



Info to Help Discuss the Benefits of CPS Connects

Q: What is CPS Connects?

A: **CPS Connects** is one component of CPS's personalized learning initiative, P.L.A.Y. (Personalized Learning Advancing Youth). In conjunction with The Chicago City of Learning (CCOL), CPS is launching **CPS Connects** which provides students **free virtual learning opportunities as well as live activities outside of his/her school and neighborhood. At this time, challenges are available for 3rd - 12th grade students.**

Q: How can CPS Connects benefit my students and school?

A: The learning experiences recommended on the CCOL website are driven by the student's specific interests; therefore, it allows him/her to take ownership of his/her personalized learning experiences. In addition, **CPS Connects** provides students connected learning environments by linking learning in school, home and community. It also allows teachers to use data and students' individual interest to drive instruction.

Q: How do Students Claim Their Account?

- A:**
1. Visit www.ChicagoCityOfLearning.org/CPS-Connects
 2. Enter student name and CPS ID#
 3. Gain access to a variety of free, interest-based learning activities

Q: Does CPS Connects have a cost?

A: No! All virtual and in-person learning opportunities are absolutely **free** to all Chicago Public Schools students.

Q: What are digital badges?

A: When students learn a new skill or participate in a program, they will earn digital badges to recognize their accomplishment. Badges can be used to link one learning opportunity to the next – i.e.: a challenge online, for example, followed by a class at a museum. Schools can also earn digital badges to promote on their school website demonstrating their success with technology integration.

Q: What are the technology requirements?

- A:** There are 3 Technology Classifications for Classroom-Level Projects:
- Low**: Requires internet – projects with digital submission only
 - Medium**: Requires internet + Microsoft Office Suite, Google apps, etc.
 - High: Requires internet + Flash, Java, etc.
- * Before deploying to classrooms, please test challenge to determine technological compatibility.
** Low and medium classified projects can be completed on any device (i.e.: Smartphone, iPad, PC, etc.)

Q: Where can I get my questions answered or find more information?

A: Please email CPSCconnects@cps.edu or visit <https://chicagocityoflearning.org/CPS-Connects>