Joshua Hans
Ethics and Computer Science

A learning website/app that is used widely in my department is Desmos. Desmos is accessible to users through their website, or by downloading their published app in either the app store on your iOS device, or the Google Play store on your Android device. Desmos offers powerful mathematical tools via its graphing calculator, ways for pedagogues to build interactive activities for students to explore mathematics, and have a developed API to embed math into your website or web app. Desmos' target audience includes students (K-12 and higher education), teachers, professors, parents, math enthusiasts, video game designers, data scientists, and more. Desmos has a very readable and transparent set of policies around data and privacy, that can be found here and here. Additionally, terms of service can be found here.

Desmos is very persistent in its terms that they will never sell or share student data with third parties or use said data to provide targeted advertising. When signing up for an account, students need to simply provide an email address, name, and a password. Another option is to allow Desmos to use a Google account. In the terms of service, some of the responsibilities for protecting students' privacy has been put onto the teacher. Desmos is COPPA compliant, so School Users are responsible for providing the student data privacy statement to parents of students under 13 years of age. Additionally, Desmos complies with PPRA and NY State Education Law 2-D. Desmos does not own any of the work that students produce under students.desmos.com; it is the property of the teacher and school. If or when a teacher deletes their account, the student's work gets deleted too regardless of the state of the student's account.

To further feel comfortable using Desmos with students, the business model is built around paid partnerships with publishers, assessment companies, and educational institutions, not through third parties or advertisers. If school districts, teachers or parents still feel uneasy or have more questions about students privacy, they can email privacy@desmos.com.