App Evaluation

Title: Newsela Students

Version: 2.4.4

Publisher/Producer/Creator: Newsela

Target Audience: Students age 4+

Type(s) of Software: Problem-Solving - students read articles either freely or assigned to them by a teacher, analyzing the article, and then answer questions related to the article.

Curriculum(s): This can definitely fit into the school curriculum, due to the ability that teachers have to assign reading. Based on this, an effective teacher could assign engaging and interesting articles to reinforce the curriculum taught in class.

Cost: *Newsela* used to be largely free, but it is now mostly subscription-based. The free version does not give Teachers/Administration access to student data; however, "students can still have access to their own progress tracker." This was a direct quote from the Newsela FAQ Forum.

- However, Newsela Students is **free** for teachers, so they can create their own classrooms and assign readings to their students.

Explaining the Software: In Newsela, students create an account. Much like other news apps, the students select topics that interest them. Then, the students can join their teacher's classroom on the app. From here, students can read articles that interests them, and teachers can also assign reading through the app. This is the part that really interests me. I think this could be a great resource for students of all ages, as reading that truly interests them is an effective tool for refining their literacy. The reason that this software is labeled as Problem-Solving, is because there are quizzes at the end of each article that teachers can assign, to make sure the students are actually doing the reading. This requires the students to truly analyze the article, and make a true attempt at the quiz at the end. This data can then be tracked and monitored by the teacher, and used to help guide their class in the future.

Impressions / Can I Use it in My Class? I don't think I could effectively use it in my class as a Math teacher, but this could be a great resource for English, Social Studies, or even Science.

Does the software pass Review? Yes.

Does the software pass Evaluation? Yes.