Lightbox Makes it a Snap to Integrate Technology into Classrooms Using the SAMR Model

An effective digital strategy involves much more than simply putting existing lesson plans online and distributing eBooks. The SAMR Model provides a holistic approach to digital learning. It allows educators to transform learning experiences and improve student achievement through the use of technology.

What Is the SAMR Model?

The SAMR Model was created by Dr. Ruben Puentedura as a simple and effective way to integrate technology with traditional classroom instruction. Technology integration typically moves through several levels, with the most educational value happening at the highest levels. Dr. Puentedura simplified this process into four key steps that make it easy for educators to create engaging, technology-driven learning experiences and gauge the effectiveness of their digital strategy.



Why Use the SAMR Model?

With many schools opting for a total remote learning approach and others modifying their traditional classrooms in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, educators need an integrated technology approach they can count on now more than ever. SAMR is to technology what Bloom's Taxonomy of Learning is to instructional strategy and the Kirkpatrick Model is to learning evaluation.

How Does Lightbox Use the SAMR Model?

Lightbox is a rich, multimodal classroom resource that successfully implements the SAMR Model. It uses technology to transform the traditional learning experience. As a multimodal resource, Lightbox uses multiple modes, including illustrations, audio, videos, weblinks, and more, to help educators engage visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners.

Educators can access an entire toolkit of digital resources that enhance the learning environment. Lightbox is easy for all educators to use, whatever their level of comfort with technology. It can be worked into existing lesson plans with a host of ready-made, curriculum-based multimedia assets.

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Replace printed curriculum materials with digital texts, firsthand accounts, maps, and more. Enable students to complete and submit worksheets, tests, and activities online or by email.	Integrate intuitive and dynamic multimedia resources not found in traditional teaching materials into lesson plans. Enhance learning experiences with dynamic illustrations and curriculum-aligned videos, audio, weblinks, and activities. Provide immediate learner feedback using the automatic grading feature, so students know the extent of their learning immediately upon completion.	Create presentations, videos, artwork, and other projects using digital Lightbox resources that make it easy to tailor the learning experience to individual interests and needs. Provide varying perspectives and points of view on specific issues or events to facilitate a deeper interaction between students, their peers, and educators. Use infographics to provide visual learners with graphic representations of fascinating facts. Maintain contact with learners even when teaching remotely.	Provide a multimodal, multisensory experience that goes beyond traditional classroom teaching and engages different learning styles while still covering the same core material. Give students the opportunity to accelerate their learning if they are ready for more advanced materials. Explore a variety of subject areas through virtual visits to historic sites, museums, science centers, and other facilities while using the Google Maps feature to gain further insight into specific locations. Provide a launching pad for the creation of multimedia projects, ranging from videos and short films to multimedia art installations, on a variety of subjects.	

LIGHTBOX FEATURES		ENHANCEMENT		TRANSFORMATION		
GRADES K-2	GRADES 3-8	GRADES 9–12	S SUBSTITUTION	AUGMENTATION	MODIFICATION	R
Reading	Reading	Reading	Digital content	Interactive eBooks		V Distance education
Audio	Audio	Audio		Text-to-speech	Auditory learning	
Video	Video	Video		Scaffolding	Audio/visual learning	Multisensory experience
Activity	Activity	Activity	Online worksheets		Kinesthetic learning	
Weblink	Weblink	Weblink		In-depth research	Independent study	Individual needs
Slideshow	Slideshow	Slideshow			Visual learning	Multimedia creation
Google Maps	Google Maps	Google Maps	Real-world locations	Visualization		Virtual exploration
QUIZ Quiz	QUIZ Quiz	QUIZ		Automatic grading	Progress reports	
Key Words	Key Words	Key Words		Instant feedback	Self assessment	
	Transparency	Transparency			Step-by-step layering	
		First Hand	Digital documents	Varied perspectives		
		Docs	Curated articles	Supplementary content		
		More	Additional excerpts			