

Nearpod vs Peardeck

Peardeck:

- Compliant with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA"), and applicable state laws.
- Signed the [Student Privacy Pledge] (<https://studentprivacypledge.org/>).
- Peardeck has students sign in via Google or Microsoft who holds the personal identifiable information. Only the teacher can see the names and responses all other data is kept secured from Peardeck by the way students log in to join.
- Pear Deck's terms state it does not intentionally collect any personally identifiable information ("PII") from users identified as students, but depending on how users use the services, they may be required to provide certain personally identifiable information through their Google or Microsoft Account.

Nearpod

- Compliant with Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA"), and the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act ("COPPA"), and applicable state laws.=
- Will collect usage data and other information about app usage, but the data is not sold and only utilized to better improve the platform according to the policy.
- *"Website Visitors.* For individuals who visit the Nearpod website but do not fill out an online form, contact us, or create (or have previously created) an account, we automatically collect IP address, a device identifier, and other non-personally identifiable information."
- It seems that they have multiple methods to have students sign up that dictates the level of data they will collect from the user at sign up. They will still collect their usage data.

I think Nearpod is designed to collect more data than Peardeck in its basic design. Peardeck utilizes third party sign in apps to control most the personal identifiable information of their users. Both collect the usage data of all users in order to improve their systems, which makes sense and prevents some of the more direct privacy encroachments. Both are FERPA and COPPA compliant and signed onto the student pledge so at some level they are committed to privacy and being able to be used by classroom teachers. I think the idea that Nearpod is a separate app vs extension means that they will and have the ability to collect significantly more data from students. The only way in nearpod to prevent too much information to be collected for students is to have the premium version. I do not like this because some schools/teachers cannot afford the premium version and must sacrifice some level of privacy in order to have their students access the platform.

Both utilize third party apps to process the data they do collect, but ensure that the third party is under strict contract and does not misuse the data, which could impact their FERPA/COPPA Compliance.

On <https://privacy.commonsense.org/privacy-report/nearpod> they rank Nearpod with an 86% but with a warning about their privacy policy.

<https://privacy.commonsense.org/evaluation/pear-deck> has Peardeck at 84% but with a pass. I am not sure the exact methodology used, but the fact Peardeck has a pass and uses third party apps for sign in automatically puts them as a favorite for me in terms of student privacy.

Peardeck:

Usage Data

In addition, when you use our Services, the following types of information may all be logged automatically ("*Usage Information*"):

- Your Device's Internet Protocol ("*IP*") address,
- Type of mobile device you use,
- Operating system of your mobile device,
- Browser type,
- Non-precise geographic location (e.g. zip code and city)
- Technical information about your device, system and App software, and peripherals,
- Date and time stamps associated with transactions,
- System configuration information, and
- Metadata concerning your User Content, and other interactions with our Services.

HOW WE USE YOUR INFORMATION

We use your information:

- to provide and improve our Services,
- to administer your use of our Services,
- to better understand your needs and interests,
- to personalize and improve your experience
- to provide or offer software updates and product announcements
- to enhance current, and develop new, products and services
- to determine general, non-identifying demographics like location (down to the city level), age range (e.g. 25-35), and equipment profiles (e.g. Chromebook with medium-size screen).

If you submit Personal Information to us, we will only use it for the purpose you requested or for which it is collected or for any purpose you subsequently authorize. Pear Deck will never sell your information or use it to build to marketing profile.

HOW WE COLLECT USAGE DATA

Pear Deck collects some information (ourselves or using third party services) using logging and cookies, such as IP address, which can be correlated with Personal Information. We use this information for the above purposes and to monitor and analyze use of our Services, for the Service's technical administration, to increase our Service's functionality and user-friendliness, and to verify users have the authorization needed for our Services to process their requests. As of the date this policy went into effect, we use Google Analytics to track anonymous usage across all users and Hubspot to track usage for users specifically identified as teachers. [The Privacy Policy of Google Analytics](#) are available online, [and information on how to opt out of that service](#). The [HubSpot Privacy Policy](#) is also available.

Nearpod

What type of information do we collect?

The type of information Nearpod collects depends on whether you're accessing the Nearpod Materials by visiting our website and/or app, have an account, or are accessing the Nearpod Materials as a student.

a. Website Visitors. For individuals who visit the Nearpod website but do not fill out an online form, contact us, or create (or have previously created) an account, we automatically collect IP address, a device identifier, and other non-personally identifiable information. For example, we may receive information from your device when you use Nearpod, including, but not limited to: the duration of time you spend on Nearpod, the type of device you're using, the version of the Nearpod application on mobile devices, device event information like crashes, hardware settings, date and time information, and actions performed by you while visiting our website or application. Our website uses cookie technology (e.g. [Google Analytics](#) *). Users and Institutions may implement browser controls to block and delete Nearpod's use of cookies, pixels and similar technologies; however, such actions may prevent or impair required functionality and use of the Nearpod Materials.

Basis for Processing Information:

Authorization is given to Nearpod and its processors to collect, process and otherwise handle Personal Information under this Privacy Policy and the Nearpod Terms and Conditions when an Educator Nearpod User or Institution purchases the Nearpod Materials, as well as when an Educator Nearpod User establishes an end-user account and registers to use the Nearpod Materials.

Further authorization is given to collect, process, and otherwise handle Personal Information of a Student Nearpod User under this Privacy Policy and the Terms and Conditions when an Educator generates an access code through use of the Nearpod Materials and provides the access code to a Student Nearpod User or when an Institution elects to opt in to Student Accounts. Educator Nearpod Users and their Institutions are responsible to obtain any additional legally required consents for Student Nearpod Users.