



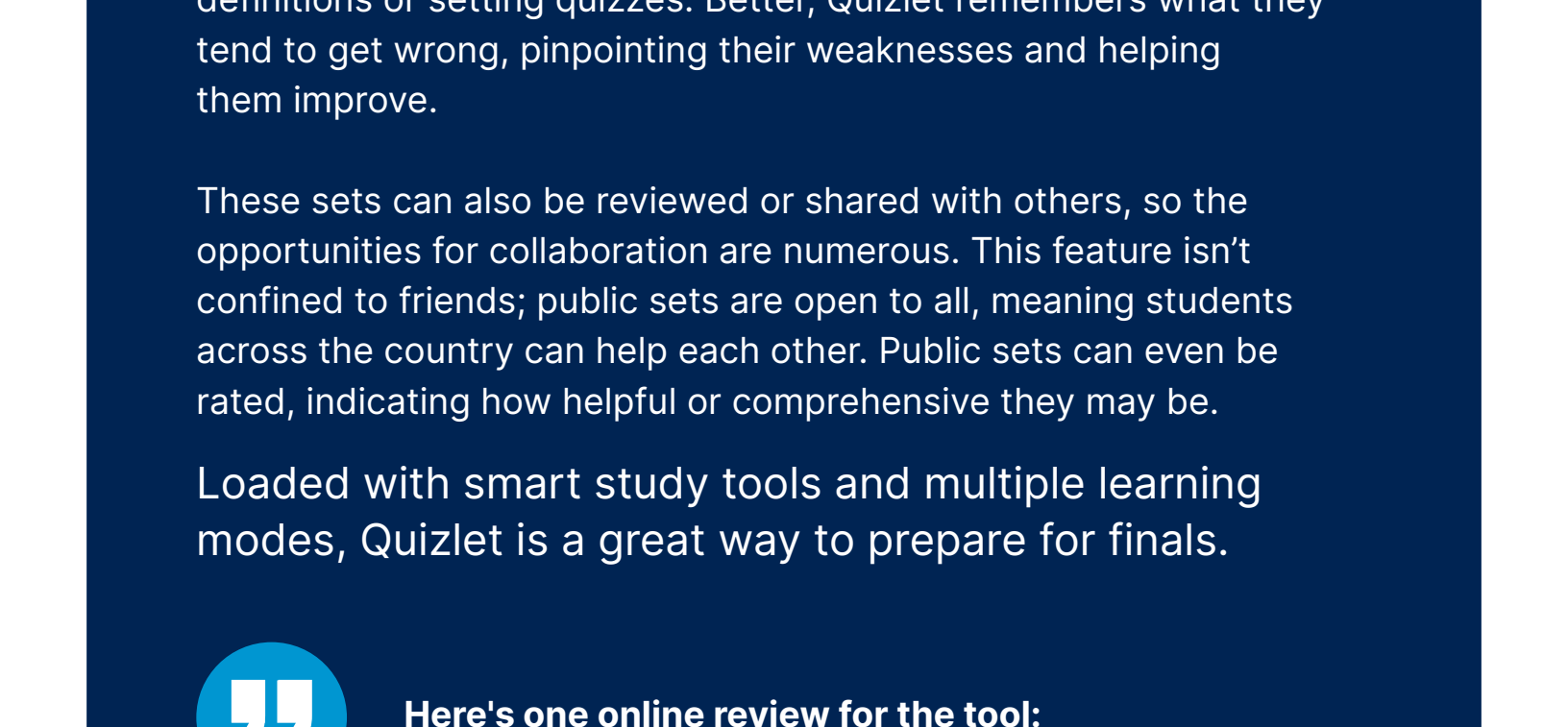
RingCentral

## 5 online collaboration tools for students

When learning takes place online, encouraging collaboration among students can seem a daunting prospect.

That said, every cloud has its silver lining, and each day brings a new and exciting virtual development. From digital flashcards to annotated YouTube videos, technology enhances our intellectual potential to almost dizzying heights.

Sometimes, students only need a nudge to get started. There's an overwhelming number of choices out there, but RingCentral has compiled five of the most popular tools into a handy list. They should help you—and your students—decide where to begin.



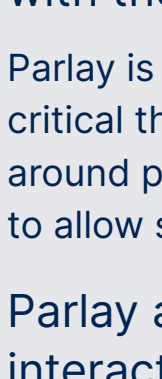
### For collaborative studying: Quizlet

Possibly the most well-known tool on this list, Quizlet allows students to make sets of virtual flashcards.

Students can review these sets at leisure, pairing words with definitions or setting quizzes. Better, Quizlet remembers what they tend to get wrong, pinpointing their weaknesses and helping them improve.

These sets can also be reviewed or shared with others, so the opportunities for collaboration are numerous. This feature isn't confined to friends; public sets are open to all, meaning students across the country can help each other. Public sets can even be rated, indicating how helpful or comprehensive they may be.

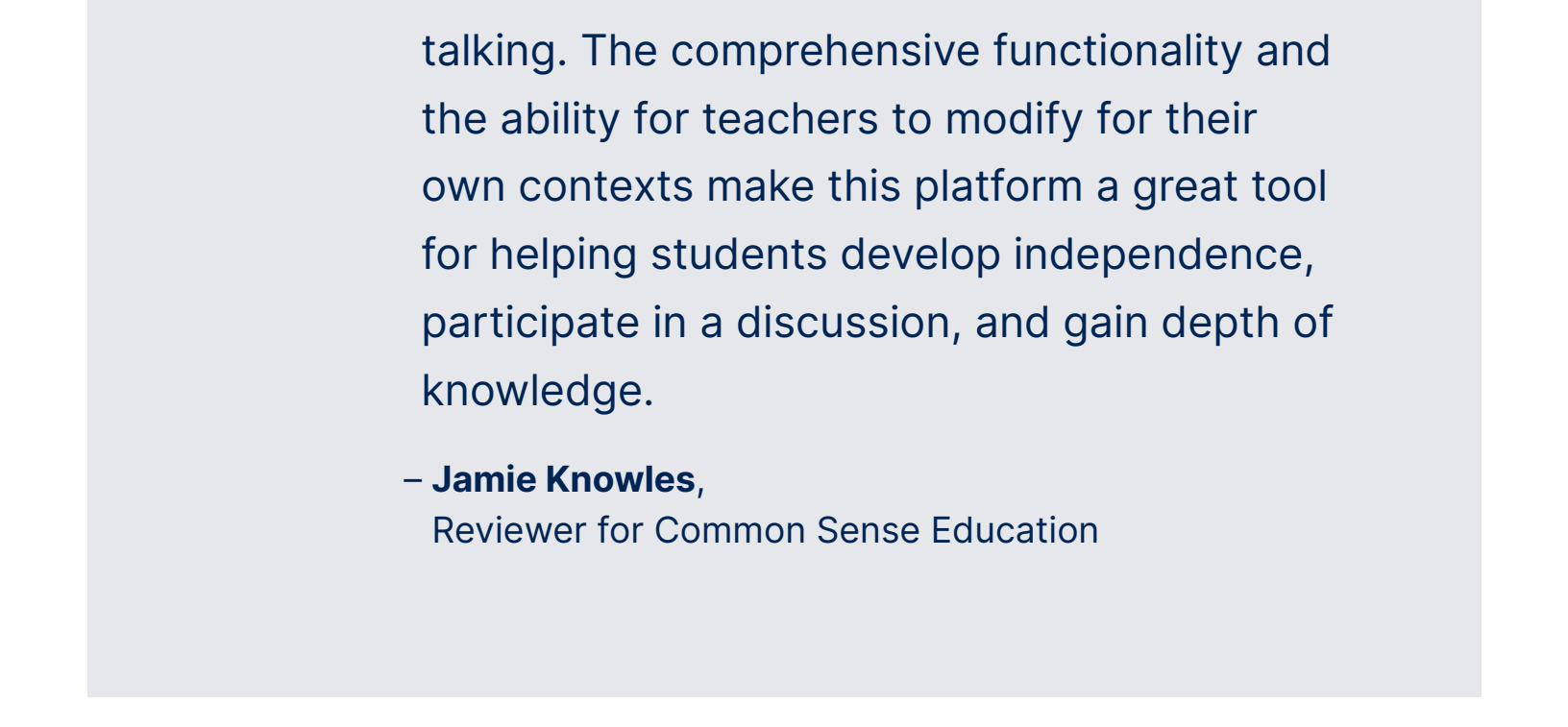
Loaded with smart study tools and multiple learning modes, Quizlet is a great way to prepare for finals.



**Here's one online review for the tool:**

"Makes the monotonous task of memorizing facts a bit more engaging through media, customized learning plans, and collaborative competition. [...] Students can take more ownership over their learning via the study modes and by custom content creation. While it's not ideal for content delivery, it's still a good tool for improving fluency."

– **Melissa Powers,**  
Reviewer for Common Sense Education



### For colloquia: Parlay

A colloquium, a type of Socratic, discussion-based seminar, is a powerful tool for any educator. Few methods are so effective in pushing students to engage with themselves, their teachers, and their peers.

Parlay is the perfect tool for such instances. Designed to emphasize critical thinking, Parlay empowers educators to organize discussions around particular topics; to compile helpful, relevant resources; and to allow students to submit written responses to a prompt.

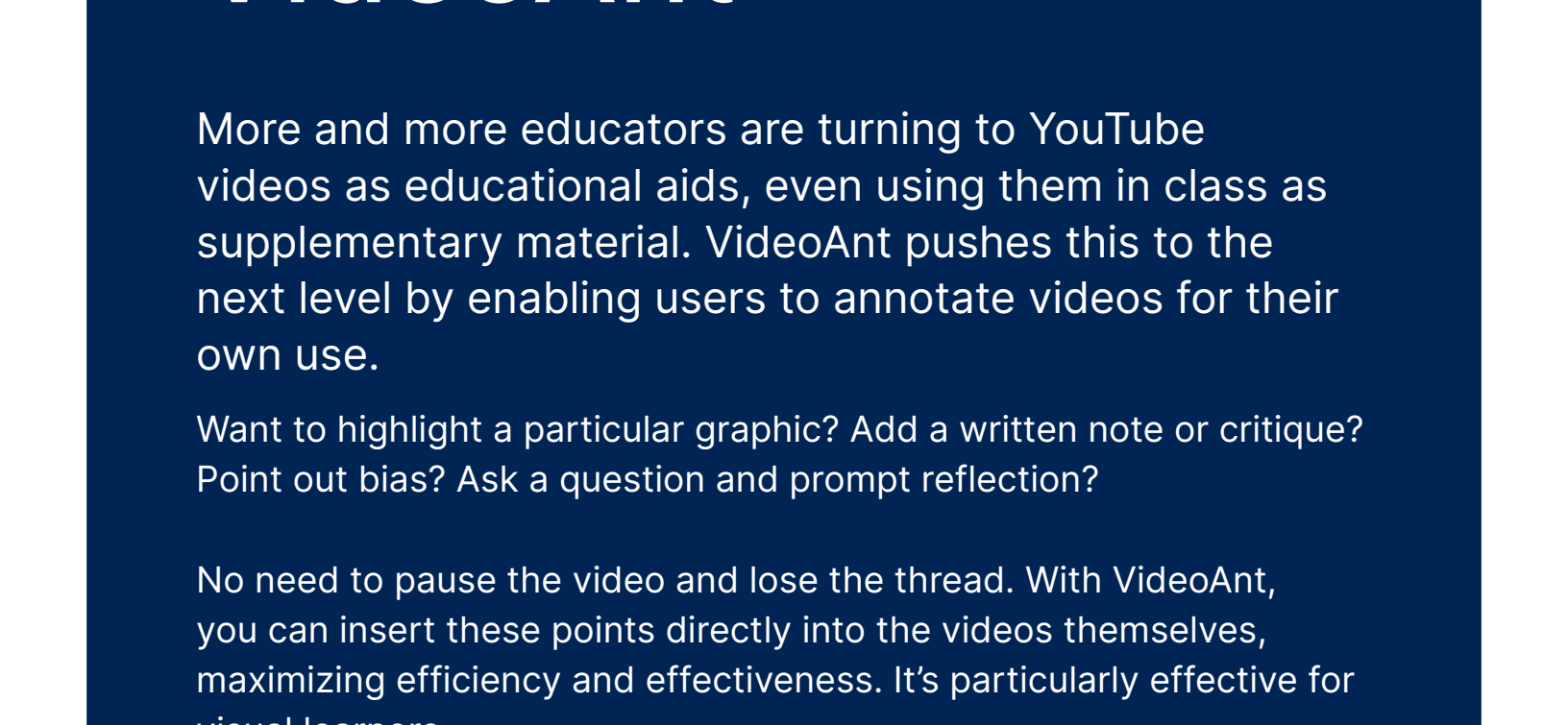
Parlay also allows for verbal discussions and peer interaction, forging a sense of mutual respect and virtual community.



**One online reviewer noted:**

"Topics are modifiable, cover a wide array of subject areas, include multimedia, and foster student independence. "Live" discussions could be a challenge as they require students to use their device while other students are talking. The comprehensive functionality and the ability for teachers to modify for their own contexts make this platform a great tool for helping students develop independence, participate in a discussion, and gain depth of knowledge."

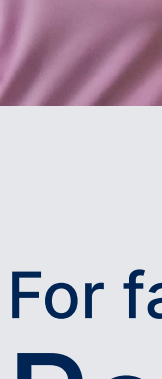
– **Jamie Knowles,**  
Reviewer for Common Sense Education



### For bookmarking key resources: Diigo

Essentially a virtual library, Diigo provides a digital space in which educators and students can bookmark key texts, web content, and other sources. (The name Diigo stands for "Digest of Internet Information, Groups, and Other Stuff.")

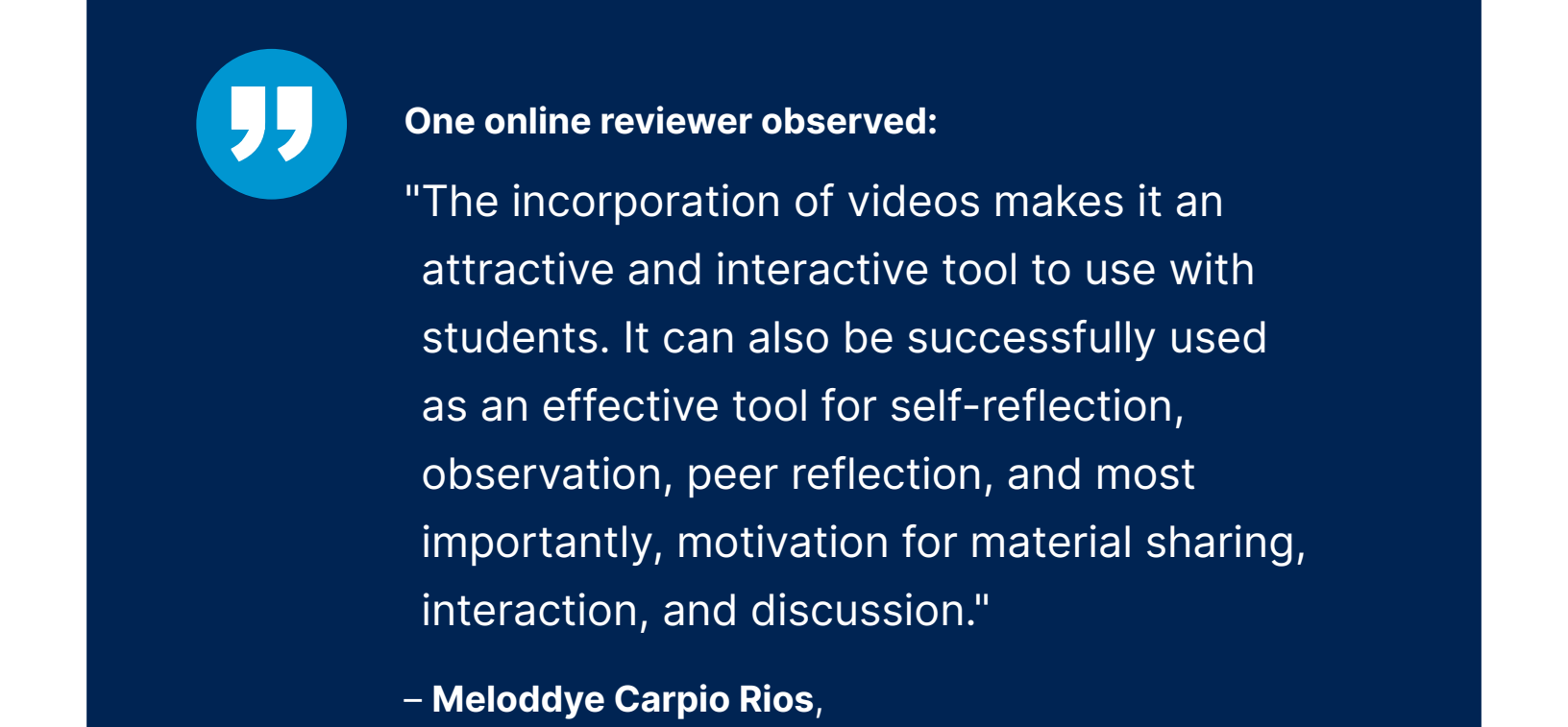
Diigo comes with a variety of features to help students refine their searches, making Diigo an ideal tool for teaching the fundamentals of research. Once students have compiled their resources, they can further sort, annotate, organize, or share them with others.



**Here's what one online reviewer had to say:**

"I use Diigo to list websites that are beneficial and useful for students and teachers. One of the best features is that you can use tag words to find categories or specific content areas that you need resources for. Teachers can use it to share useful websites with other teachers. [...] Students can share great websites they find with their teacher or fellow classmates. Sometimes the students come across sites that are really great to share!"

– **Dane S.,**  
Reviewer for Common Sense Education



### For annotating YouTube videos: VideoAnt

More and more educators are turning to YouTube videos as educational aids, even using them in class as supplementary material. VideoAnt pushes this to the next level by enabling users to annotate videos for their own use.

Want to highlight a particular graphic? Add a written note or critique? Point out bias? Ask a question and prompt reflection?

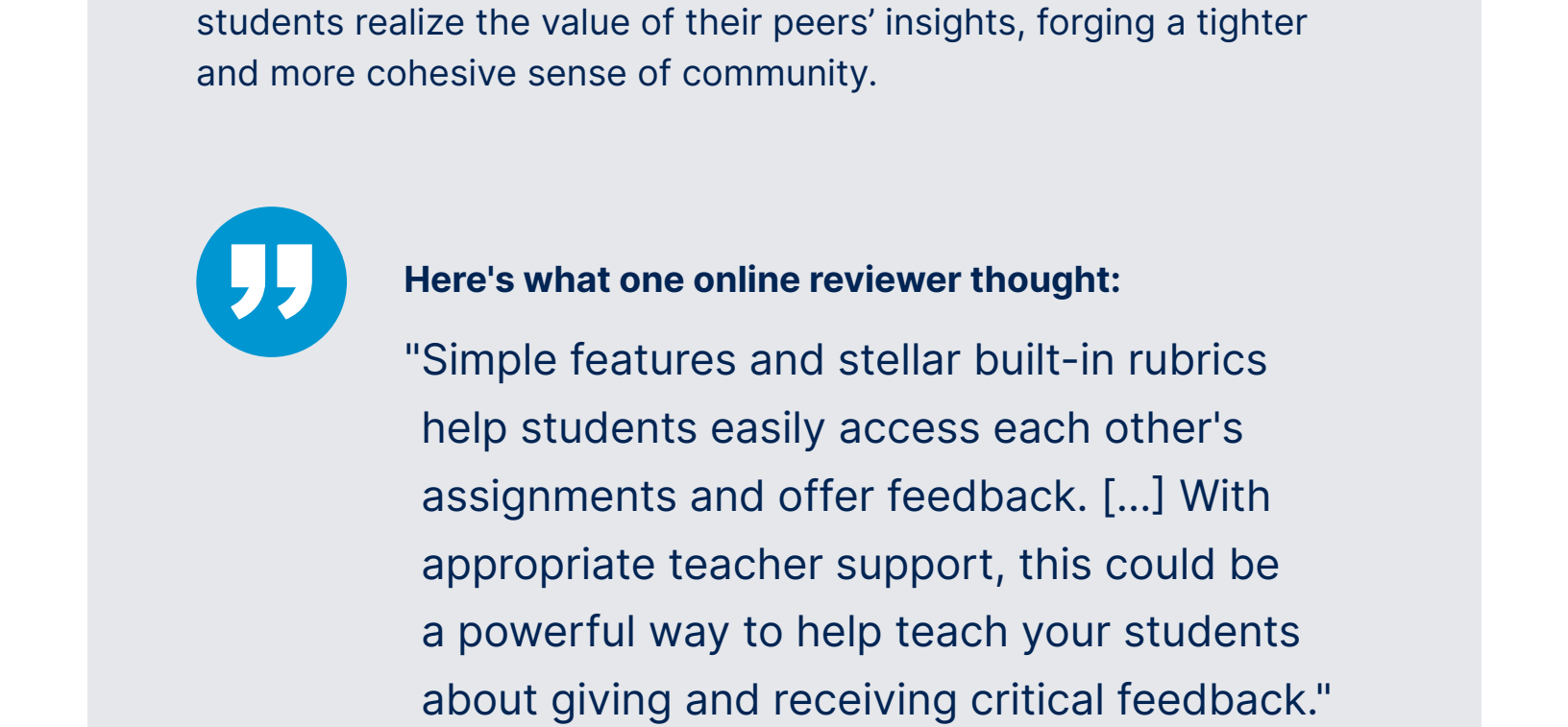
No need to pause the video and lose the thread. With VideoAnt, you can insert these points directly into the videos themselves, maximizing efficiency and effectiveness. It's particularly effective for visual learners.



**One online reviewer observed:**

"The incorporation of videos makes it an attractive and interactive tool to use with students. It can also be successfully used as an effective tool for self-reflection, observation, peer reflection, and most importantly, motivation for material sharing, interaction, and discussion."

– **Meloddy Carpio Rios,**  
Ph.D. Student



### For facilitating peer reviews: PeerGrade

Educator feedback is well and good, but it may carry a note of unapproachability or, worse, of potential consequence. By contrast, peer reviews enable individualized feedback without such drawbacks.

With PeerGrade, educators can give assignments that, once finished, are randomly distributed to other students. Using educator-provided rubrics, the students can then evaluate their peers' assignments, adding thoughtful comments or measured critiques.

Afraid of bullying or unfairness? Don't be. PeerGrade allows for students to rate the quality of their peers' feedback, allowing them to speak up or notify you if there's an issue. More likely, this tool will help students realize the value of their peers' insights, forging a tighter and more cohesive sense of community.



**Here's what one online reviewer thought:**

"Simple features and stellar built-in rubrics help students easily access each other's assignments and offer feedback. [...] With appropriate teacher support, this could be a powerful way to help teach your students about giving and receiving critical feedback."

– **Patricia Monticello Kievian,**  
Reviewer for Common Sense Education

Let RingCentral help you build a culture of collaboration

The Internet's a big place, and it's growing every day. There's no lack of interesting and exciting tools on the market, but, as they say, mighty oaks from little acorns grow. In building a culture of collaboration, you have to start somewhere. Why not start with these tools?

To provide the underlying technology infrastructure to build a culture of collaboration, turn to RingCentral. Our cloud-based communications platform provides a strong foundation for communication and collaboration between educators and students. Get a demo to [see how it works](#).

With RingCentral, learning is always in session.

Learn more about RingCentral for Education at [ringcentral.com/education](#).

RingCentral

RingCentral, Inc. (NYSE: RING) is a leading provider of unified communications (message, video, phone), customer engagement, and contact center solutions for businesses worldwide. More flexible and cost-effective than legacy on-premises PBX and video conferencing systems that it replaces, RingCentral empowers modern mobile and distributed workforces to communicate, collaborate, and connect via any mode, any device, and any location. RingCentral's open platform integrates with leading third-party business applications and enables customers to easily customize business workflows. RingCentral is headquartered in Belmont, California, and has offices around the world.

RingCentral, Inc. 20 Davis Drive, Belmont, CA 94002. ringcentral.com

© 2021 RingCentral, Inc. All rights reserved. RingCentral and the RingCentral logo are registered trademarks of RingCentral, Inc. Other third-party marks and logos displayed in this document are the trademarks of their respective owners.