Tech Teacher Supply Checklist

Essential Tools & Materials for K-8 Makerspaces

Use this checklist to stock your classroom or makerspace with the essentials. Start with consumables and basic hardware, then add specialized tools as your program grows.

■ Essential Hardware (Start Here)

- ■ micro:bit starter kits (1 per 2-3 students)
- ■ Makey Makey (2-3 for rotation stations)
- ■ Sphero or Ozobot robots (4-6 total)
- ■ LEGO Education sets (for grades 4-8)
- ■ Basic circuit kits (LED lights, coin batteries, copper tape)

■ Consumables (Stock Regularly)

- ■ Cardboard (boxes, sheets, tubes)
- ■ Hot glue sticks & guns
- ■ Straws (paper and plastic)
- ■ String, yarn, rubber bands
- ■ Copper tape (for circuits)
- ■ Popsicle sticks & craft foam
- ■ Pipe cleaners & zip ties
- ■ Recycled materials (bottles, containers, lids)
- ■ LED lights & coin cell batteries
- ■ Tape (masking, duct, clear)

■ Software & Digital Tools

- ■ Scratch account (free)
- ■ Tinkercad classroom setup
- ■ Code.org teacher account
- ■ MakeCode for micro:bit
- ■ Canva for Education
- ■ Book Creator or Seesaw for documentation

■ Design & Fabrication (If Budget Allows)

- ■ Cricut Joy or similar vinyl cutter
- ■ 3D printer (Creality Ender 3 recommended)
- ■ Button maker
- ■ Laser cutter (if space & budget permit)

■ STEM Kits

■ Strawbees construction kits
■ Snap Circuits
■ K'Nex Education sets
■ littleBits modules

■■ Classroom Management

■ Storage bins & labels
■ Timer (digital or visual)
■ Station rotation signs
■ Student project storage system
■ Cleanup supplies (paper towels, trash bags)

Budget-Friendly Tips

• **Start small:** You don't need everything at once. Begin with consumables and 1-2 hardware kits.

• **Ask for donations:** Parents often have cardboard, bottle caps, and recyclables.

• **Apply for grants:** DonorsChoose, local education foundations, and PTA funding.

• **Share resources:** Coordinate with other teachers to share expensive items like 3D printers.

• **Use free software:** Most maker tools have excellent free versions (Scratch, Tinkercad, Code.org).

Find tool reviews and links at **maker404.com/tools**