at this point you can see that you can come to CK-12 and simply use our books and share that with your students and you can get started right now. Of course you can keep learning more about how CK-12 can help you customize what you're trying to do. But the good news is: If you want to keep it simple, we can give you that, too.

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