

## WHEN CAN WE SEE EACH OTHER?

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way you study and socialize. It's been a trying experience for many, but a return to normal offers hope during this time of uncertainty.

As you're aware, your phone—that thing you're obsessed with—can do many things. There are a plethora of educational apps that your teachers and parents have probably suggested, but you're also allowed to have a little fun in addition to your studies. For hobbyists searching for additional learning outside of the classroom, Duolingo helps you learn a new language of your choice, and Wattpad allows aspiring writers to publish

content and connect you with other authors. Find something that interests you.

However, if you miss your friends, try arranging a Zoom or Houseparty game night or gossip session. You can also show off your talents on TikTok to impress or amuse your peers.

Lastly, there are apps that let you look forward to things. For example, prom is probably on your mind already, so apps like PromGirl help you find a dress, and Plan'it Prom lets you budget for the big day.

There is plenty to do even when you can't do a whole lot.



FALL 2020

# CLAIM YOUR YOUTH



HELP  
IS THERE IF  
YOU WANT IT

CLAIM  
YOUR  
YOUTH™



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There's no shame in needing a little extra help. As you go through life, it becomes common to require assistance from college to a new job to managing a family to when you get old and—okay, we can stop there because no one needs to think about that.

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# HELP IS THERE IF YOU WANT IT

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First, you must recognize when help is needed, and not be stubborn when it's suggested. In addition, hiring a tutor isn't meant to belittle your intelligence or tarnish your reputation; it's a way to help a student overcome learning disabilities and increase their chances at a successful future.

If homework is difficult to finish, or no matter how long you study your grades stay the same, or the workload is overwhelming, or you're simply frustrated and your confidence and motivation have dwindled, then a tutor can help you get back on track. Also, a tutor is beneficial if you feel it would be wise to strengthen your study habits for an extra edge or you're thriving in every course except one menacing subject. There are plenty of reasons and plenty of options.

In-home tutors offer the most personalization and controlled form of help, but they tend to be the most expensive, ranging from \$35 to \$85 an hour. However, private tutoring produces positive results because the student is the sole focus, the tutor is local and can possibly relate better and they're able to learn the mannerisms and habits of the students while being face-to-face.

Classroom tutoring runs around the same price as a private tutor—perhaps a tad less. This style targets a group of students who are struggling with the basic understanding

of a subject and can cover a broader range of material. It's beneficial to students who are hesitant to ask questions, but can learn from others in the room.

Online tutoring—a platform that's becoming a more standard way of learning—is financially a better option. Generally, online tutors start at \$20 an hour, but depending on the teacher's qualifications the price could increase substantially. The other benefits to online tutoring include flexibility and accessibility. Students can work at their own pace and if they have a question that requires an immediate answer, online teachers are reachable through email or a host service. Remember though, this style still relies on students acting independently when it comes to a schedule. Lastly, there's free tutoring. Teachers or fellow students from the same high school may be willing to offer help. If you choose a peer, make sure they're excelling in the subject because, though the price is right, credentials are lacking. With that in mind, students who are doing well can benefit from being a tutor themselves. Not only is there the possibility of income, but it keeps their mind fresh regarding their own studies.

Hiring a tutor is not embarrassing; if needed, it's an investment in your future, and a little help can go a long way.

## Prepare To Ace Your Exam

Exam prep is something you don't want to hear about again, but the importance of testing is something that needs to be reiterated. Tests help teens progress from course to course, class to class and high school to college. Don't forget about your driving test as well!

Okay, there's no point to overload the mind with worry. Studying and rest will always be the best way to prep for an exam, but that's easier said than done. If traditional habits don't seem to be working, exam prep classes are offered. These programs can range in price from \$50 to over a thousand dollars. So is it worth it?

No if you're already self-motivated and confident, have good grades and are a good test taker. That's definitely not the case for every student, however.

If your study habits aren't strong and you could benefit from extra material or a structured guide, then exam prep courses are a good option to consider. Think about paying for a prep course as an investment in your future. Kaplan and Sylvan Learning are accredited and established institutes that offer online and traditional settings (if your city has a test center), and The Princeton Review, though high in cost, touts that around 80 percent of their students get into one of their top choice schools.

Exam prep courses aren't needed, but they can help struggling students and provide reassurance to nervous students who already excel. It's your future, and you shouldn't have to worry.



## A SCARY GOOD TIME

Halloween is wonderful; it's beloved by costume enthusiasts, fans of cult horror classics and parents trying to gather screams from random children as they approach the front door in search for treats.

Considering October 31 falls on a Saturday this year, a party can be well planned. You don't have to disguise yourself as a teen with no money, however, because you're not supposed to be yourself.

To throw a monster mash on a budget make sure to plan early because buying décor and costumes during the off-season can save you money. You can also make your own decorations and outfits at a discounted price by collecting crafts or rummaging through thrift stores—or possibly use your parents' closet as said thrift store because you know there's something out of date available.

For those thrill-seeking children who come to the door, have your guests donate candy upon arrival so you're not supplying all the sweets. Then, in turn, bake your guests a special holiday-inspired treat or have a s'more bar and a fire pit set up in the back—or perhaps in the front as a candy substitute for all to enjoy. Your doorbell will appreciate it the most.

Lastly, for the scare factor, create a scene and script. You have free actors in your house and can host a production that will be fun for you, your guests and your courageous visitors.

Halloween on a budget keeps your bank account safe on a scary night.

