

Early Childhood: Introducing FACTS LMS

I'm so excited to announce the debut of FACTS LMS (Learning Management System) through the library at our school. The LMS will allow us to connect with students online, distribute materials, collect assignments, facilitate discussions, and assess progress.

It is a private and secure student area that will allow students to connect with other students and teachers online, including accessing class materials, uploading assignments, participating in classroom discussions, and taking quizzes.

Right now, we are only releasing it as a library and technology class connection. This is our "test drive" to see what works and what doesn't, and get it fixed before we try to do bigger things with it. (And we will!)

To do for this lesson:

1. Watch the two videos listed below: the LMS Overview Video and the LMS for Students video.
2. Log in to the St. Mary LMS (instructions below).
3. Enjoy the materials I've left for you!

FACTS has created a short LMS Overview Video to give you an introduction to the system. [Click here](#) to watch it at your convenience. The password to access the video is **factslms** (case sensitive).

You can learn about how to log in and use the LMS by watching the LMS for Students video. [Click here](#) to watch it at your convenience. The password to access the video is **factslms** (case sensitive).

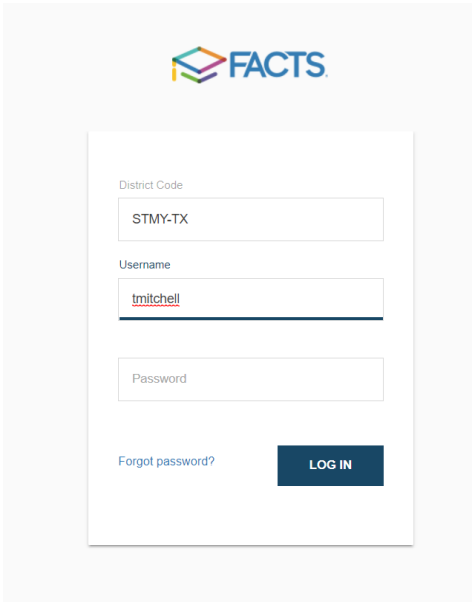
Here's how to access the **LMS**:

1. In Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Internet Explorer go to lms.renweb.com
2. Type the school's **District Code: STMY-TX**
3. Type the student's **Username**. (This is the same username you use to log in to the Family Portal on RenWeb.)
4. Type the student's **Password**.
5. Click **Login**.

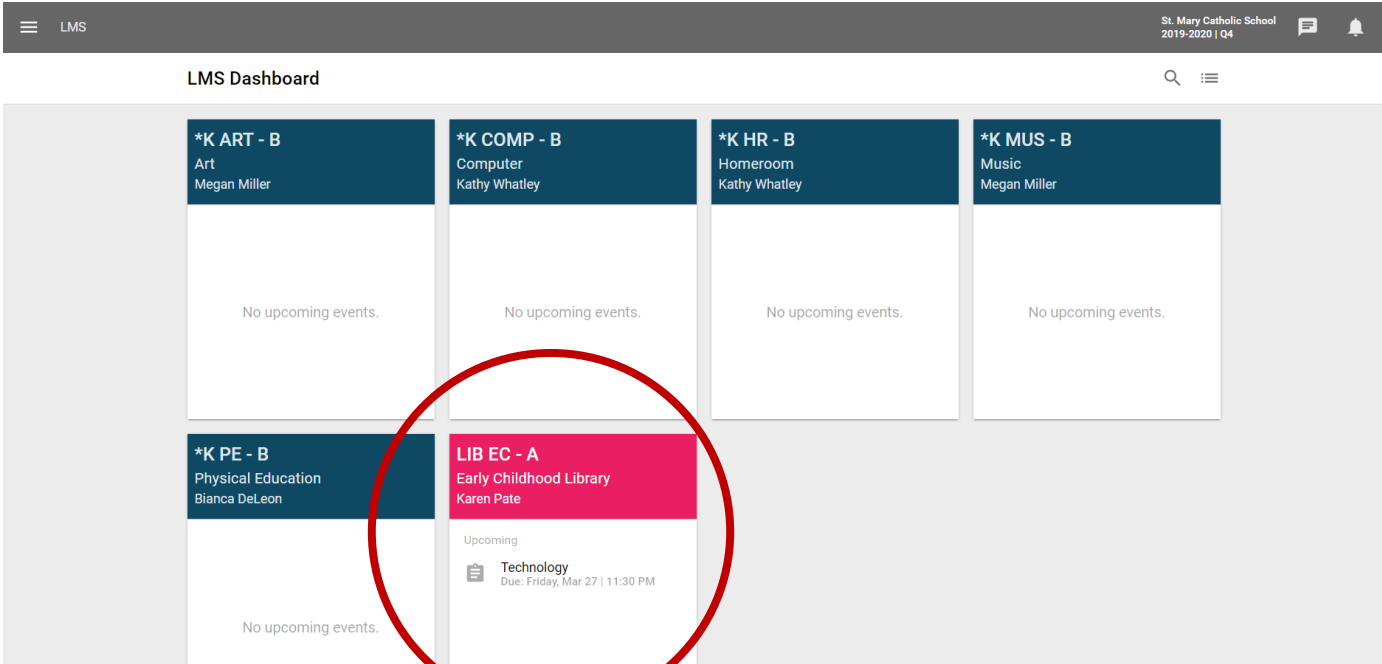
If you are not sure what your username and password are, email me (kpate@stmarylc.org) and I will send it to you. Please do not create your own.

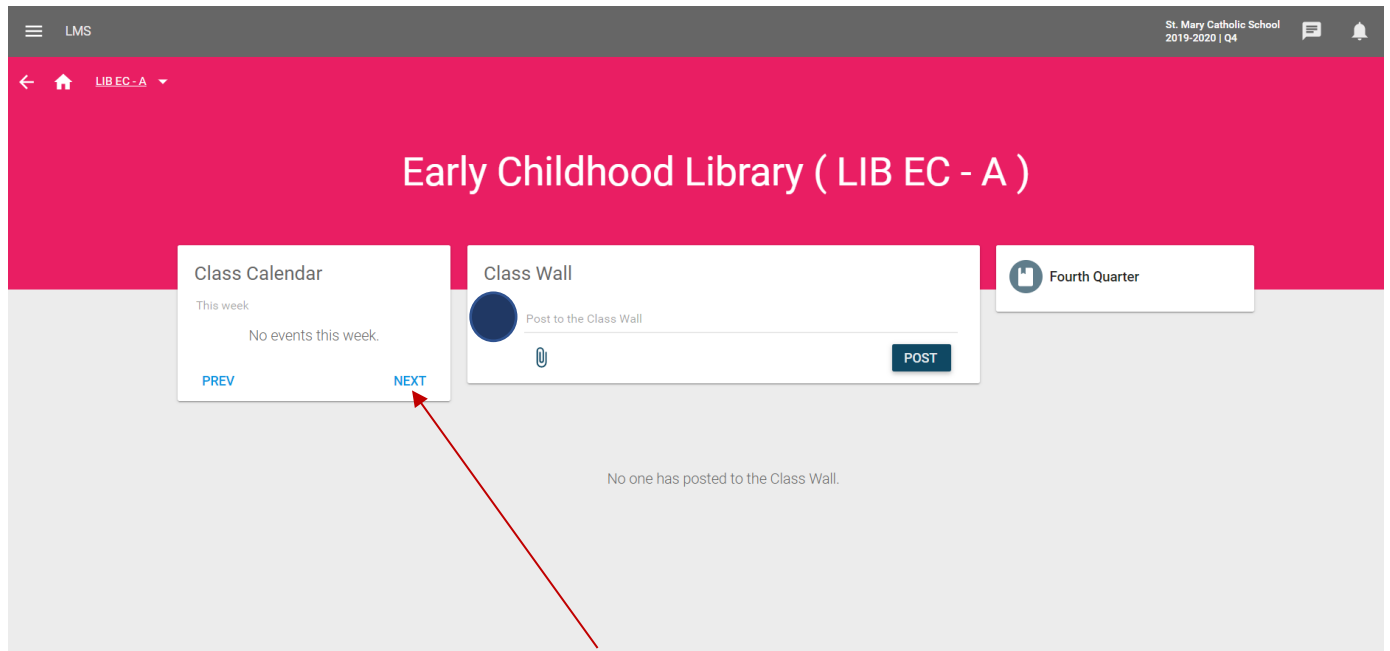
Keep reading . . .

This is what your login page looks like. (Looks familiar, but it is important to remember that you can only get to LMS by using lms.renweb.com.)



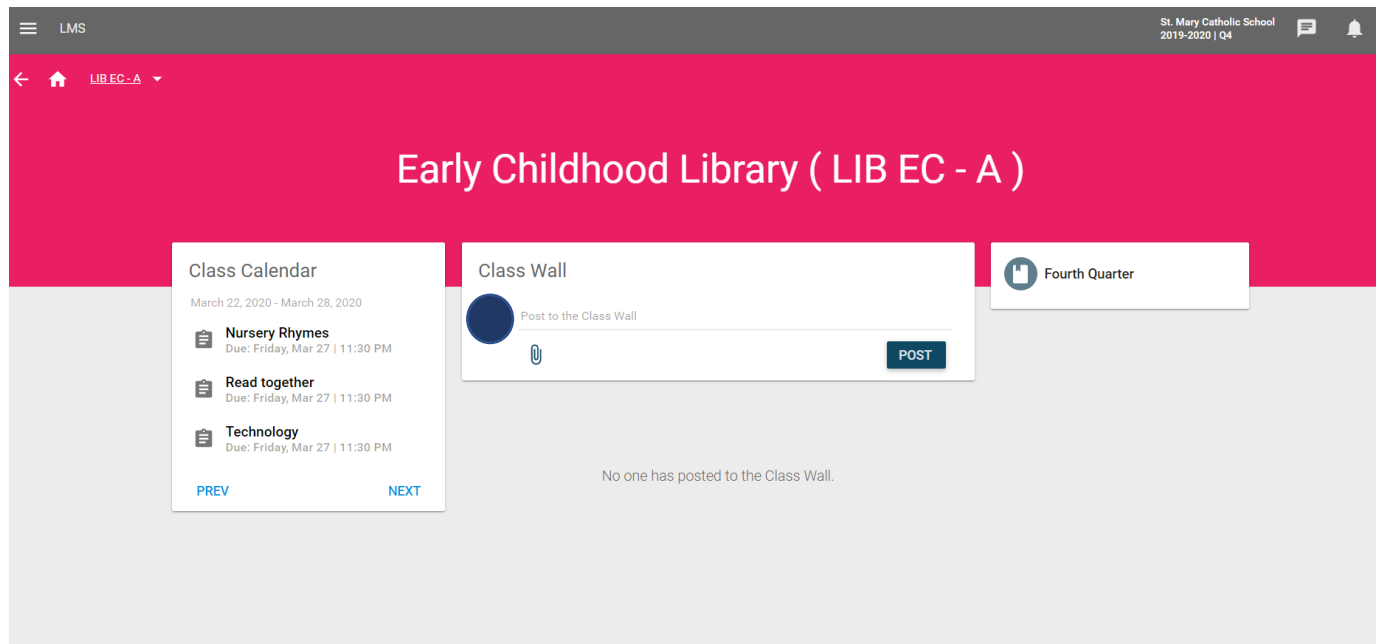
This is what your dashboard looks like. It has a block for each class your child takes. You may have to scroll to the bottom to see the library block: LIB EC-A. Click on the block to open it and see your assignments.





When I took this screenshot, it was Saturday. That's why there's nothing on the class calendar. I don't have anything scheduled until the week of March 23. Here, I'd click on the blue "NEXT" button to move forward and see the correct week.

Now I can see next week's assignments.



There are several ways you can get to these assignments.

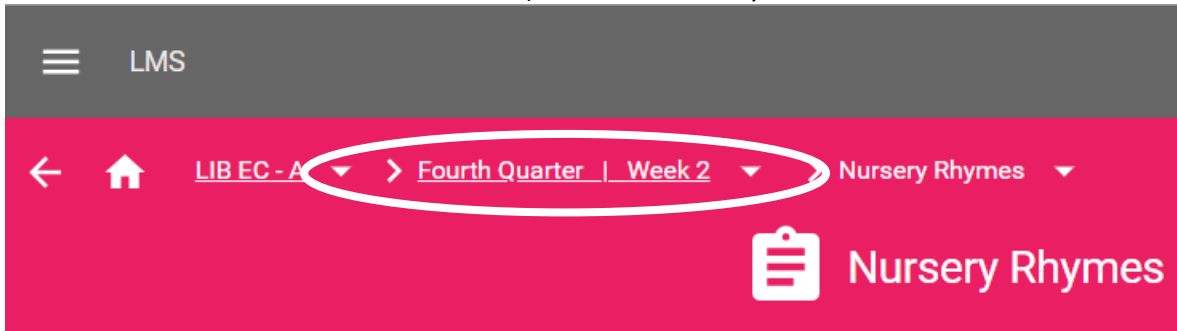
1. Point to and click on any of the assignments you see under the Class Calendar.
2. Point to and click on any topics in blue under the Class Wall (none here now).
3. Point to and click on the “Fourth Quarter” unit in the third column (farthest to the right).

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for 'Early Childhood Library (LIB EC - A)'. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'LMS' on the left and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4' on the right. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into three columns. The first column, 'Class Calendar', is highlighted with a yellow box and the number '1'. It shows a calendar for 'March 22, 2020 - March 28, 2020' with three assignments: 'Nursery Rhymes', 'Read together', and 'Technology', all due on Friday, Mar 27 at 11:30 PM. The second column, 'Class Wall', is highlighted with a yellow box and the number '2'. It shows a 'Post to the Class Wall' form with a 'POST' button. The third column, 'Fourth Quarter', is highlighted with a yellow box and the number '3'. It shows a link to the 'Fourth Quarter' unit.

Using the Class Calendar links is the easiest way. Here, I’ve clicked on the “Nursery Rhymes” assignment. There is a video to watch, plus suggestions for how you might interact with your child.

The screenshot shows the LMS interface for the 'Nursery Rhymes' assignment. At the top, there is a navigation bar with 'LMS' on the left and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4' on the right. Below the navigation bar, the main content area is divided into two columns. The first column, 'Nursery Rhymes', is highlighted with a yellow box and the number '1'. It shows the assignment title, due date, and description. The second column, 'Fourth Quarter', is highlighted with a yellow box and the number '2'. It shows a link to the 'Fourth Quarter' unit.

To get back to this week's assignments (so you can do the second one), find the breadcrumb trail (watch the instruction video linked above to locate this). Click where it says "Fourth Quarter | Week 2".



You should be here. Click on "Read together".

A screenshot of the LMS interface showing the "Week 2" page. The page has a red header with "Week 2" in white text. Below the header are three main sections: "Topic Wall", "Nursery Rhymes", and "Topic Calendar". The "Topic Wall" section has a "Post to the Class Wall" form with a "POST" button and a message "No one has posted to the Topic Wall." The "Nursery Rhymes" section contains text about pre-readers and a link to "MacDonald _ CoComelon Nursery Rhymes & Kids Songs.mp4". Below this is a "Read together" section with text about a make-and-take book and instructions for reading. The "Topic Calendar" section shows "This week" with "No events this week." and "PREV" and "NEXT" buttons. A red arrow points from the "Read together" section back to the breadcrumb trail in the previous image.

(Keep reading)

You will see this page, which has an easy reader book you may download, print and read with your child.

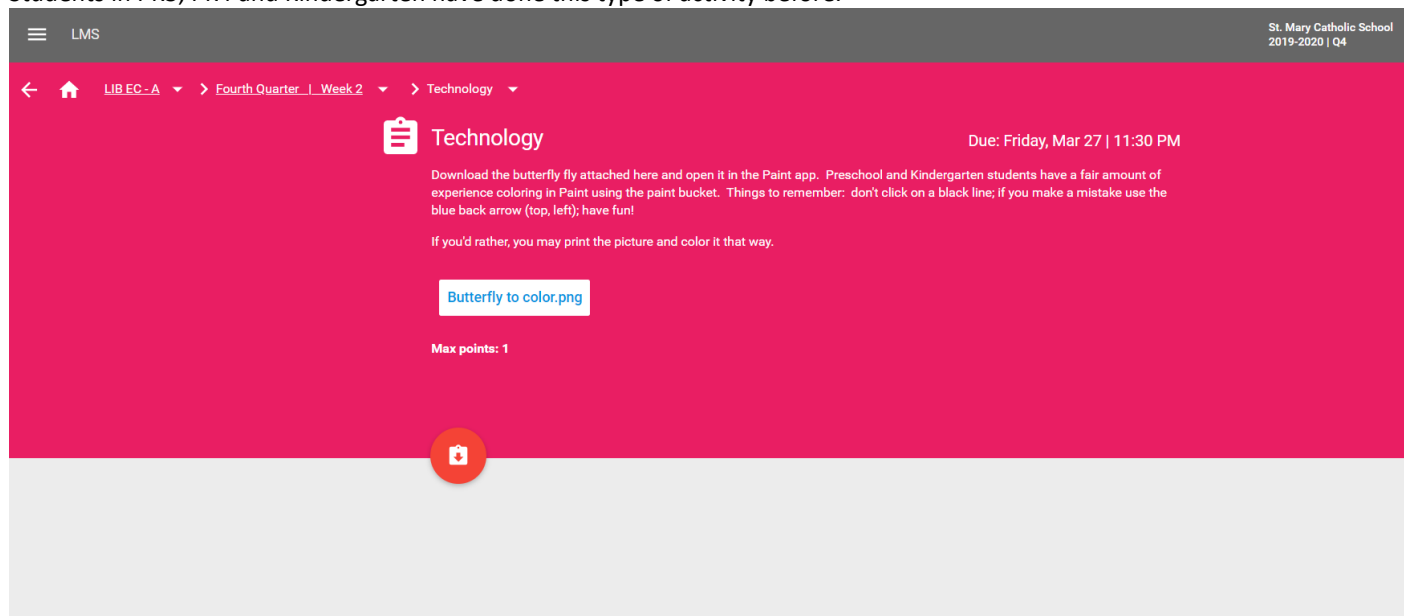
The screenshot shows a Learning Management System (LMS) interface. At the top left, there is a hamburger menu icon and the text 'LMS'. Below this is a navigation breadcrumb: a home icon, 'LIB EC - A', 'Fourth Quarter | Week 2', and 'Read together'. The main content area has a pink background. It features a clipboard icon next to the title 'Read together' and a due date 'Due: Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM'. The text describes a 'make-and-take book about baby animals in spring' and provides instructions on how to use it. A blue button labeled 'Spring baby animals reader.pdf' is visible. Below the button, it says 'Max points: 100'. At the bottom center, there is a red circular icon with a white download symbol.

Click on the “Fourth Quarter | Week 2 link at top left again to return and see the third “assignment.”

Now scroll down the page to see the Technology lesson and click to open it.

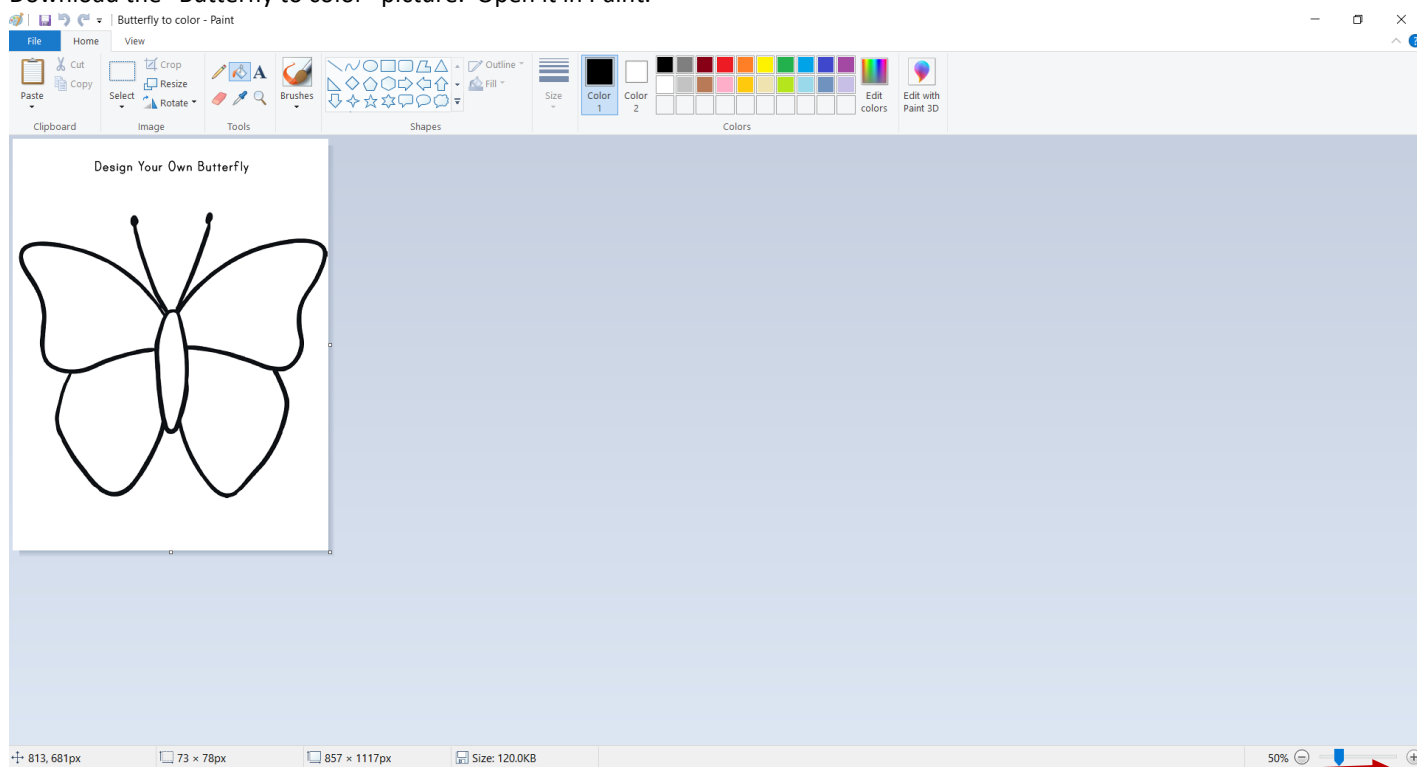
The screenshot shows a wider view of the LMS interface. The top header includes 'LMS' on the left and 'St. Mary Catholic School 2019-2020 | Q4' with a chat and notification icon on the right. The main content area is divided into two assignment cards. The top card is titled 'Read together' and contains the same text and 'Spring baby animals reader.pdf' button as the previous screenshot. The bottom card is titled 'Technology' and describes a lesson about using the Paint app to color a butterfly fly. It includes a blue button labeled 'Butterfly to color.png'.

Students in PK3, PK4 and Kindergarten have done this type of activity before.



The screenshot shows an LMS interface with a pink header. The breadcrumb trail is: LIBEC-A > Fourth_Quarter_I_Week_2 > Technology. The assignment title is "Technology" with a due date of "Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 PM". The instructions read: "Download the butterfly fly attached here and open it in the Paint app. Preschool and Kindergarten students have a fair amount of experience coloring in Paint using the paint bucket. Things to remember: don't click on a black line; if you make a mistake use the blue back arrow (top, left); have fun! If you'd rather, you may print the picture and color it that way." A button labeled "Butterfly to color.png" is visible. Below the button, it says "Max points: 1". A red circular icon with a white plus sign is at the bottom center.

Download the "Butterfly to color" picture. Open it in Paint.

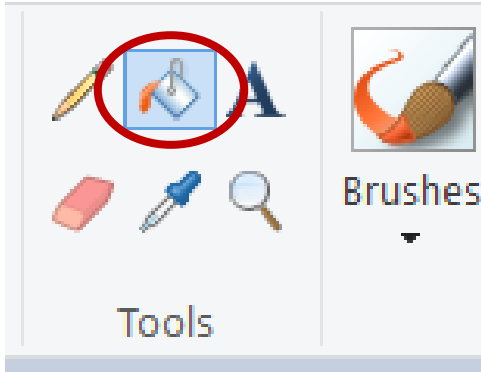


The screenshot shows the Microsoft Paint application window titled "Butterfly to color - Paint". The ribbon includes File, Home, and View. The Home ribbon has options for Clipboard (Paste, Copy), Image (Select, Crop, Resize, Rotate), Tools (Paint bucket, Eraser, Brushes), Shapes, Outline, and Fill. The ribbon also shows Color 1 and Color 2, a color palette, Edit colors, and Edit with Paint 3D. The main canvas displays a butterfly coloring page titled "Design Your Own Butterfly" with a black outline of a butterfly. The status bar at the bottom shows dimensions (813, 681px; 73 x 78px; 857 x 1117px) and size (120.0KB). A zoom level of 50% is shown with a slider.

Click here to make the picture larger (and easier to color).

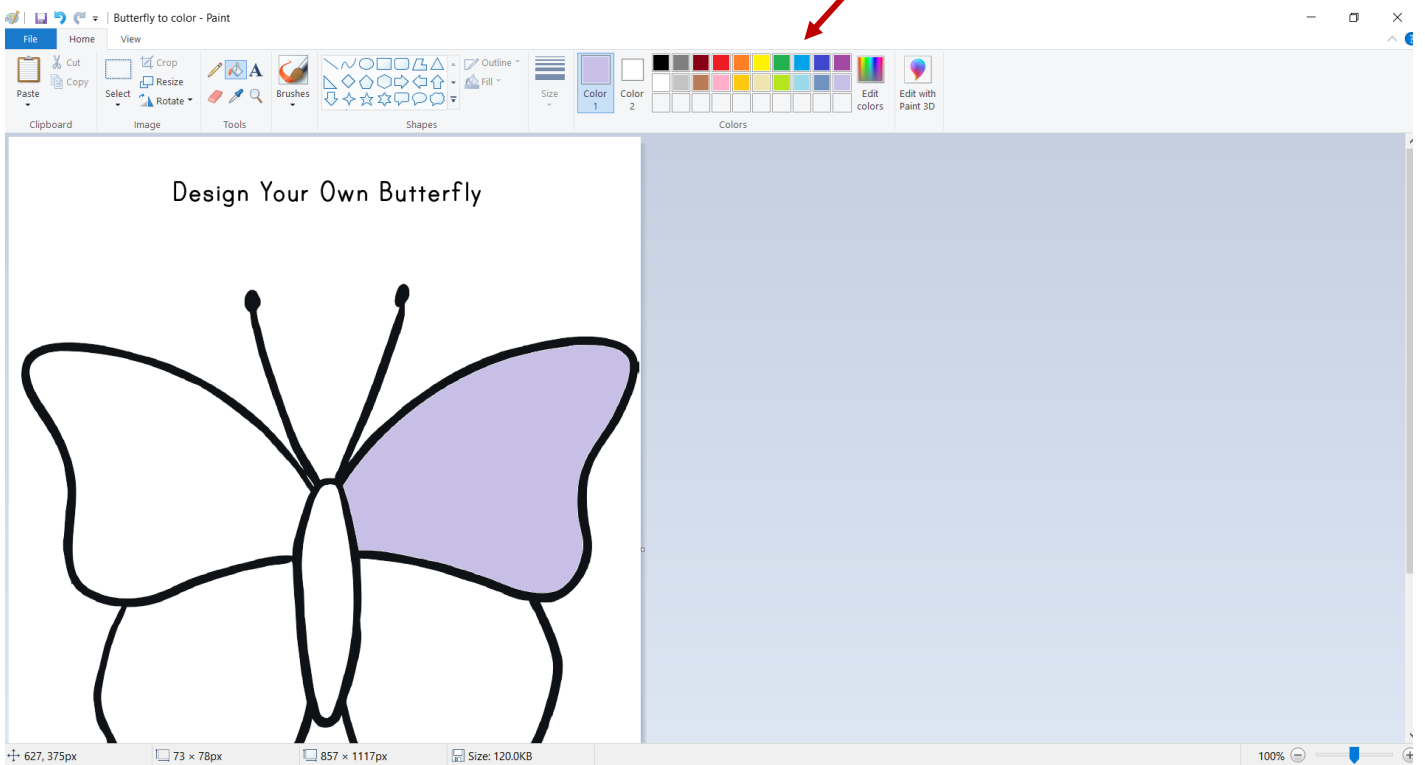


Students should use the paintbucket tool to color. It's on the top toolbar, in the section called "Tools."



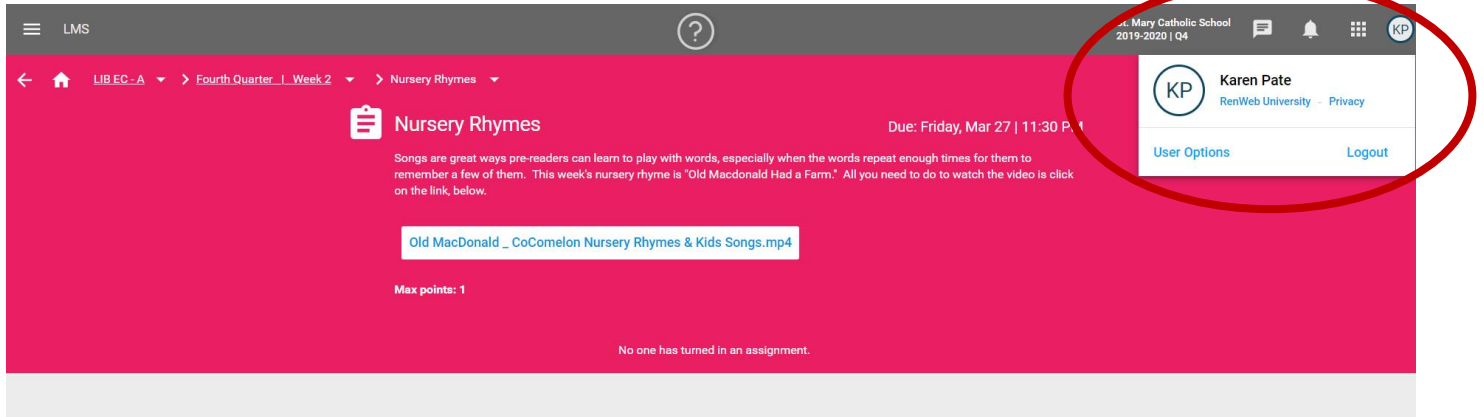
It's the one that looks like a bucket of paint dripping.

Now, choose a color from the palette, then hover over the area you want to color. Click, and it fills.



Some students are ready to move on from here and experiment with other features. That's great! I encourage your child to "play around" and see what happens.

When you finish with the lessons you will log out of LMS. Go to your initials in the upper, right-hand corner. Click on them.



The screenshot shows a Learning Management System (LMS) interface. The top navigation bar is dark grey and contains the text "LMS", a question mark icon, and the user's name "Karen Pate" with initials "KP" in a circle. Below the navigation bar, the main content area has a pink background. The breadcrumb trail shows "LIB.EC-A" > "Fourth Quarter_1_Week 2" > "Nursery Rhymes". The main heading is "Nursery Rhymes" with a due date of "Friday, Mar 27 | 11:30 P.M.". Below the heading, there is a paragraph of text explaining that songs are great for pre-readers and that the week's rhyme is "Old Macdonald Had a Farm." A link is provided to watch a video: "Old MacDonald _ CoComelon Nursery Rhymes & Kids Songs.mp4". Below the link, it says "Max points: 1" and "No one has turned in an assignment." The user profile dropdown menu is open in the top right corner, showing the user's name "Karen Pate", "RenWeb University", and "Privacy" link. There are two buttons: "User Options" and "Logout".

Click on "Logout," and you're finished!