Block Sites or Push a List of Sites to Students’ Chrome Browsers

Classroom Audit & Management · https://gatlabs.com/knowledge/tech-tips/block-sites-or-push-a-list-of-sites-to-students-chrome-browsers/

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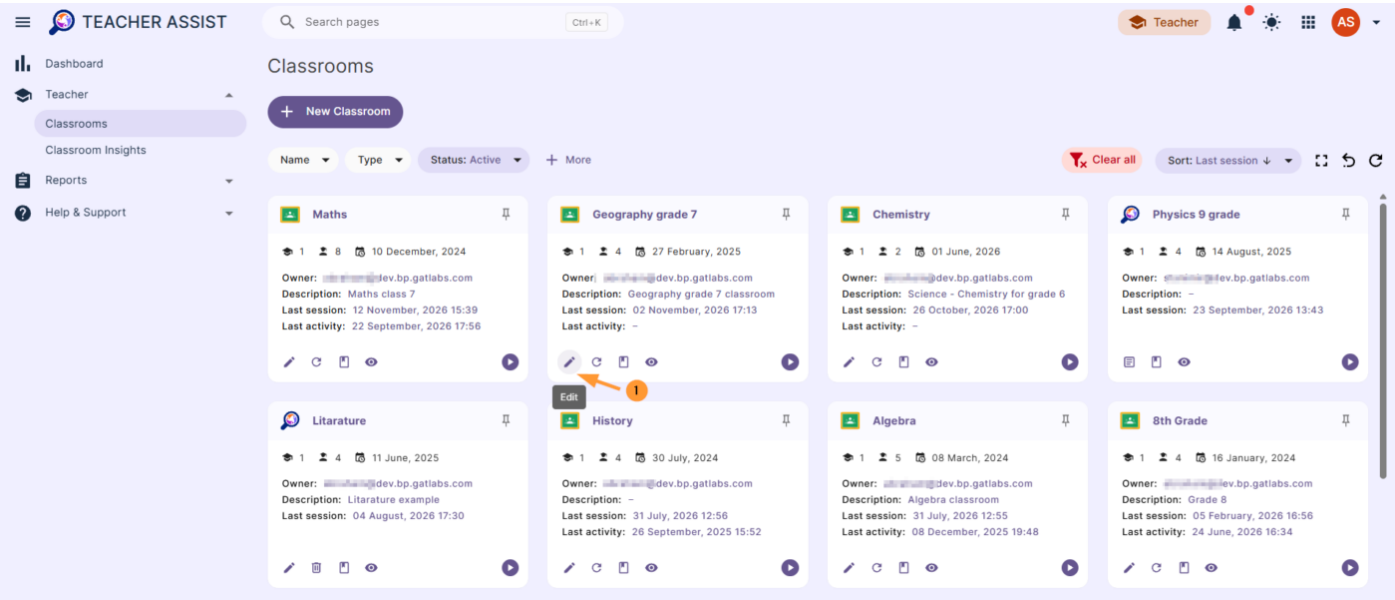
Teacher Assist is a tool for Google Classroom real-time monitoring.

It lets teachers monitor students' screens in real time and control which sites are allowed or blocked in their Chrome browsers. Teachers can also prepare a list of sites to push to students at any time during the classroom session.

Manage student browsing in real time during your Google Classroom sessions with Teacher Assist. By setting up **Website Control** rules and **Website Collections** in advance, you can restrict distracting sites, limit students to specific approved URLs, or push a curated list of webpages directly to students' Chrome browsers at any point during class.

Prepare classroom session

Navigate to **Teacher Assist >Teacher > Classrooms > Edit (edit the classroom settings)**



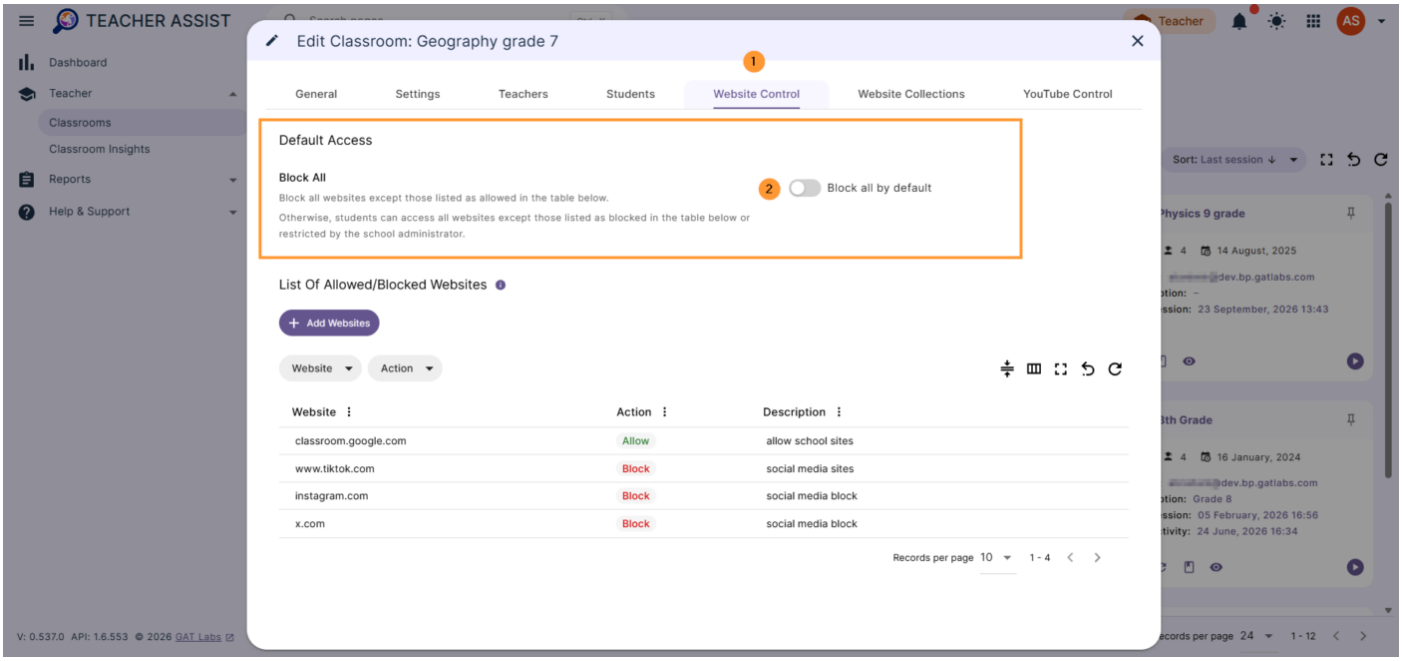
A pop-up window will be displayed.

Website control

Website control - The Teacher creates rules for the Browsing activity of the students. Apply rules to block or allow sites for the Classroom students.

- **Block all -** Block all websites except those listed as allowed in the table below. Otherwise, students can access all websites except those listed as blocked in the table below or restricted by the school administrator.

Toggle on/off the "block all by default" button.

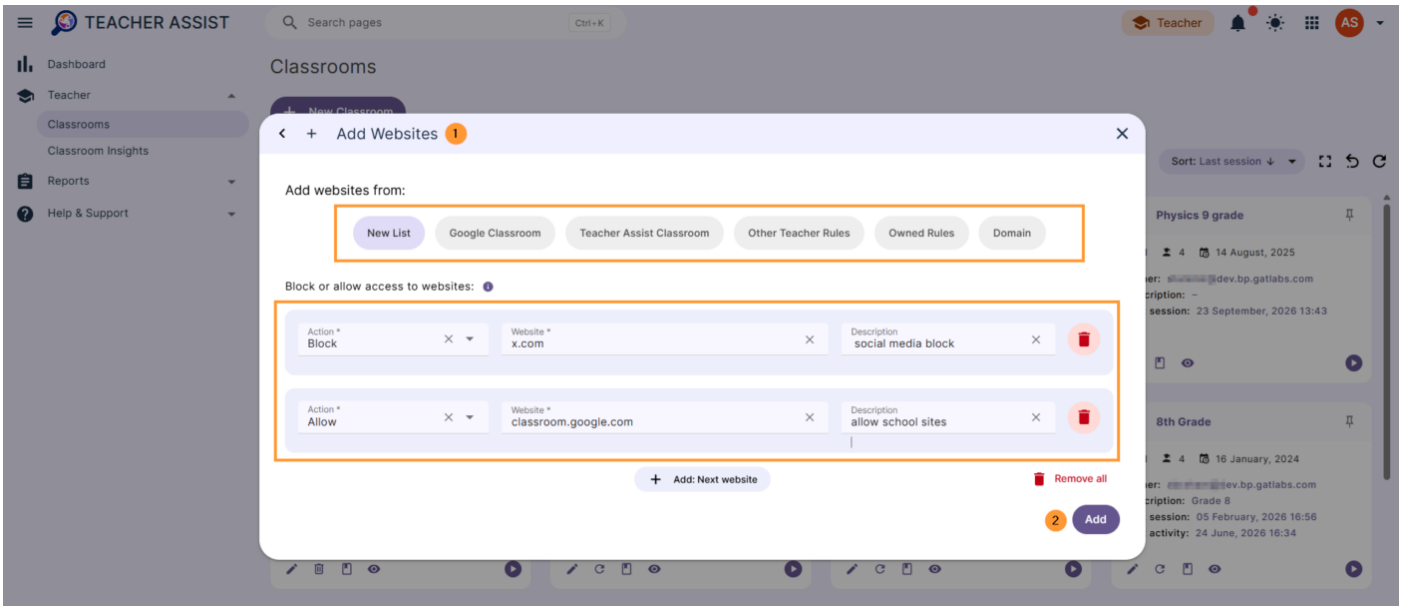


- **List of allowed/blocked websites -** Add a custom list of sites to be allowed or blocked. The allow list will take precedence if a block rule is applied to the same sites, and it will be allowed.

Add websites in different ways.

- **New list** - Create a simple "new list" of sites to be allowed or blocked.
- **Google Classroom** - Choose the Google Classroom and pull custom rules applied (if any) from it and apply to the current classroom.
- **Teacher Assist classroom** - Select the custom Teacher Assist classroom and pull the list of sites from there.
- **Other Teacher Rules** - Select a teacher and pull sites they have allowed or blocked
- **Owned rules** - Pull list of sites allowed or blocked created by Teacher for different classrooms

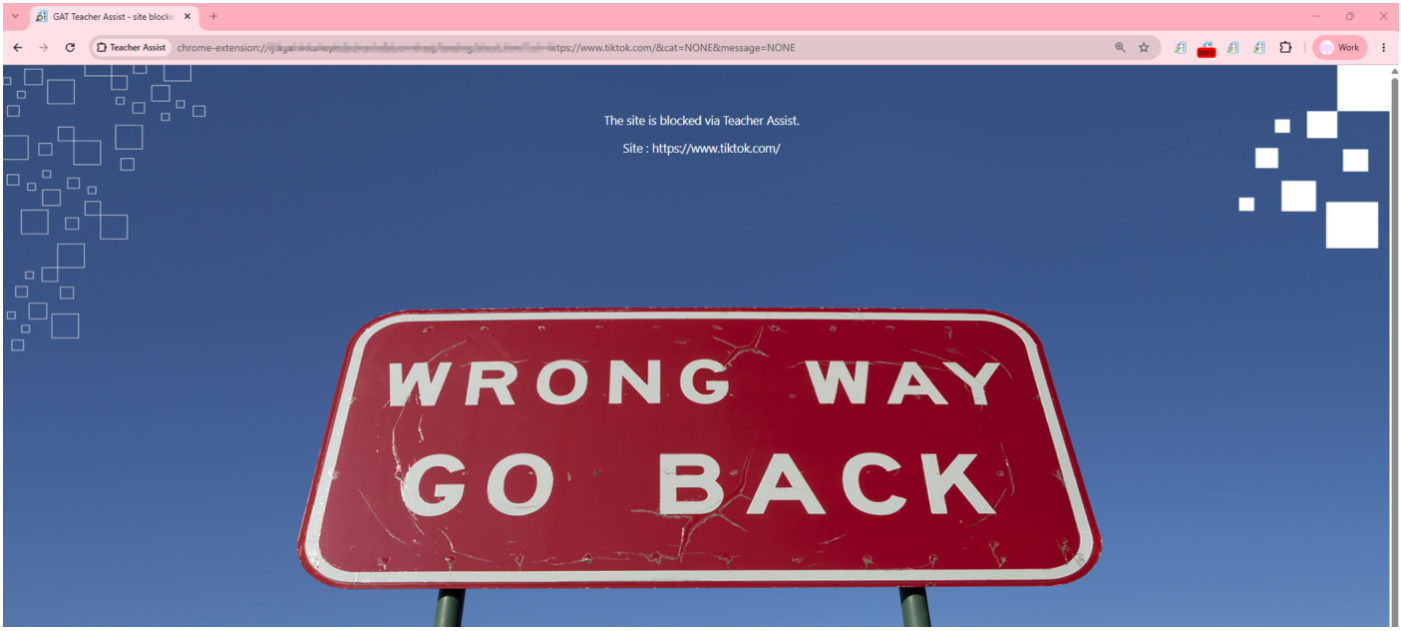
- **Domain** - Pull and use any of the website collections created in Teacher Assist, domain-wide.



Result of blocked sites

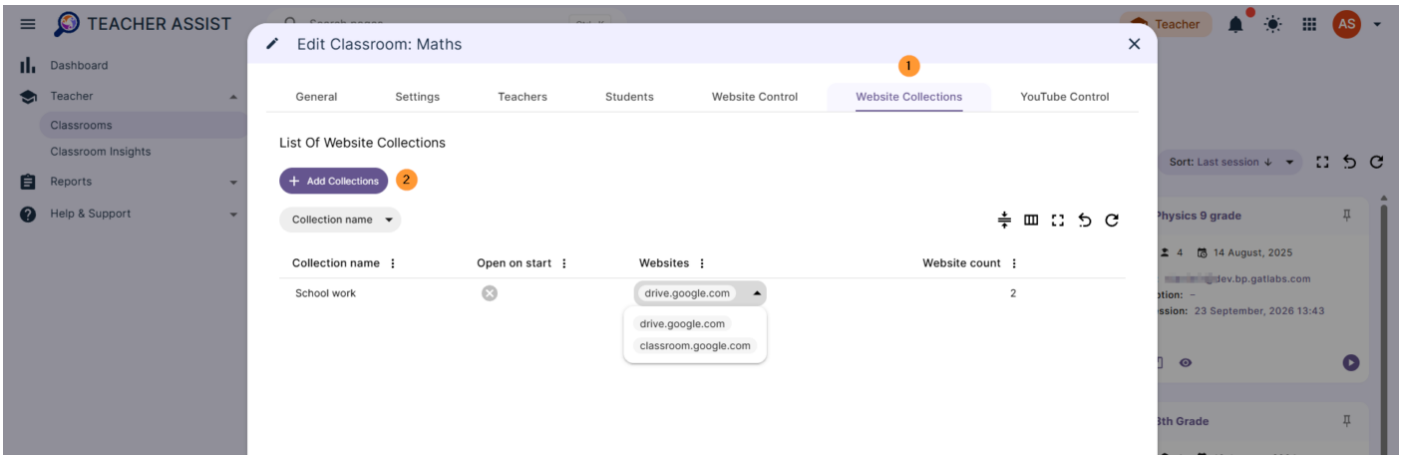
The blocked webpages will be blocked. The allowed websites will be allowed.

- **If "block all" is used, only the "allowed" sites will be allowed.**
- **If "block all" is not used, only the "blocked" sites will be blocked.**



Website collections

A website collection is a placeholder where the Teacher can add and store a list of web pages that can be "pushed" easily to the students.



Each collection can store multiple sites.

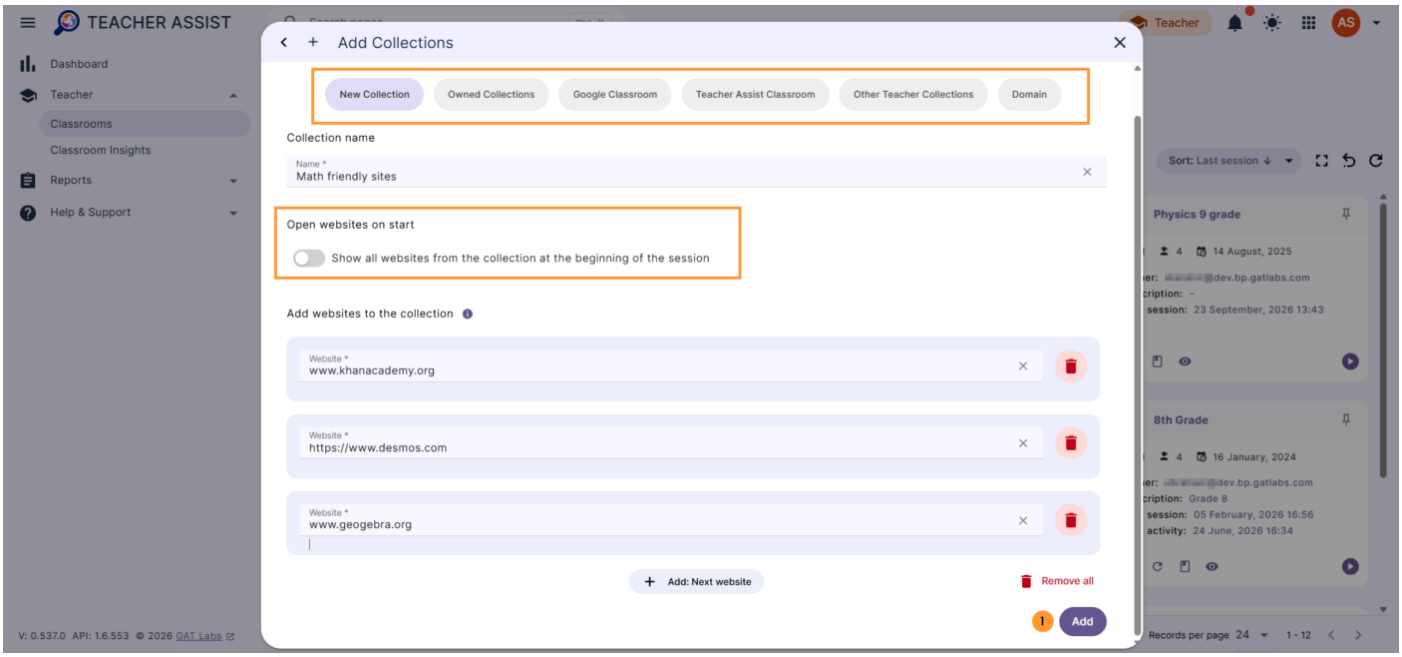
Navigate to the classroom settings and click on **Website collections > Add collections**

There are a few ways to add collections.

- **New collection** - create a manual list of websites to be added into a collection
- **Owned collection** - filter and select an already owned and existing collection from all classrooms
- **Google Classroom** - search for and pull a list of site collections from the selected classroom
- **Teacher Assist classroom** - search for and pull a list of site collections from the selected custom classroom created in Teacher Assist
- **Other Teacher Collection** - search for a different teacher and pull their site collection
- **Domain** - Choose any of the domain-created site collections

Open websites on start

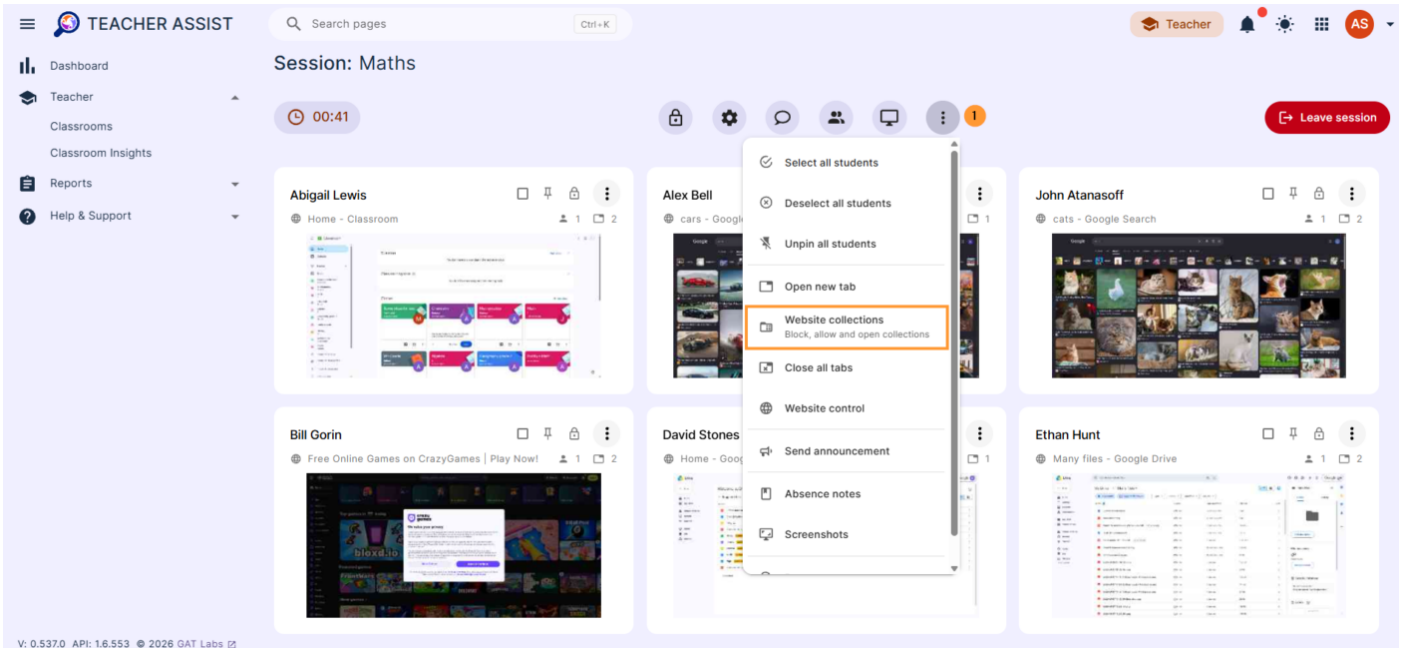
Open websites on start will show all websites from the collections at the beginning of the session.



Result of site collection

As a result of the above setup, when a classroom session starts, the Teacher can open the Website collection and pull all the sites for the students in bulk or individually to each student.

Start a classroom session, click on the 3 dots, and select the Website collections option.

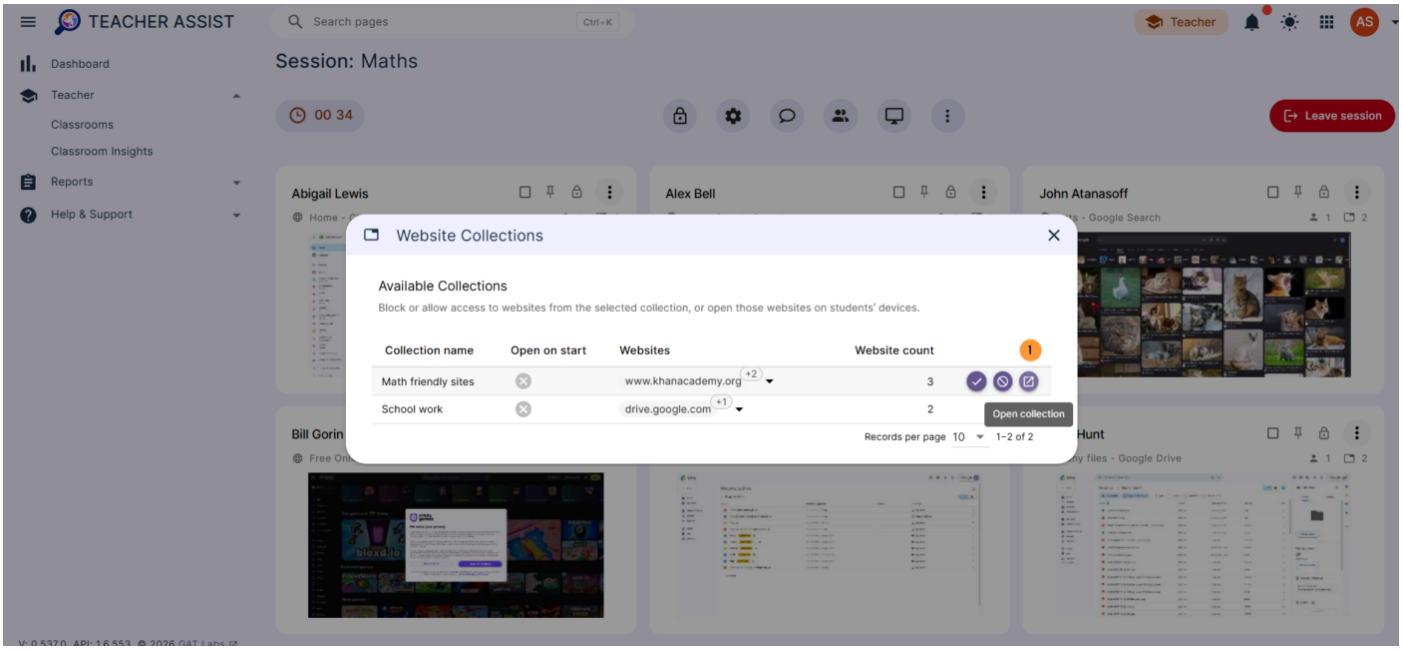


The website collections will be displayed.

3 options to push the websites.

- **Open collection** - This will open the website collection

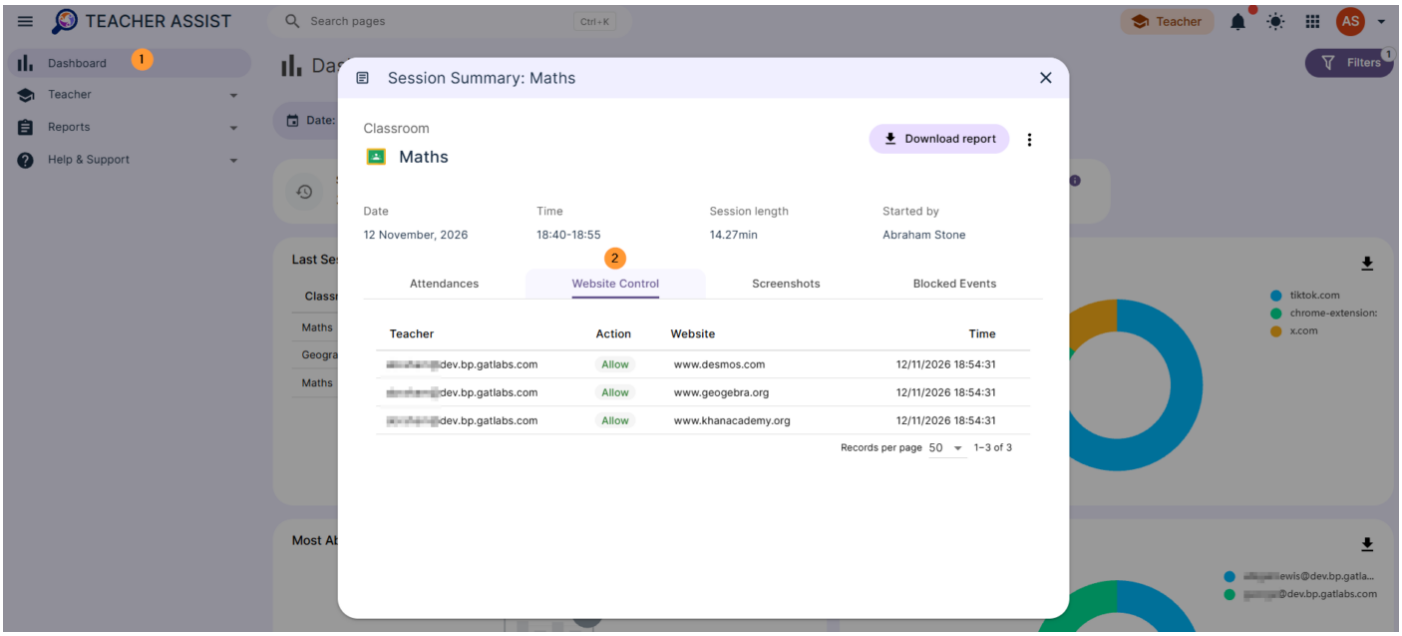
- **Allow website from collection** - This will allow only websites from this collection (block all other websites)
- **Block websites from collection** - This will block websites from this collection and allow other websites (but top-down rules will still apply)



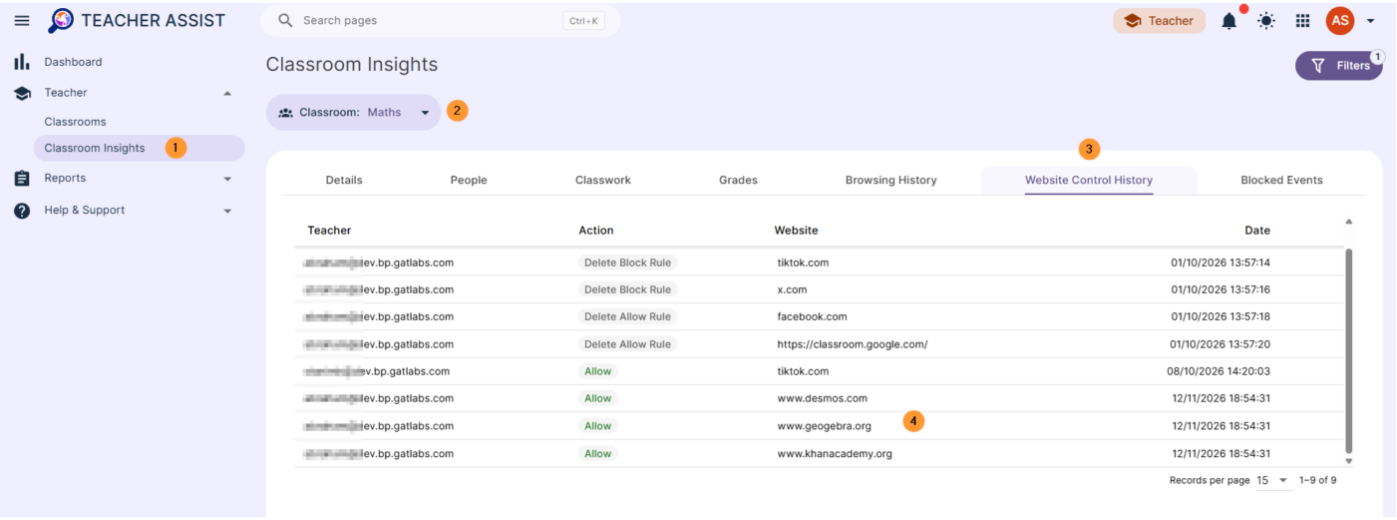
Site Access Control History

The record of opened sites will be shown in Session summary for the individual classrooms.

In Dashboard - session summary, the Teacher can view the Website control



Additionally, this can be seen and checked in **Classroom insights** > Select the **Classroom and then Website Control History.**



Conclusion

With **Website Control** and **Website Collections** set up ahead of time, you stay in full control of your digital classroom without interrupting your lesson.

Whether you need to lock down browsing for a test, block specific distractions, or instantly open lesson links on every student's screen, Teacher Assist makes it effortless to keep students on track from start to finish.

FAQ

1. What happens if the same website is added to both the allowed and blocked lists?

- The **allow list** always takes precedence. If a website has both an allow rule and a block rule applied to it, students will be able to access the site. *(Note: Top-down restrictions set by your school administrator will still apply.)*

2. Can I push a Website Collection to just one student instead of the whole class?

- Yes. Once a classroom session starts, you can open your Website Collections and push the sites either in bulk to the entire class or individually to specific students.

Related Posts

- Teacher Assist Guide
- Teacher Assist Dashboard
- Teacher Assist – Absence notes