younspire 2023 GED CONFERENCE GED[®] Products and Tools to Support **Teacher and Learner Outcomes**

Jane Bledsoe, Product Portfolio Director

July 18, 2023, 2:45-4 pm



Overview

New GED[®] prep tools help teachers address unique learners' needs

- I. New! GED[®] Mobile App in development
- II. Learning style assessment launched on GED.com in June
- III. GED[®] grads Tech Apprenticeship
- IV. Other resources
 •GED Complete[™] Math Pilot
 •GED Direct[™]/GED[®] Marketplace
 •Back-to-school Promotions
- V. Best practices discussion



New Product Development: the GED[®] Mobile App





You've got great style!

Doing these activities will help you make the most of the time you spend studying. We'll include them in your personalized plan!

- Explain the Concept: Explain what you've just learned out loud to someone (or yourself!) after each lesson
- Practice Questions: Answer practice questions after each lesson
- 3 Steady Routine: Repeat the same activities every time you study

Finish

Our product goal: drive increased persistence to the final exam through a mobile app

We Know

- 34% of learners who create an account on GED.com make progress by testing within a year*
- More than 60% of GED[®] learners are engaging with us from their mobile devices
- Learners need a confidence boost to complete testing



Can we?

- Reach more learners
- Create an additional communication channel
- Make information easier to access
- Keep learners engaged
- Get them to confidently take tests
- Meet learner/educator expectations



*GED Analytics, 2022 data

'Your Path' concept

- Teachers, employees, students and GED[®] board members were interviewed about the struggles that GED[®] learners face
- A team of GED Testing Service[®] employees met with a mobile app agency to design a 'Your Path' concept and then tested it with actual GED learners



Learner research (Dec 2022-May 2023)

Potential and Past GED learners

- Teens to age 48
- Did not finish high school
- Aware of GED[®] test but did not take steps to finish it
- Have personal aspirations that require more education
- Considering GED[®] test in next 6 months
- May or may not pursue classes to get their GED[®] credential



Maya

Age 39

Grade 11



Estephen Age 28 Grade 11

Age 48

Grade 9



Rachel Age 37 Grade 9

Current & Recent GED Learners



Potential GED Learners

Maritsa

Age 30

Grade 10

Tom

Age 26

Grade 11



Potential Learners

Cherokee

Age 25

Grade 10



Cristian

Age 16

Grade 11









Age 16 Grade 10

Melissa Age 45

Grade 11





Age 36 Grade 11







Grade 9





Mackenzie Age 17 Grade 11

Lisa

Age 35

Grade 9



Shannon

Age 27

Grade 11

Joanna

Age 39

Grade 11

Alan

Age 22

Grade 9

Erika

Age 33

Grade 11

Juhi

Tier 2



Age: N/P Grade 9

Marshall Age 30 Grade 11

Jordan

Age 33

Grade 11



Guiding principles

To inspire continued use of the app, we must:

- **Give, to get engagement** deliver value early and often, ensuring that the GED App offers an easy-to-access resource that can make a difference in the lives of learners
- Forge relationships to grow a community, a connection built on empathy and understanding is required
- Provide simplicity interactions must be frictionless and clear
- **Be delightful** charm our learners every step in the journey to ensure behavior change is not needlessly arduous
- **Plan for change** this is a multi-year product journey to support learning. We must design simple yet flexible tools to evolve quickly and effectively as needs change
- **Guide at all times** navigating the learning process can be overwhelming. We will provide guidance and direction to empower users to make informed decisions
- **Build confidence** foster a supportive and uplifting environment to nurture self-belief, overcome challenges, embrace their capabilities and realize their potential
- Support with free inclusivity and accessibility are key; by providing a wide range of free, high-quality materials and tools, we can ensure that all users have the ability to learn, grow and achieve their goals





The GED[®] Mobile App Prototype

GED

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Minimum Lovable Product (MLP): Mobile App Advisor character an important part of 'delighting' and encouraging learners

Step 1: Welcome from your mobile advisor

Hi there! I'm with the GED advising team.

I'll be here to help you get set up in the app and get going on your GED journey!



Step 2: Establish common ground



Unlock your potential

Millions of people have passed the GED test, going on to college or unlocking new job opportunities. We know you can be one of them. That's why we are here to help you every step of the way.

> Next Have an account? Log in

Step 3: Create your study plan



Find your personalized study plan

Not every learner follows the same path to their GED. By answering a few questions about your goals and study habits, we can provide you with a study plan that fits into your life.



Have an account? Log in

Step 4: Study & get guidance on when to test



Connect a textbook

Based on your learning style and goals, we'll recommend a textbook that you can connect to the app for even more study guidance that includes practice questions!

Have an account? Log in

Next





Personal questions – year of birth, state of residence and family obligations – help us serve-up a profile of learners-like-you and build a realistic study plan



| Why do you want to earn | Are you the main caregiver | |
|---|--|---|
| your GED? | for anyone in your life? | |
| Here are some of the reasons we've heard from other GED learners. Pick all that describe you. | Pick the answer that best describes you. | SP-10 |
| I want to support my family | Yes, I care for one other person | 20 |
| I want to meet a personal goal | Yes, I care for multiple people | Stells . |
| | No, it's me, myself and I | Meet Myles |
| I want to move up in my job | | Over 20 million learners like you |
| | I prefer not to answer | & Myles have completed their GED. |
| I want to get a better job | | "I was proud to get my GED in just fo |
| I want to go to college | | weeks. I realized that if I could get pa the socializing [aspect of high schoo |
| | | could get straight to the books. Stay |
| Something else | | focused and you can do it!" |
| | | Read Myles' story > |
| | | Finish and save answers |

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Learner will have same account log-in for GED.com and the App, and will be able to start using the App no matter where they are in their journey



Sign up for an account

Sign up for an account now, to save your progress and create your personalized study path.

| Sign up | |
|--------------|--|
| Skip for now | |





We will encourage learners to start with Science and introduce a study plan based on their available hours/week to study











Study content will include free study questions, question-ofthe-day, and practice questions from publisher materials

| 9:41 | 9:41 🗢 🔲 | 9:41 .ul 🗢 🖿 | 9:41 ,ul 📚 🗖 |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|
| Test your knowledge every step of the way | Practice | What do meteorologists study? | 'lease read the following passage and inswer the question. |
| As you complete readings in your textbook, you'll be able to answer practice questions based on what you've just read. | Question of the day > | Incorrect The correct answer is A | lector wanted to make pasta on the stove. He ut 600 mL of water in a pot and brought it to a oil. He put the pasta in the pot and then |
| You can also stay sharp by answering a new practice question in the Practice tab every day! | Practice S mins | Short-term weather patterns and data of particular areas | ccidentally forgot about it. When he checked is pot 30 minutes later, only 450 mL of water emained. |
| Practice | | A The composition of fossils and minerals | What happened to the missing 50mL? |
| Coestion of the day | | Satellites, stars, planets, and other galaxies | Correct! Nice Work. |
| Practice questions set 2 Practice questions set 2 Practice questions set 2 | | Crop cycles and food harvest | It changed phases from liquid |
| | | | to gas. It changed phases from liquid |
| Next | | Next | to plasma. |
| | Home My Path Practice Account | | reaction with the pasta. |



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The App will suggest publisher materials to link to the App, and provide reminders about GED Ready and scheduling the GED test; each study session will be celebrated











Come learn more at the GED Mobile App table

- GED Mobile App is featured at a table in the vendor hall
- Try out the prototype of the App yourself, leave feedback, ask questions
- Get some stickers to share with your students
- Soft launch for specific learners by end of year
- Download the App with the QR code

Check out the GED mobile app prototype on your phone



















What's one word that comes to mind now that you know about the GED App?

Learning Preference Assessment

GED Testing Service[®] partners with WithYouWithMe to help more learners reach their goals



WithYouWithMe: A new GED[®] partnership

Every individual deserves access to gainful employment and the <u>skills to thrive</u> in their workplace



GED Testing Service has partnered with WithYouWithMe to:

- Help more GED learners persist in their GED journey, by understanding their learning preferences
- Uncover their potential through a variety of free aptitude tests
- Provide free training to students and their families to get into Tech careers within months



Learners and teachers piloted the Learning Preference Assessment, guiding our launch



Q6 Do you think that choosing study materials and methods that align with your learning style will improve your outcomes on your tests?





GED.com Study Page now includes Learning Preference Assessment



Fun Fact:

50% of candidates who take the assessment already took a GED Ready or a GED test, proving it's never too late to learn about your learning style!



All Learning Preferences displayed in GED.com



- Learners can see what the seven learning preferences are before they take the assessment.
- This information will also be on the GED Manager side on Student Detail.

Fun Fact: The highest percent of GED learners are Auditory learners



Taking the Learning Preference Assessment is easy, launching in GED.com account

| Ho | ome Study My Score | s More + Schedu | Je test | | | | * | 6 |
|----|---|--|---|----------------|--------------|--|---|---|
| | | | Study ow you like to learn, let us help you | | | | | |
| | Online study ma | terials for you | | | | | | |
| | Му | NG STYLE ASSESSMENT favorite subject he answer that best describes | in school was math. | | | × | | |
| | GED+ Personal advisor, tools, practice ter until you pass, an M | ostly disagree Slightly | disagree Not sure | Slightly agree | Mostly agree | | | |
| | × × | | | E | | | | |
| | GED+ | GED Classes | Practice | Study Mat | enars | Preview the Test | | |
| | One package with all you need to pass, including a live advisor | Learn from a GED teach in a classroom setting. | er Practice questions and the GED Ready [®] Practice Test | | | Preview a subject and view computer tutorials | | |

Fun Fact: Most learners take 10-20 mins to complete the Learning Assessment



After taking Learning Preference Assessment, learner gets recommended study tools



GED Manager users can see learner's learning style in student details

| udent Detail | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|---|------------------------|
| First Name: | WYWM | | | Phone Number: | 612-473-0286 |
| Middle Name: | Tester | | | Age: | 37 |
| Last Name: Email: | Tester | | | Date of Birth: | 10/03/1985 MN |
| Email. | SubjectStudyGuideTest20230707fe1-bfbb- e509ebc3e1ee@ged.com | | | Testing Jurisdiction: In Options Program: | No |
| Mailing Address: | 123 Any Way | | | GED Test Prep Center: | 140 |
| maining Address. | Crystal MN 90210 USA | | | Learning Preference: | Logical (mathematical) |
| County: | Ciystal Mix 90210 05A | | | Last Updated: | 07/07/2023 11:14:54 A |
| VUE ID: | | | | Last Login: | 07/07/2023 01:02:31 A |
| Kibo Customer ID: | | Ö | 17.00 Mar | 2001 20912 | English |
| GED ID: | main-ctt-20230707-9949-7399 | 7 Learning Preferences | | Linghon | |
| Fictitious Student: | No | // | | | |
| | | Visual (spatial) | Kinesthetic (physical) | Auditory (musical) | |
| | | Someone who prefers using | Someone who prefers using their | Someone who learns using sound and | |
| | | photographs or pictures. When tasks and information are presented | body, hands and sense of touch. For these individuals, learning happens. | music. These individuals prefer to fear something in order to learn, and | |
| Clicking on the learning sty | vle will open a | visually, these individuals use their visual memory to learn. | when they physically carry out an activity. | commit it to memory by saying it out loud. | |
| | | Interpersonal (social) | Intrapersonal (solitary) | Verbal (linguistic) | |
| description of all 7 | | interpersonal (social) | tritter allo al a a tradit Caracteria 11 | a crister (understers) | |



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groups or with other people, both

verbally and non-verbally. These

and communicators.

individuals are both good listeners

Logical (mathematical) Someone who prefers using logic, reasoning and systems to team. These individuals easily recognize patterns and connect concepts, and

prefer structure and logic when absorbing information. and focusses best without the

individuals learn best when working

through concepts independently.

distraction of others. These

both in speech and writing. Learning

methods for these individuals include

mnemonics and repeating back what

inspire

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what they have learnt.

Guide for teachers to use learning preferences in the classroom

Includes

- Detailed description of each style
- Classroom strategies for each style
- Study suggestions

Find the Link to the teacher guide on GED.com Educator page here



Unlocking potential with learning preferences

How understanding learning styles can improve student productivity, engagement and knowledge retention











Tech Apprenticeships

More than 400 GED grads exploring training for job placement in high-demand tech roles







Tech Apprenticeship opportunities offered to GED grads

- 1. Sign up for WithYouWithMe platform
- 2. Complete the psychometric and aptitude testing to be matched with tech careers best suited to you
- 3. Enter one of WithYouWithMe's 11 accredited digital career pathways and complete approximately 150 hours of self-paced digital training
- 4. Gain access to a network of leading employers looking to hire GED graduates and secure employment

Use the QR code to access the program



Cyber security, Data Analysis, Software development, Digital project management, Robotics, Coding, IT service desk, and more



Learn More at the Fireside Chat with Vicki Greene and Tom Moore, Wed, 4pm, Beekman or Thurs, 10:15 am, Regent



Other Resources

- GED Complete Pilot
- GED Direct/GED Marketplace
- Back-to-school promotions: GED Ready and GED Live

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GED Complete[™] - Does your program need Math help?

GED COMPLETE"



Join the GED Complete pilot program helping students achieve high school equivalency

Are you a GED[®] student living in the United States preparing for your Math GED test? We're piloting our successful GED Complete international program in the US and looking for student participants who are preparing for their Math test.

GED Complete[™] offers flexible learning with multiple resources to match your style:

- Comprehensive GED aligned learning material
- Weekly online group live sessions with an experienced GED tutor
- Dedicated study chat group
- Detailed weekly study schedule
- Weekly online lesson timetable
- Small learning groups
- Monthly progress reports

"This program has exceeded my expectations! My daughter was focused and fully prepared for the GED." — Chanette

- How it works:
- 1. Easy enrollment online
- 2. Subscriptions are paid monthly
- 3. Join a study group and prepare for your Math test

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- International programs are experiencing high pass rates with a cohort model of virtual/distance instruction
- We're looking for Math pilot participants for a cohort model experience
- Great for programs that are struggling with finding Math teachers
- Contact <u>Brian.Smith@ged.com</u> or <u>Jane.Bledsoe@pearson.com</u> for more information



How to purchase tests and GED Ready

- GED tests and GED Ready tests are available for purchase through:
 - ➢GED Marketplace: shopgedmarketplace.com
 - ➢GED Direct: access through gedmanager.com
- Voucher Store is no longer available
- Guide for how to purchase now available on GED Manager

Looking for current GED Direct users to be research participants: contact <u>Jane.Bledsoe@pearson.com</u> if you can join a one-hour call on new functionality

Guide now available on GED Manager





GED Direct Vs GED Marketplace

GED Direct

You should use GED Direct to purchase GED tests and GED Ready tests if



You have GED Manager access

You want to buy in bulk



You want to manage and track usage of learner tests



You have a credit card or credit terms with Pearson

You may also use a PO and a check

Benefits: Tests don't expire; You can monitor usage; No voucher codes to manage.

GED Marketplace

You should use GED Marketplace if



You are buying 1 test or small volume





You don't need to manage and track usage of learner tests



You have a credit card or credit terms with Pearson



You may also use a PO and a check

Benefits: Anyone can place an order on GED Marketplace; You have 18 mos to use vouchers before expiration;



Back-to-School GED Ready[®] & GED Live[™] promotions

- GED Live 25 % off
 - Purchase on GED.com
 - Aug 14-18

• GED Ready BOGO Sale (Sept)

- Purchase through GED.com
- , GEDMarketplace

BACK TO SCHOOL SALE

Get 25% off GED Live online classes now through Friday!

Kick off back to school season strong with a live online instructor by your side for focused GED prep. Start now and save 25% while this sale lasts.

View terms and conditions >



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Questions?



Jane.Bledsoe@pearson.com



Session Survey

Your feedback is important. Please scan the QR code below to rate this session.



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