

GoOpenVA:

Virginia's Open Educational
Repository for VA Educators



Introduction

Access to Open Educational Resources: free high-quality materials and resources.

Community Collaboration and Sharing: create, share and remix

Customization for Personalized Learning: empowers educators and promotes instructional practices.

Support for the Virginia Educational Technology Plan



1: Access:

Strengthen schools and communities with a safe, secure, and robust technology infrastructure to support access to all educators, students, leaders, and families.



2. Use:

Promote leadership that supports learning experiences for all students that integrate innovative instructional practices by educators using technology and accessible instructional materials.



3. Design

Implement high expectations for every learner using educational technologies explicitly designed into rigorous, best-in-class standards of learning.

← Virginia Educational Technology Plan →

2. Use 2.2.d

2.2 Promote the use of a variety of innovative instructional strategies, practices, and resources developed with current, emerging, and accessible technology-based resources to support the innovative instructional approaches in the classroom.

d. Continue to develop and distribute free resources for educators and students in GoOpenVA and eMedia.

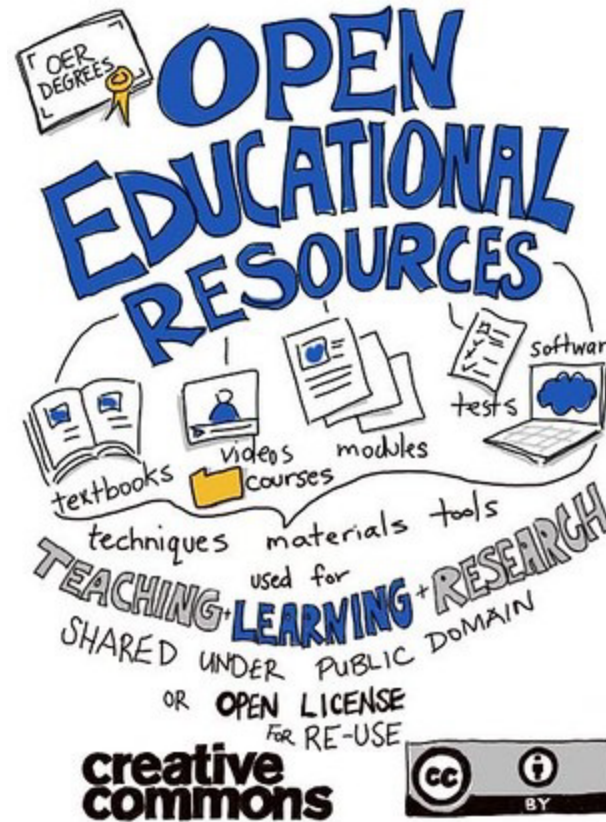
WHAT IS OER?

Teaching, learning, and research materials

Different compared to public domain or free resources

Shared under an open license

- Tagged with an open license
- No cost
- No permission to access materials
- Access to revise
- Access to remix and redistribute



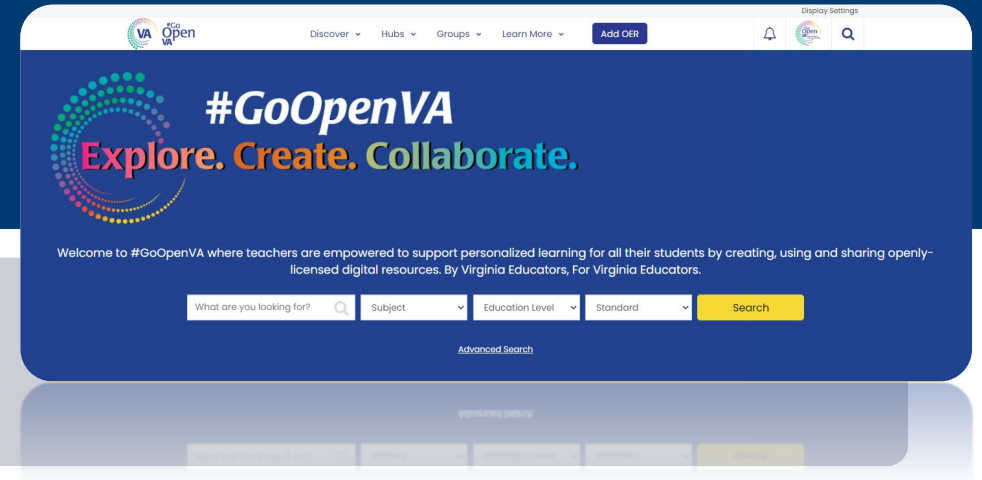
WHAT IS GOOPENVA?



ACCESS



GoOpenVA.org



Anyone can access GoOpenVA to view materials. You do not need an account to do that. However, to contribute, you will need to register.



Registered users may submit resources for review for publication.



If your division is not providing access through single-sign-on, contact info@goopenva.org

Access

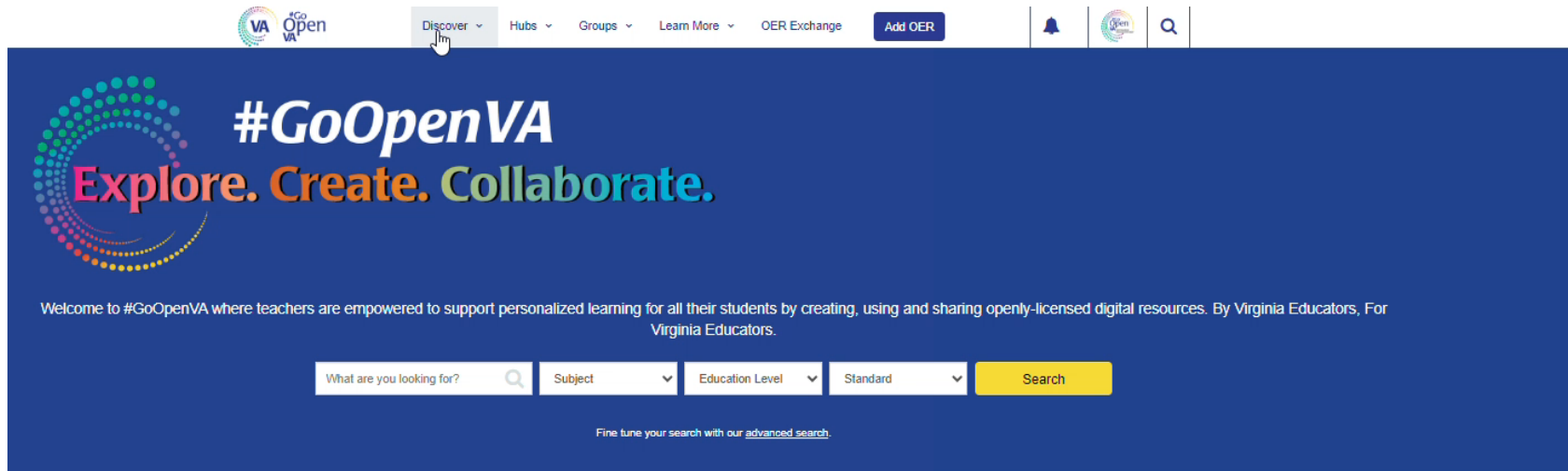
Open Educational Resources (OERs) – GoOpenVA provides free, high-quality teaching materials that educators and students can access without financial barriers. This ensures that all learners, regardless of background, have opportunities to engage with aligned, educational content.

Collaborative Sharing & Customization – Educators can search, modify, and share lesson plans, activities, and instructional materials that align with their specific needs. This flexibility creates learning environments that would benefit all learners.

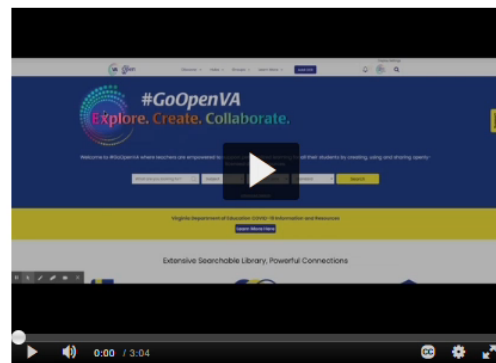
Cross-District Access & Engagement – Since GoOpenVA is an open platform, educators and students across Virginia can collaborate, discover new approaches to learning, and incorporate best practices from peers in different districts—expanding access to innovative teaching strategies.

If you need assistance with access to resources - [Support : #GoOpenVA Help Center](#)

Accessing Resources



The screenshot shows the homepage of the #GoOpenVA website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the #GoOpenVA logo on the left, followed by menu items: "Discover" (with a dropdown arrow), "Hubs" (with a dropdown arrow), "Groups" (with a dropdown arrow), "Learn More" (with a dropdown arrow), "OER Exchange", and "Add OER" (a blue button). To the right of the navigation bar are icons for a notification bell, the #GoOpenVA logo, and a search icon. The main content area has a dark blue background. On the left is a circular graphic made of colored dots. To its right, the text "#GoOpenVA" is written in white, with "Explore. Create. Collaborate." below it in a colorful, multi-colored font. Below this, a welcome message reads: "Welcome to #GoOpenVA where teachers are empowered to support personalized learning for all their students by creating, using and sharing openly-licensed digital resources. By Virginia Educators, For Virginia Educators." Below the message is a search bar with the placeholder text "What are you looking for?" and a search icon. To the right of the search bar are three dropdown menus labeled "Subject", "Education Level", and "Standard", followed by a yellow "Search" button. At the bottom of the search area, there is a link: "Fine tune your search with our [advanced search](#)."



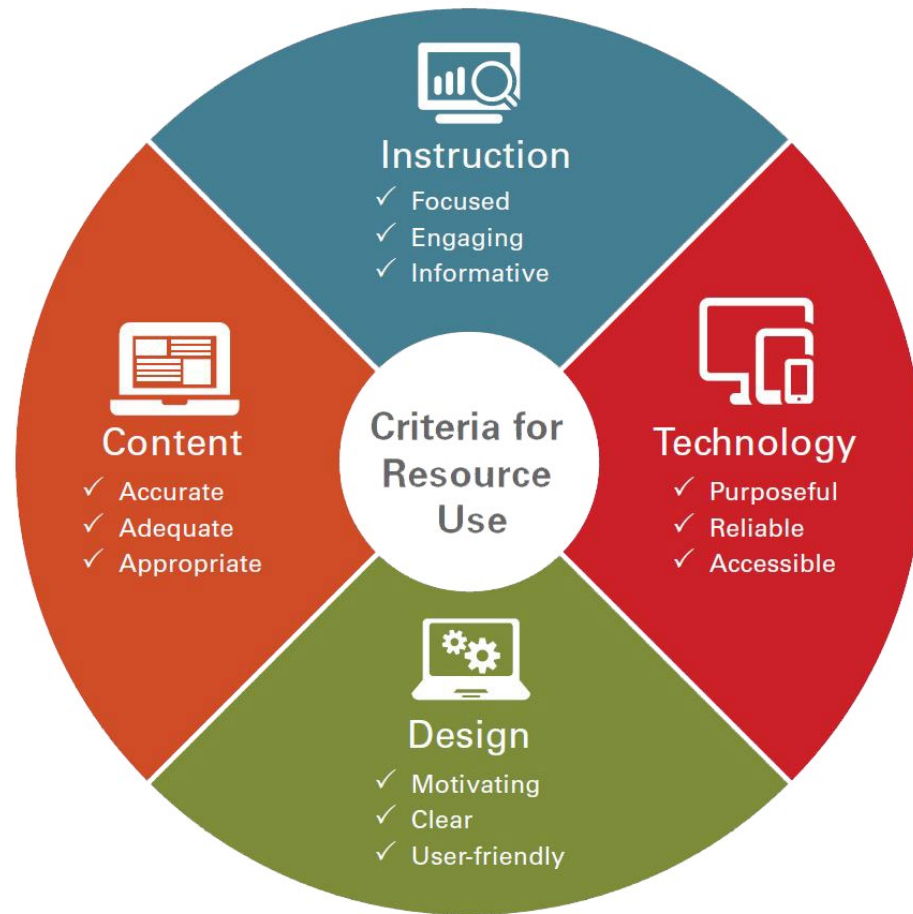
#GoOpenVA Short Overview and Welcome

New to #GoOpenVA?

Come into the Users Hub for helpful information, how-to videos, and tips. You will find information organized by the different things you can do on our site, such as how to search and how to adapt (customize) resources for your own students' needs.

Welcome to the Users Hub!

EVALUATE WITH THE ACHIEVE QUALITY REVIEW



The screenshot shows the '3D Space Travel' resource page on the Achieve Quality Review platform. The page includes a title, a star rating, and buttons for 'View Resource' and 'Save'. Below the title is a 'Description' section with an overview, subject, level, grades, material type, author, and date added. To the right, there is a 'Standards' section showing alignment with Virginia Mathematics Standards of Learning Grade 2. At the bottom right, the 'Evaluations' section is circled in blue, showing 'No evaluations yet' and a prompt to 'Add important feedback and evaluate this resource.' There are also 'Tags (6)' listed below the evaluations.

• [From North Carolina State University](#)

Contact info@goopenva.org

Before creating your own OER, try evaluating a few resources

ADDING RESOURCES

Do you own the content?

Review the Achieve Quality Rubric

What is your Condition of Use?

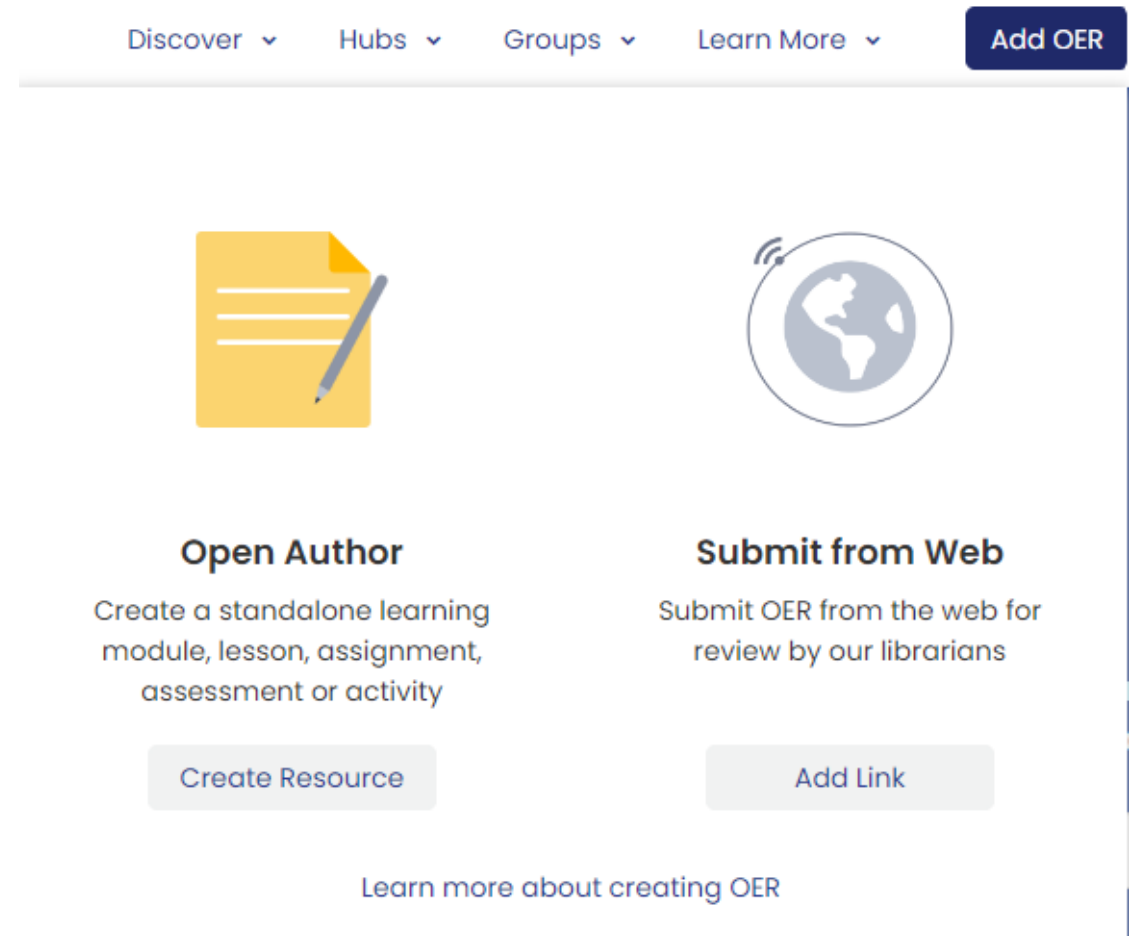
Submit from Web

Occasionally you may need to just add a broad URL.

This is not generally helpful to most teachers because you lose the ability to remix the resource.

If you find a site that might be useful which has great free resources, you can use the Submit from Web.

Our librarians will review the request before publication.



The screenshot shows the top navigation bar of the OpenStax website with links for 'Discover', 'Hubs', 'Groups', and 'Learn More', and a prominent 'Add OER' button. Below the navigation, there are two main options for adding resources:

- Open Author:** Represented by a yellow document icon with a pencil. The text below it says 'Open Author' and 'Create a standalone learning module, lesson, assignment, assessment or activity'. A button labeled 'Create Resource' is positioned below the text.
- Submit from Web:** Represented by a globe icon with a signal wave. The text below it says 'Submit from Web' and 'Submit OER from the web for review by our librarians'. A button labeled 'Add Link' is positioned below the text.

At the bottom of the section, there is a link that says 'Learn more about creating OER'.

Submitting Open Author Material for Approval

To get started, click Add OER at the top of your screen then select Open Author.

1. Enter a title for your resource.
2. Upload an image to display as the opening image for the resource.
3. Provide a section name for the first section of your resource.
4. Enter Main Content. This is the main content of your lesson or resource, and is **viewable by students**. **If you import from Google Docs or OneDrive, please be sure it is the STUDENT VIEW!**
5. Click the Add Section Resource button to upload an attachment or link.
6. Add Instructor Notes. This is where you will include items the educator will need to know like supplies, objectives, and agenda.
7. Insert new sections as needed.

The screenshot shows a form for submitting Open Author material. It is titled "Test Resource" at the top. The form is divided into several sections, each with a numbered red circle indicating a step:

- 1**: A text input field for the title.
- 2**: An "Add title image" section with a file upload icon and a "file size limit 10MB" note.
- 3**: A "Section Name" text input field.
- 4**: A "Main Content" text area with a rich text editor toolbar. A large blue arrow points to this area with the text "Check Accessibility!".
- 5**: An "Attach Section Resources" section with a dashed box and a paperclip icon.
- 6**: An "Instructor Notes (Optional)" section with a text input field and a "Click here to type" link.
- 7**: A blue button at the bottom labeled "Insert New Section".

Below the "Main Content" area, there are two links: "Import from Google Docs" and "Import OneDrive Word Document".

Submitting Open Author Material for Approval

1. Add an overview of the topic.
2. In the Conditions of Use dropdown, select how you would like your work to be used. See [this article](#) for more information on conditions of use.
3. Add a Preview Image.
4. If this is for students, PLEASE add the standards of learning! This is imperative for our educators to find the resources.
5. Give Permission.
6. Click the Green box at the bottom to submit for review.

Want more details? Please see articles at <https://info.goopenva.org/support/solutions/folders/42000103989>

The screenshot shows the Open Author submission form with the following sections and callouts:

- Subjects***: Select Some Optic
- Education Levels***: Select Some Optic
- Material Types*** [what's this?](#): Select Some Optic
- Languages***: Select Some Optic
- Additional Descriptions (Optional)**: 4
- Educational standards**: Not Yet Aligned. Select Standard: 4
- Media formats**: Select Some Optic
- Educational use**: Select Some Optic
- Primary User**: Select Some Optic
- Accessibility**: Select Some Optic
- Keywords**: Add keyword tags
- Separate tags with** ENTER or ,
- Acknowledgement of use permissions**: 5
 - By checking this box I am declaring that I have the right to use and share all images, videos and other content inside this resource with the original creator's consent*
- Overview***: 1. A rich text editor with a red circle 1 in the center.
- Conditions of Use***: Attribution. 2. Attribution - (CC) BY. A red circle 2 is next to the license selection.
- Preview Image**: 3. A preview image area with a red circle 3 in the top right corner.
- Buttons**: 6. A green 'Publish' button at the bottom right with a red circle 6 next to it.

Don't forget to align with the VA Standards of Learning!

Creating, Accessing, & Sharing Content

Rich Repository of Aligned Resources – Educators can build upon existing open educational resources (OERs), remix content, and create customized instructional materials to meet the needs of their students. This allows participants to create and share lessons that align to the Virginia Standards of Learning.

Collaboration & Peer Review – GoOpenVA provides a platform where educators can co-create, refine, and share content with colleagues across Virginia. Feedback from peers enhances the quality and effectiveness of newly developed materials.

Flexible Formats & Digital Tools – The platform offers templates, multimedia integration, and digital tools to help educators design engaging content that aligns with modern learning standards, making materials accessible and interactive.

Working with Collections

To create a **Collection**:

1. Add resources to the OER using the Open Author Tool.
2. Tag each of the resources with the same tag, endorsement, author, or provider.
3. From the search on the first page, search for the tag.
4. Send an email to info@goopenva.org that includes the
 - URL of results from your search in Step 3.
 - Image
 - Overview of the collection
5. The administrators of GoOpenVA.org will email once the collection is created.

More information on [Collections](#)

Collaboration




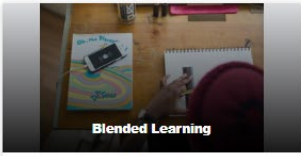




Educators can curate and organize resources into organized **Collections**.

This creates easy access and the ability to share materials on specific topics.

This allows teachers to group related lesson plans, activities, and instructional content, ensuring that valuable resources are readily available for collaborative use.



#GoOpenVA Collections

 #GoOpenVA 11 Resources	 Instructional Playbook 13 Resources	 Internet Safety 190 Resources
 Blended Learning 35 Resources	 Blue Ridge PBS Appalachian Music 19 Resources	 VA250 53 Resources
 GoOpenVA Mini-Grants 515 Resources	 VCU School of Education VCU STEM Project 31 Resources	 VCU Chesapeake Bay Watersheds Oysters Role Play: Secondary Lessons 11 Resources

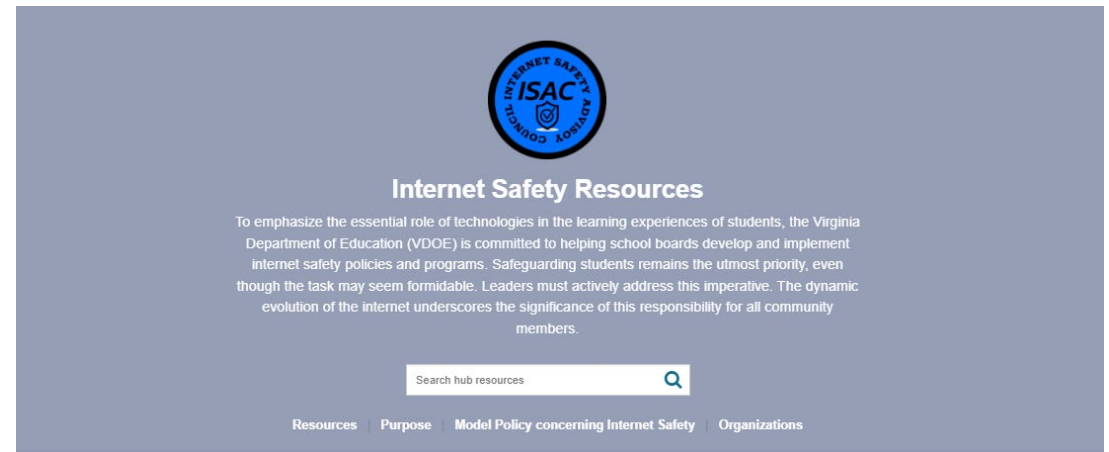
Working with Hubs

Hubs are dedicated spaces where content and groups are curated around particular topics, themes, and learning goals.

Can be organized in a variety of ways.

Set up by GoOpenVA. If you are interested in creating a Hub for your organization, please email info@goopenva.org

More information on [Hubs](#)

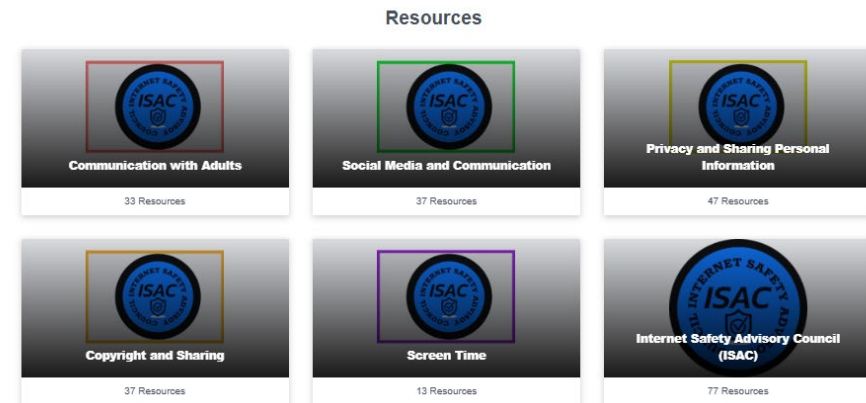


Internet Safety Resources

To emphasize the essential role of technologies in the learning experiences of students, the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) is committed to helping school boards develop and implement internet safety policies and programs. Safeguarding students remains the utmost priority, even though the task may seem formidable. Leaders must actively address this imperative. The dynamic evolution of the internet underscores the significance of this responsibility for all community members.

Search hub resources

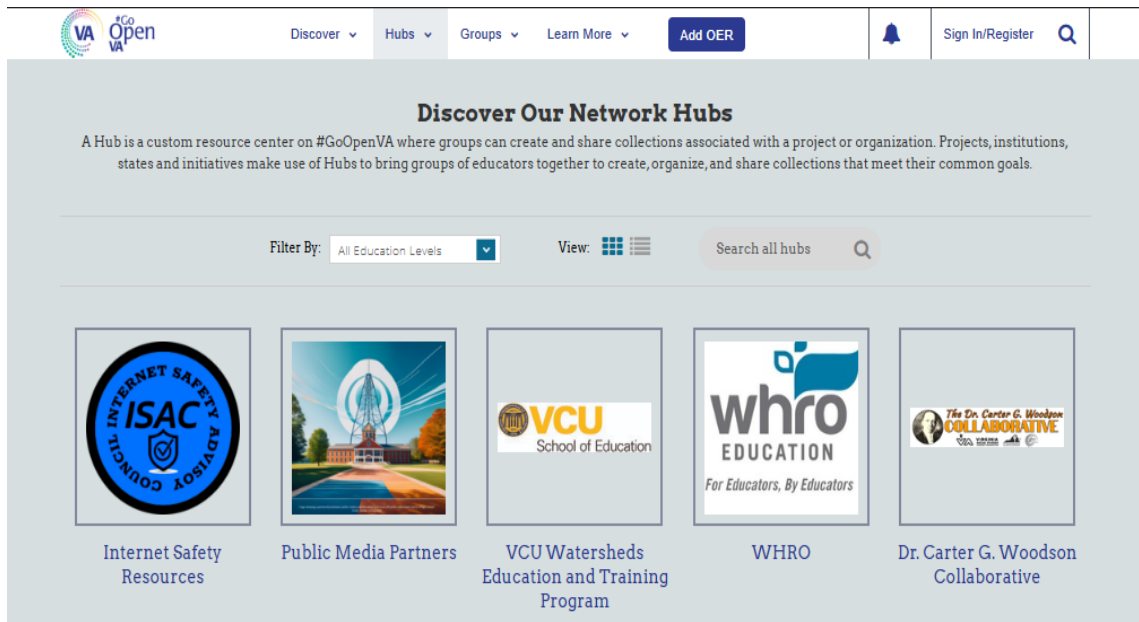
Resources | Purpose | Model Policy concerning Internet Safety | Organizations



Resources

Resource Title	Number of Resources
Communication with Adults	33 Resources
Social Media and Communication	37 Resources
Privacy and Sharing Personal Information	47 Resources
Copyright and Sharing	37 Resources
Screen Time	13 Resources
Internet Safety Advisory Council (ISAC)	77 Resources

Collaboration



The screenshot shows the #GoOpenVA Network Hubs page. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the #GoOpenVA logo, a search bar, and links for Discover, Hubs, Groups, Learn More, Add OER, Sign In/Register, and a notification bell. Below the navigation bar, the main heading is "Discover Our Network Hubs". A descriptive paragraph explains that a Hub is a custom resource center on #GoOpenVA where groups can create and share collections associated with a project or organization. Below the text, there are filters for "Filter By: All Education Levels" and "View: [grid icon] [list icon]". A search bar labeled "Search all hubs" is also present. The main content area displays five network hubs, each with a logo and a title: 1. Internet Safety Resources (ISAC logo), 2. Public Media Partners (tower logo), 3. VCU Watersheds Education and Training Program (VCU School of Education logo), 4. WHRO (WHRO Education logo), and 5. Dr. Carter G. Woodson Collaborative (Dr. Carter G. Woodson Collaborative logo).

Hubs serve as centralized spaces for organizations, school districts, or professional learning communities to share and develop educational materials.

They provide a structured environment where educators can contribute, refine, and distribute content tailored to their specific needs, fostering collaboration across different institutions.

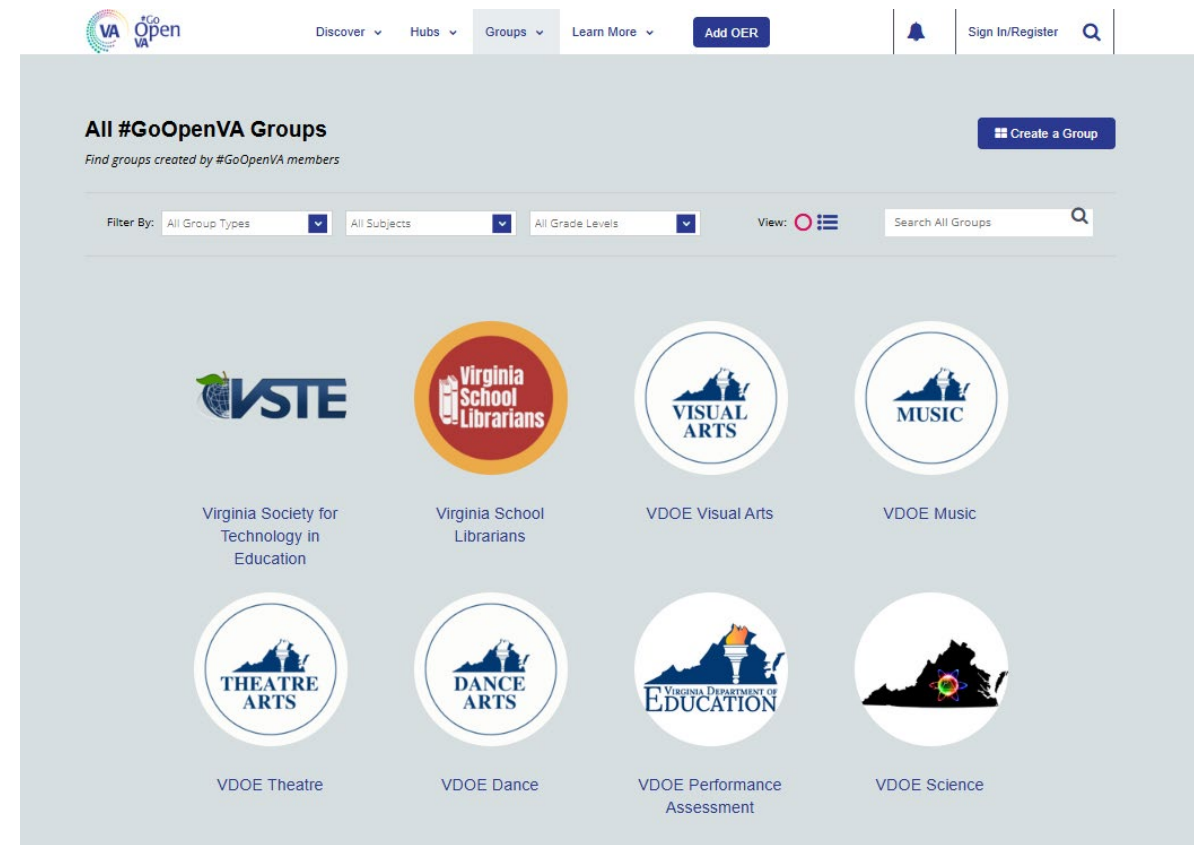
Collaboration

Groups – Groups enable educators to **connect and collaborate** based on shared interests, subjects, or teaching strategies.

Within these groups, members can discuss best practices, exchange ideas, and co-create resources that enhance learning experiences.

Some groups are open to all educators, while others may be private for specialized collaboration.

More information on [Groups](#)

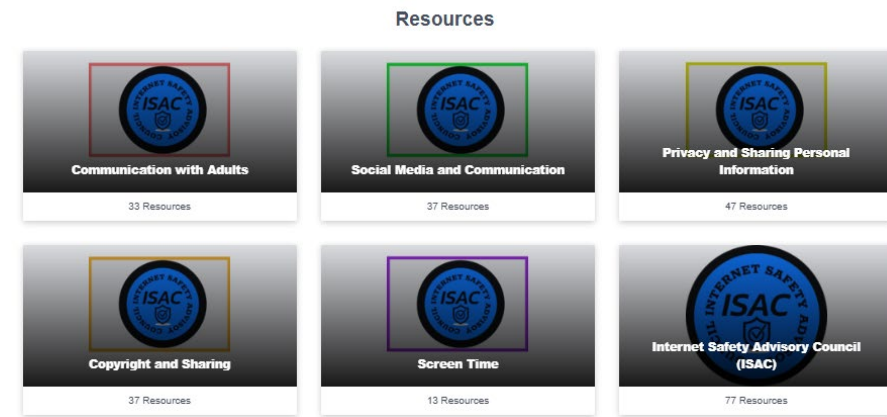
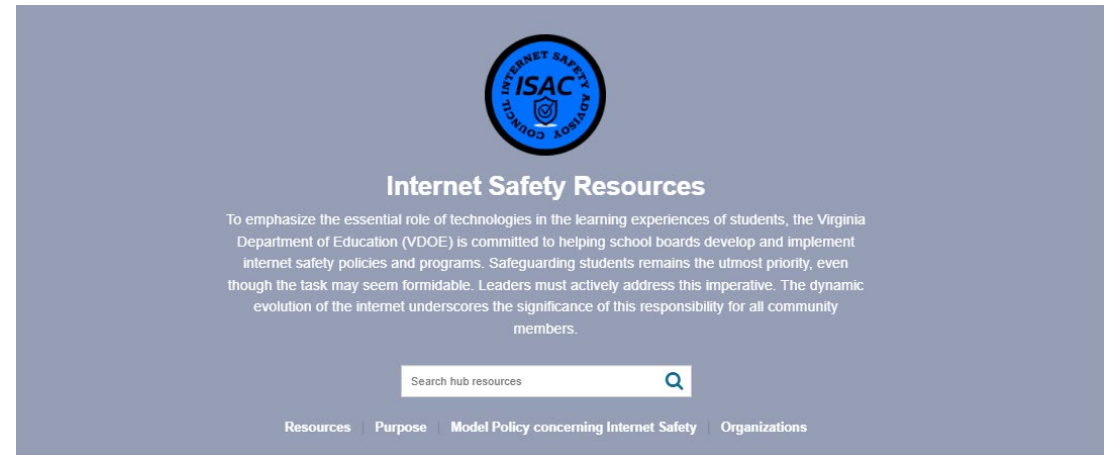


Let's Explore Together

1. Search for Resources
2. Save Resources to your folder
3. Search Through Collections
4. Search Through Hubs

If time allows,

5. Align a resource with the standards of learning
6. Create a resource in Open Author
7. Submit a resource in Submit from Web



Summary

GoOpenVA can help to:

Empower Educators – GoOpenVA offers a variety of Open Educational Resources (OERs), allowing teachers to customize and adapt materials to fit their students' needs. This flexibility encourages innovation in lesson planning and instructional strategies.

Enhance Student Engagement – With interactive and high-quality learning materials, students can access content that aligns with their interests and learning styles.

Optimize Collaboration – Educators can connect through **Collections**, **Hubs**, and **Groups**, sharing community-driven resources, where teachers collaborate across districts to improve learning outcomes.

