

Remote Activities and Resources

Stay safe and have fun! Please enjoy this collection of free, family-friendly activities and resources that will help you explore many wonderful things in Florida and beyond, all from your own home. Many of these resources are available year-round, and others are offering special access during the current COVID-19 situation.

This list includes live shows, media archives, virtual attractions, a huge variety of classes, and much more.

IMPORTANT: Some services offer free trials, and automatically switch to paid subscriptions after the trial ends. If you entered payment information, make sure to cancel any unwanted services **before** your trial ends and you're charged!

General

UF Health COVID-19 Wellness Resources: Access a wide variety of free resources to help care for your physical, mental, emotional, spiritual, occupational, and familial wellbeing. This list covers a variety of topics, from groceries to entertainment.

Performing Arts

Metropolitan Opera: Free streaming video of a different opera each night.

Berliner Philharmoniker Digital Concert Hall: Free 30-day access to extensive catalog of concerts and bonus materials.

NPR Virtual Concert Directory: A list of upcoming virtual performances, updated daily until no longer needed.

Libraries

UF Libraries: The largest information resource system in Florida has a massive collection of online books, articles, databases, and much more. Highlights include:

- **Kanopy:** Free streaming of 13,000+ movies and documentaries when you sign in with your GatorLink account.
- **Inter-Library Loans (ILL):** ILL lets you borrow materials from libraries across the country. Physical loans are currently suspended, but a variety of digital materials are still available.
- **Guides @ UF:** Subject guides, full of information and made by expert librarians you can contact with questions.
- **Electric Resources:** Check out varied collections of [ebooks](#), [streaming video](#), databases like [JSTOR](#), and more.

Alachua County Libraries: The Alachua County Library District boasts an extensive collection of online materials and resources. Highlights include:

- **eLibrary:** Check out thousands of ebooks and audiobooks through OverDrive and Libby.
- **eMagazines:** Browse even more audiobooks and emagazines with [RBdigital](#) and [Flipster](#).
- **NewsBank:** Access full text and images from news sources, including local and national newspapers.
- **Mobile Library:** Explore a massive and varied collection of virtual resources, including [free music downloads](#), [crafting tutorials](#), [language learning](#), and much more.

Biodiversity Heritage Library: Learn about the natural world with an extensive collection of books and other materials.

Open Library: An online, open-source library with millions of records covering many subjects and languages.

OverDrive: Access the digital catalogs of any participating library you're a part of, from all over the world.

Project Muse: Browse the book catalogs, journals, and other information from various universities and institutions that are being released for free during the COVID-19 situation.

Scribd: Free 30-day access Scibd's collection of digital books, magazines, audiobooks, and other materials.

Smithsonian Libraries: Explore the Smithsonian Libraries online [catalog](#), [exhibitions](#), [collections](#), and more.

Museums and Galleries

Smithsonian Institution: The Smithsonian Institution is a global organization and “the world’s largest museum, education, and research complex.” Many of the Smithsonian’s resources are available online. Highlights include:

- **Museum Directory:** Choose where to explore among 19 varied museums, galleries, gardens, and zoo. You can also check out the [non-museum resources](#), as well.
- **Online Event Calendar:** Find the latest online events from all of the Smithsonian sites in one place.
- **Science Education Center’s Game Center:** Enjoy STEM-themed games and simulations, aimed at grades K-8.
- **National Museum of Natural History:** Explore the history of the natural world with the [collections](#), [exhibits](#), a variety of [virtual tours](#), archived and interactive live [videos](#), and more.
- **National Zoo:** Learn about animals and conservation, watch animal [webcams](#), try an [at-home activity](#), or take a [virtual tour](#). Many resources are available in multiple languages, as well.
- **Smithsonian Gardens:** Enjoy the gardens through their digital collections and exhibits, and learn about the plants, their meanings, and their roles and symbolism in various cultures.

Google Arts & Culture: Explore online exhibits and take virtual tours of more than 2,500 museums, including [The Museum of Modern Art](#), [Museo Dolores Olmedo](#), [National Museums of Kenya](#), [Tokyo Fuji Art Museum](#), [National Museum – New Delhi](#), and more.

Florida Museum of Natural History: Browse to learn more about the FLMNH [exhibits](#) and [collections](#), and tune in to watch live [critter cams](#).

Samuel P. Harn Museum of Art: Enjoy a virtual trip to the Harn and learn about their various exhibitions and collections. The Harn also offers a digital magazine and in-depth video archive, with more content coming soon.

Cummer Museum: Browse art from the Cummer Museum’s permanent collection, or make your own art with the [“Art at Home” resources](#).

Iziko Museums of South Africa: Explore the 14 Iziko museums and their digital collections and materials about art, history, paleontology, and more.

Louvre Museum: The Louvre’s website offers a chance to take [an online tour](#), learn about art through digital resources, or read about its many exhibitions, collections, and grounds.

Latin American Art Museum of Buenos Aires (MALBA): Explore and learn with the MALBA collections of Latin American art and activities online. The entire site is available in Spanish, with many pages also available in English.

Museums of India: Explore 10 of India’s best museums through their [collective repository](#) and individual museum websites. Many of the museums have their own digital galleries, in-depth videos, and virtual tours.

National Gallery of Art: Browse the NGA collections and exhibitions, play with interactive activities, learn from the in-depth audio and video archives, and more. You can even download apps to complement the site materials.

Shanghai Museum: Browse the extensive collections, exhibitions, and galleries of the Shanghai Museum. The site and its content is available in Chinese and English, as well.

State Hermitage Museum: Explore the Hermitage from home through a [virtual visit](#) and [5-hour video walking tour](#). Many [in-depth videos](#) are available in Russian, with more languages and more new content coming soon.

University of Oxford Museums: Browse the digital materials and tours of the [History of Science Museum](#), [Museum of Natural History](#), [Botanic Garden and Arboretum](#), and more. The mobile app is available in English and Chinese, as well.

Van Gogh Museum: Learn about the famous artist Vincent Van Gogh, his life, work, and influence. The [at-home museum tips](#) show how you can tour the museum, make your own art, watch a movie or lecture, and much more.

Virtual Attractions

[CityPedia](#): Enjoy a walking tour of some of Florida's best beaches, nature *and* theme parks, and other attractions.

[SoCal Attractions 360](#): Experience theme park rides and attractions from around the world.

[SEA-SPAN at the Florida Aquarium](#): Tune in live every day at 10 a.m. to talk with experts and check on the latest adventures of the animals at the Florida Aquarium. Videos of past shows are available, as well.

[Monterey Bay Aquarium](#): Learn about aquatic animals, talk with experts, meditate with sea turtles, and watch [live video](#) of everything from penguins to moon jellies to sharks.

[NASA at Home](#): NASA has an online hub where you can take virtual tours and browse a variety of ebooks, podcasts, videos, and other materials. You can even learn how to conduct your own experiments at home!

Other Resources

[GatorCare Remote Wellness](#): Join a weekly remote fitness class, or watch old classes or mini-work out videos. Other resources include [Workout of the Week](#) and the [Windows to Wellness](#).

[PBS Learning Resources](#): The PBS learning resources cover a wide variety of topics and formats, with materials ranging from pre-kindergarten to college level. Everything meets Florida educational standards, as well.

[New York Times](#): Log into [myUFL](#) to activate a free subscription to the New York Times, including for unlimited articles and videos, as well as access to [recipes](#), [games](#), and personal challenges.

- [myUFL](#) > Main Menu > Quick Links > NY Times > Subscribe Now.

Ways to Connect: It is always important to keep in contact with your communities, especially when you're isolated and need to make deliberate effort to stay connected.

- **Talk together:** Use phone, text, video, and whatever other means available to talk with others.
 - Have conversations with individuals *and* groups, same as you would face-to-face.
 - Reach out to someone when you would normally talk to them, even on a whim.
 - Make plans for regular contact — an ongoing group chat, a nightly call, a lunch date, etc.
- **Watch videos together:** Many online services allow you to watch videos synced with others, often with text, voice, and/or video chat capabilities to create a digital night in the living room. Note some streaming sites only work on certain services.
- **Play games together:** Many games can be played together over phone or video call with no extra supplies. In addition, there are many services that expand your options for digital gameplay.
 - **Board games:** Use sites like [Tabletopia](#) and [Board Game Arena](#) to play hundreds of games online.
 - **Video games:** From mobile games to popular MMOs to, many video games have built-in ways to remotely play with others. Even single-player games can be enjoyed together with screensharing.
 - **Tabletop games:** You can use sites like [Roll20](#) and [D&D Beyond](#), or go as simple as pen and paper.
- **Do other activities together:** Attend the same digital event, cook the same dish over video call, talk about the latest books you're reading or shows you're watching, follow the same online tutorial, etc.

Background Noise: Background noise can improve your mood and focus, and it can also make you feel like you're in another location. Common themes include the beach, forests, gardens, and public spaces like cafes.

- [myNoise](#): Browse dozens of customizable background soundtracks, designed for various moods and purposes.
- [Sounds of the Bodleian](#): Enjoy the sounds of several of the University of Oxford's libraries.
- [YouTube](#): Search a location or idea with "background noise" or "white noise," for a varied selection of audio.

Have a suggestion for this list? Please email us at evs@ufic.ufl.edu.
Please stay safe and have fun!