

Web 2.0 and other tools for the Social Studies Class

By Monica Albuixech and Janice Fairchild

Scribble Maps lets you rapidly create custom Google Maps without an account.

Maps created in Scribble Maps can be exported to a variety of services including Google My Maps and Google Earth.

Whether it is planning a vacation, or plotting a hiking trail, Scribble Maps can help you out!

Powered by **Google**

Feel free to Scribble while you wait.
Loading..

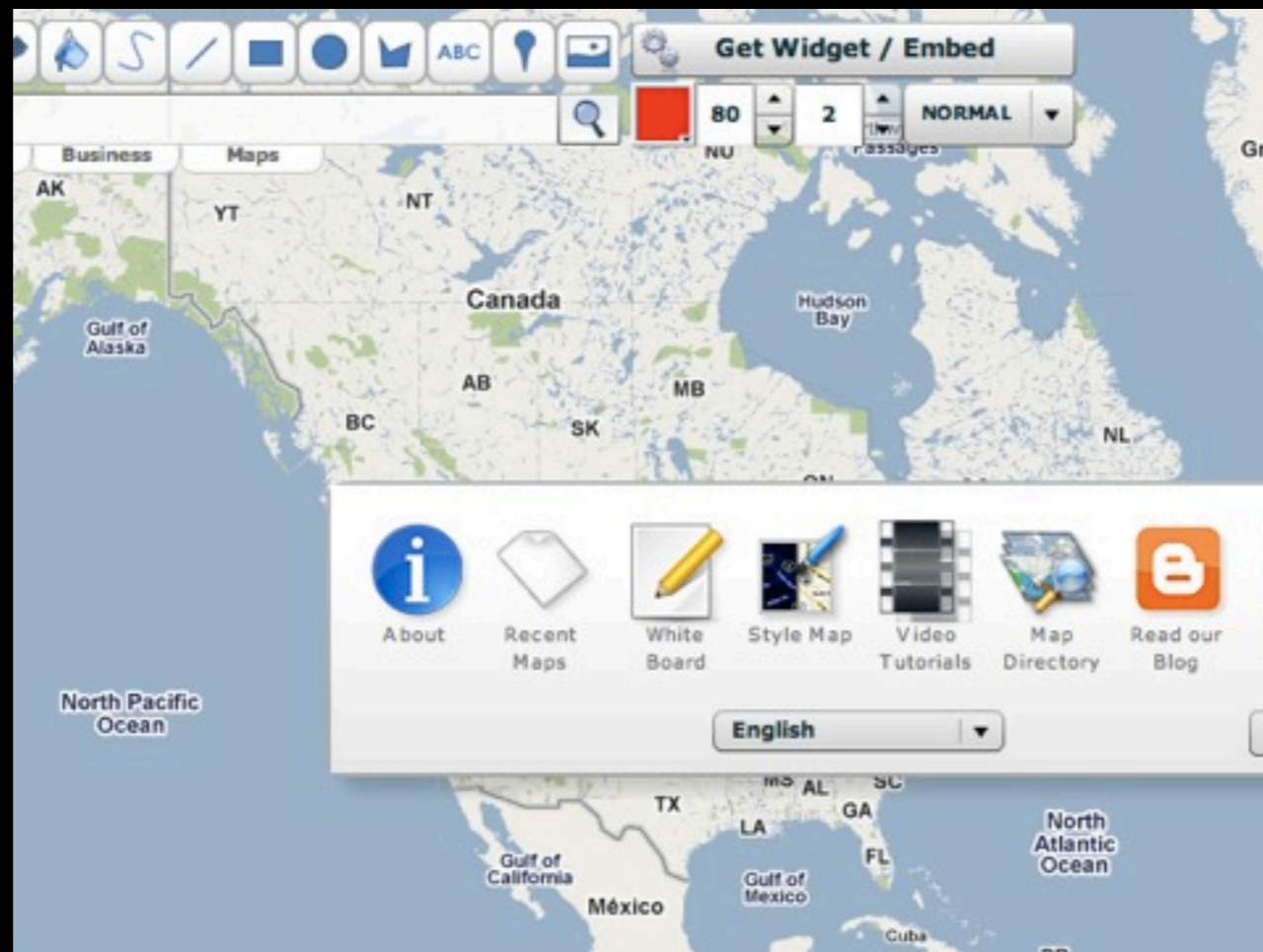
Features:

- Draw shapes and Scribble!
- Add Custom Images / Overlays
- Place Text
- Place Markers
- Create custom widgets
- Export to Google My Maps
- Export to Google Earth
- Save as KML/GPX/JPG
- Create 3D JPEGs and Widgets
- Send Maps to Friends
- Print

© 2011 Google
US Dept of State Geographer
© 2011 Europa Technologies
© 2011 MapLink/Tele Atlas

37°40'54.94" N 95°27'06.30" W elev 275 m Eye alt 11001.28 km

Mapping Tools



Scribble Maps

Scribble Maps is a website that lets you scribble, draw, and annotate over Google maps. Scribble Maps even lets you print your maps, save them, embed them on your website, blog, or wiki or save them as jpeg images to your computer. In addition to annotating over maps, you can also add place markers with titles and descriptions, and add images to the map. Maps can be viewed as regular maps, terrain maps, hybrid maps, or satellite maps making it pretty ideal for every classroom need.

Washington DC Unit



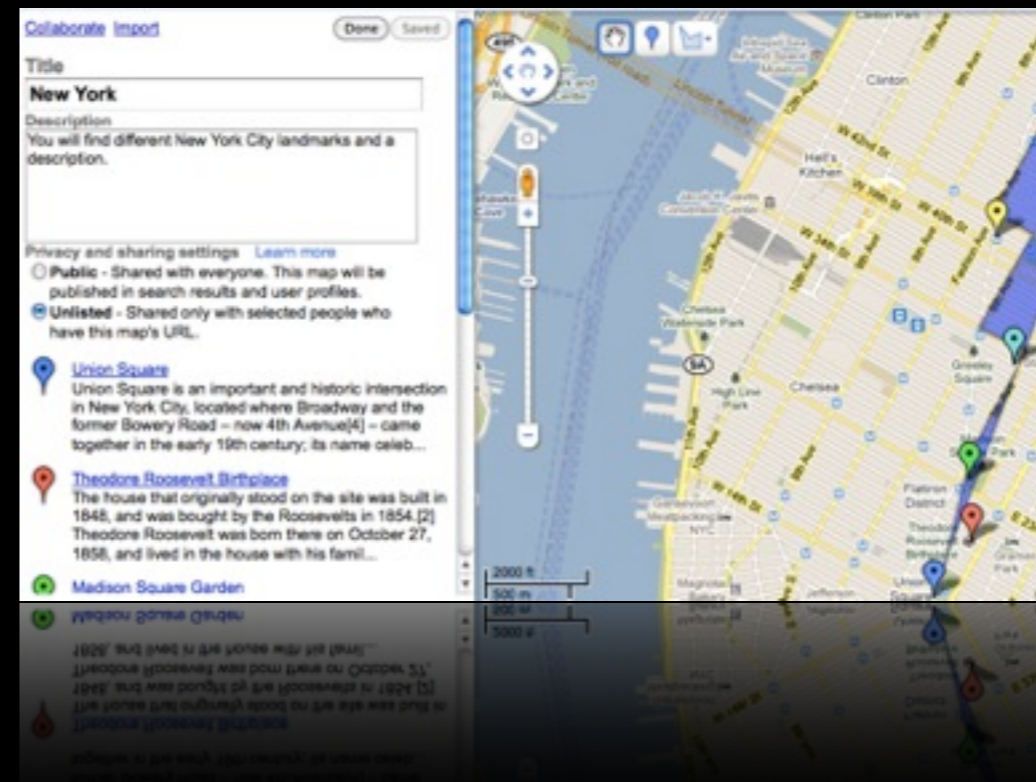
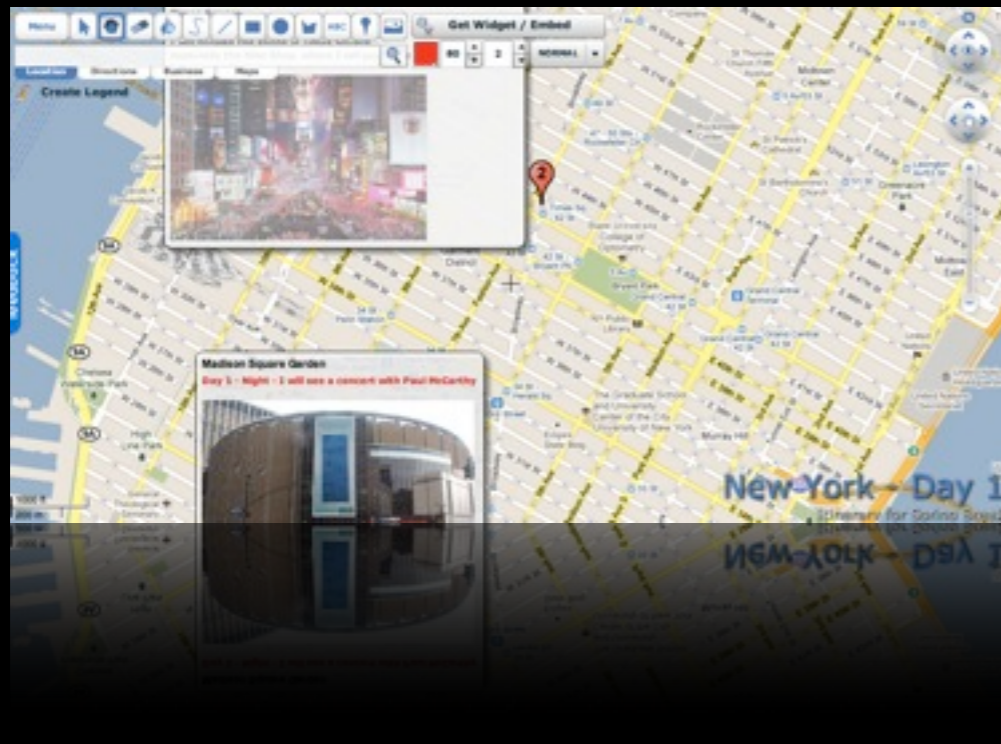
Depending on your location, you can create personalized, annotated, customized maps using Google Maps. Your maps can contain the following:

- Placemarks
- Lines
- Shapes

Once you have created a map, you can:

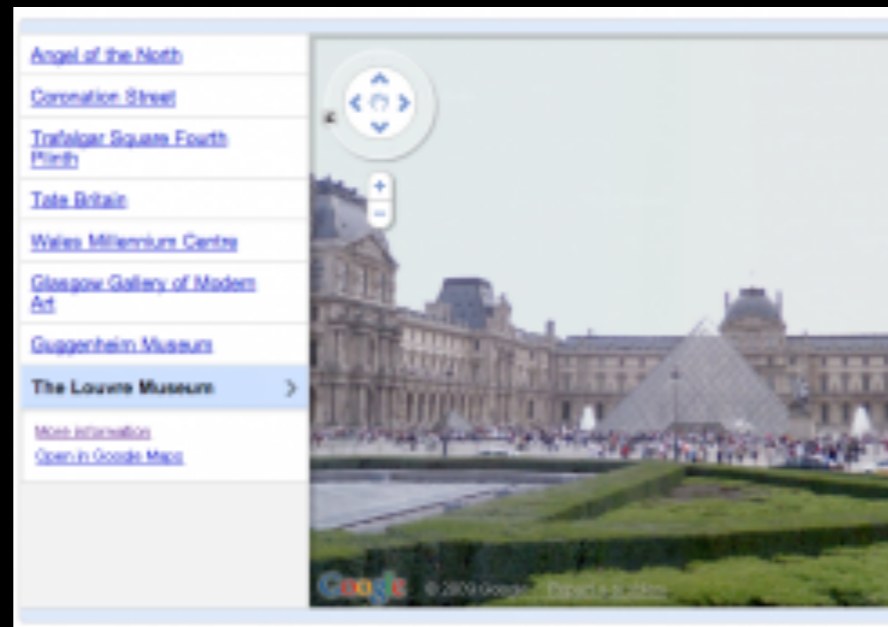
- Add descriptive text, including rich text and HTML
- Embed photos and videos in your map
- Share your maps with others
- Collaborate with others New!
- Import KML or GeoRSS to your map New!
- Open it in Google Earth

To create or edit maps, you must be signed into your Google Account. You do not need to be signed in to view a map. You can also search for maps made by specific users.



How to use Scribble Maps or Google Maps in the classroom?

Drop place markers with descriptions on a map as students read. Students will have a better idea of what is happening in story when they can visually see places mentioned marked out on a map. Scribble Maps or Google Maps would be a great tool for those Flat Stanley projects that elementary classrooms across the country do each school year. Create a map and plot all of the places that Stanley traveled, attach pictures of Stanley, with those he visited, on the map. Play map games calling out geographical places and having students find them on the map and tag them with the information they know.



Google Street View Gallery

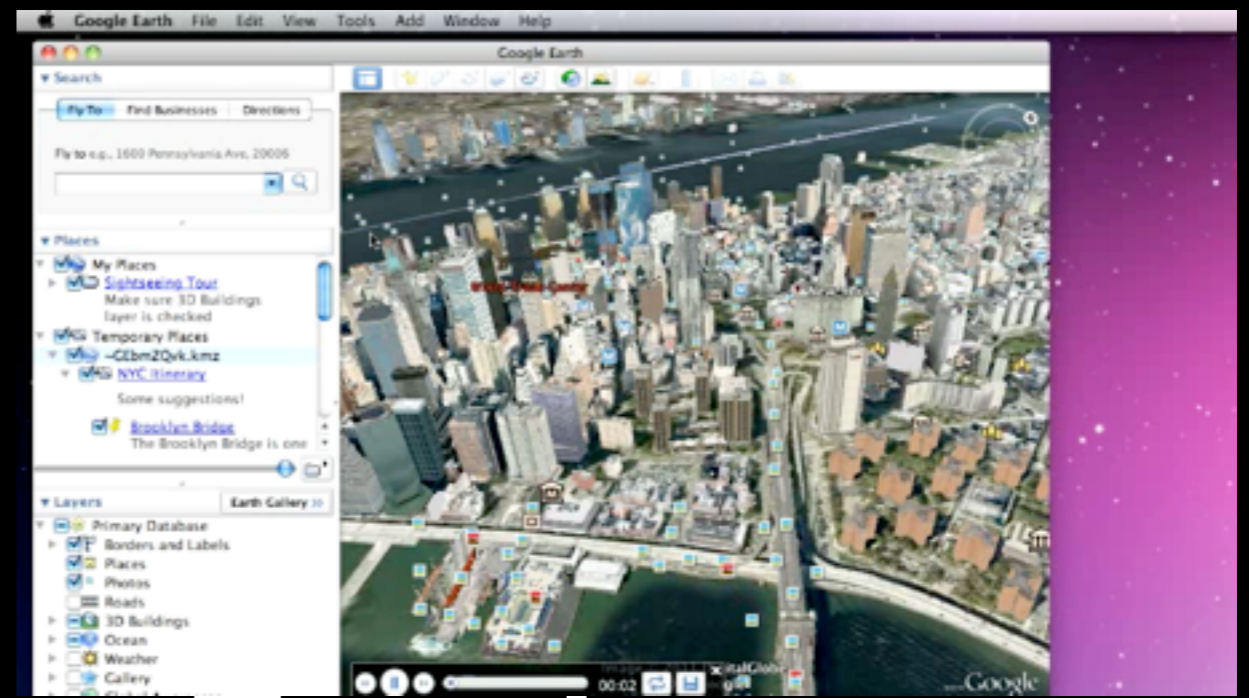
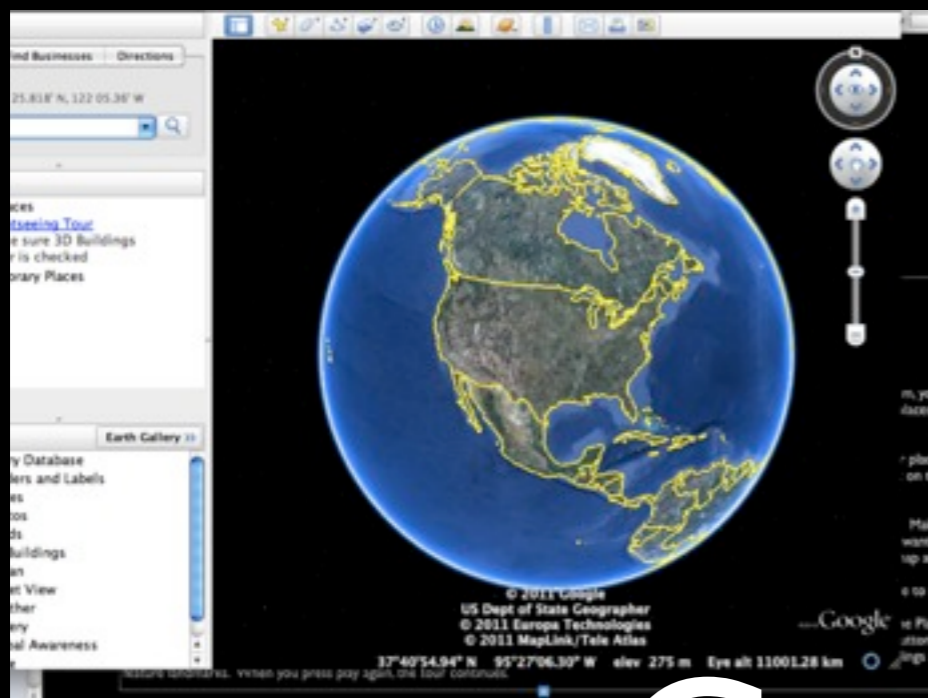
This is a collection of Google Street views of famous landmarks, buildings, and art, sport, and entertainment venues from around the world. Landmarks includes places such as Big Ben, Tower Bridge, Golden Gate Bridge, Space Needle, Gateway Arch, CN Tower, Tokyo Tower, Plaza de Cibeles, Eiffel Tower, Arthur's Seat, The Colosseum, Arc de Triomphe, and Chiang Kai-shek Memorial Hall.

Street View in Google Maps lets you explore places through 360-degree street-level imagery, whether you're looking at locations in your town or across the globe. With Street View, you can check out a restaurant before going there, find beautiful places around the world to visit on your next vacation, or check out neighborhoods when you're looking to move.



How to use Google Street Views in the classroom

Bring your geography, history, and social studies lessons to life by letting students take a virtual field trip with Google Street Views. Using an interactive whiteboard or projector, your students will feel like they have visited landmarks around the world during class. Allow students to be the “tour guides” and navigate the street view and pictures associated. Make sure to view the Google Maps so that students can get a sense of where each landmark is located and practice their map skills. Google Street views can be used during math to study architecture shapes, angles, etc. in real world settings.



Google Earth

Google Earth allows you to travel the world through a virtual globe and view satellite imagery, maps, terrain, 3D buildings, and much more. With Google Earth's rich, geographical content, you are able to experience a more realistic view of the world. You can fly to your favorite place, search for businesses and even navigate through directions. It's all up to you!

Although the options within Google Earth are endless, here are a few things you can do:

- *Discover the Earth:* Fly to any location in the world, learn about a city and its geographic features, find local businesses, and create tours.
- *Explore the Sky:* Enjoy the wonders of the heavens and learn about our solar system.
- *Dive in the Ocean:* Go beneath the surface and visit the depths of the ocean and explore the planet's deepest underwater canyons. Learn about ocean observations, climate change, and endangered species. You can even discover new places to surf, dive and fish.
- *Walk on the Moon:* Take tours of landing sites narrated by Apollo astronauts and view 3D models of landed spacecraft.
- *Visit Mars:* Travel the Red Planet and explore NASA's latest imagery of our galactic neighbor.

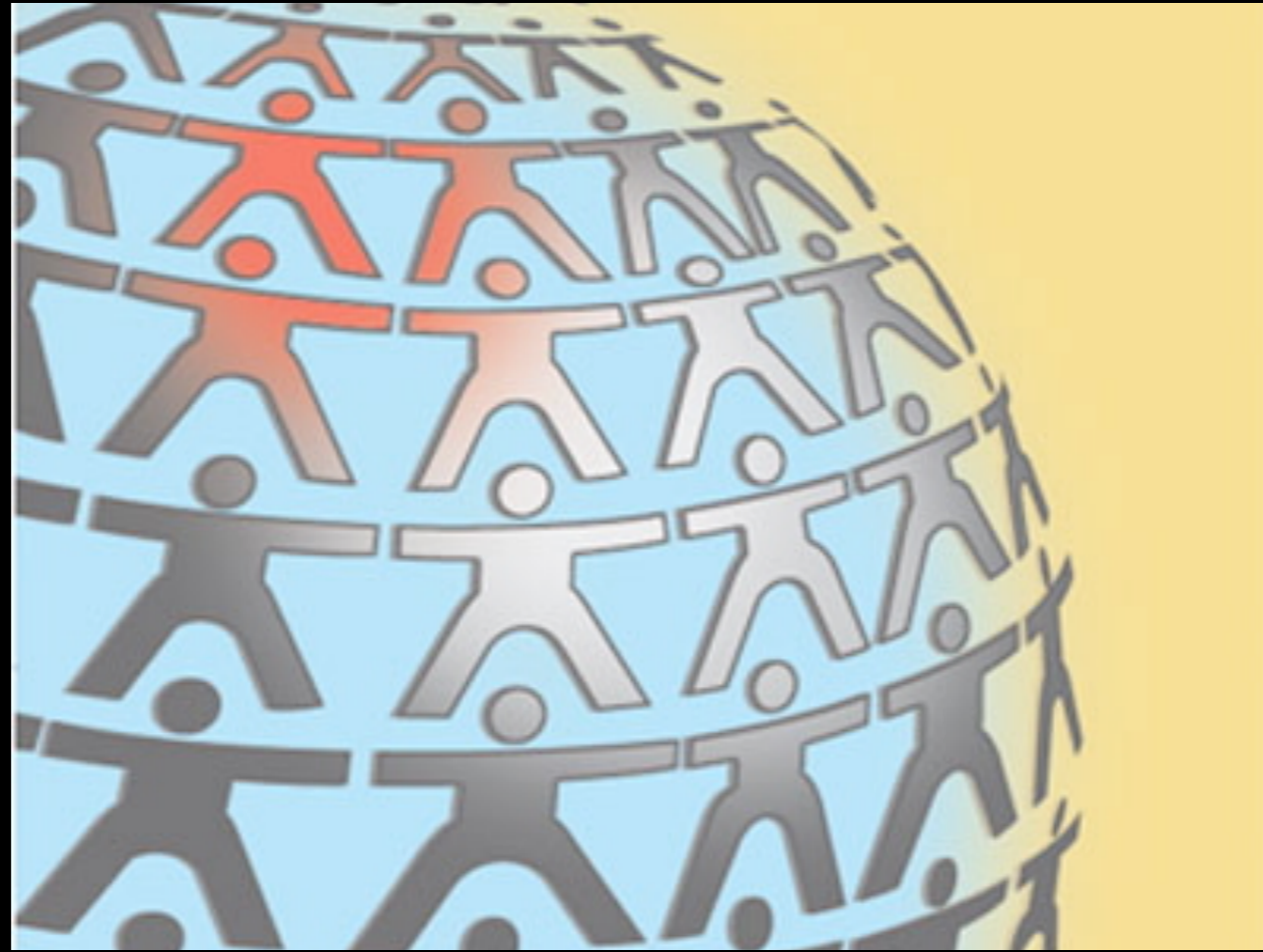
Google Earth is simply your ticket to explore the Universe! Now, learn [how to get started!](#)

Already have Google Earth? Learn how to use Google Earth through the [User Guide](#).



TerraClues

TerraClues for Schools is an easy to use tool where teachers can create interactive “scavenger hunts” with Google maps. Teachers can also create private classrooms where they assign students to specific hunts. You can create a hunt for an explorer’s unit, to teach students about history, in conjunction with web 2.0 tools and pen pals, for any social studies or geography lesson. Create an interactive field trip anywhere in the world for your students (or map out a field trip before you go).



Community Building and Sharing

students
rebuild



Students Rebuild

Students Rebuild is a site that helps students around the world connect, learn, and take action on critical global issues. Students Rebuild gives students the opportunity to connect to a global community, learn about the challenges of a natural disaster, and do something real to make a difference.

In addition to the Rebuild challenges, educators can use Student Rebuild to connect students with others around the world. The site helps build that global learning community. Interactive video conferencing encourages two-way dialogue and emotional connections.

Using Students Rebuild projects in your classroom is a great way to teach students about our global community, empathy, current events, and give students a way to make a difference.

~~SPENT~~

Urban Ministries of Durham serves
over 6,000 people every year.
But you'd never need help, right?

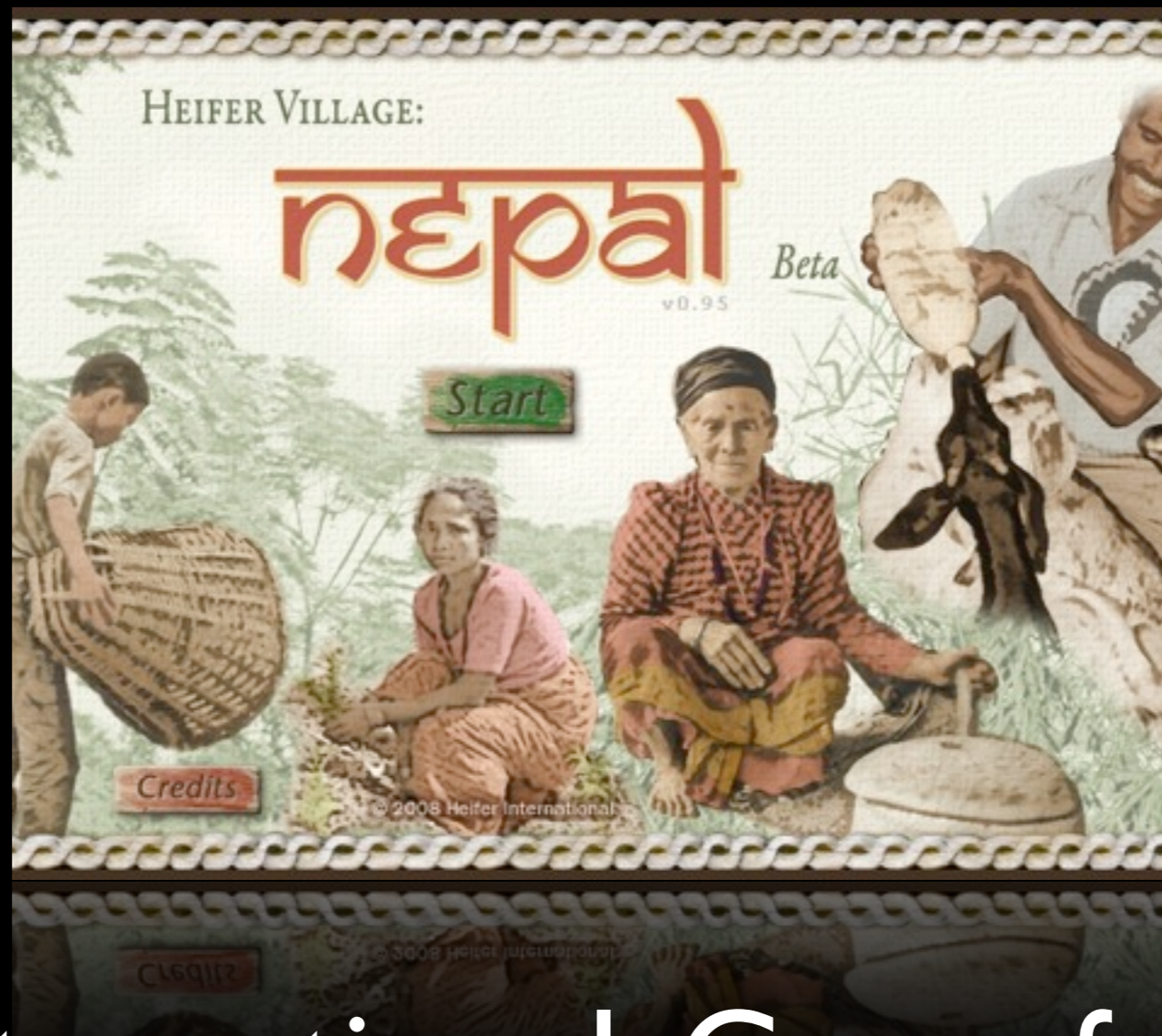
PROVE IT

ACCEPT THE CHALLENGE

Spent: Social Studies Simulation

Students have the opportunity to accept the Spent simulation and challenge to see if they can make it through a month of living expenses. They have just lost their job, their savings are gone, they have lost their house, and they are down to their last thousand dollars.

Spent is a social justice game simulation that helps students understand the tough circumstances that so many face that have caused them to be homeless and in need of outside assistance. The game uses scenarios that are true to life and shows students how each decision that they make has consequences.



Heifer International: Game for Change

Heifer International has partnered with BeaconFire and ForgeFX to create an interactive 3D game that teaches students about hunger and poverty in a virtual world. Through Heifer International: Game for Change, students will learn about real world conditions of poverty and how communities can create sustainable solutions. Through game play, students will learn about sustainable options for help. In the game, students take on the role of a 12 year old Nepalese girl in a village that struggles with poverty and hunger. There are four tasks/missions that students must complete in the current (beta) version of the game. Each task offers an activity that teaches a core principle.



Let's Say Thanks

Let's Say Thanks is a website that allows students, parents, teachers, and everyone to write messages to our troops serving around the world.

What a perfect way to teach students gratitude while making an impact on those serving around the world. You could also integrate this activity into social studies learning about our troops, or current events. We live in a global world and this activity could open up discussions about where our troops are serving and what the culture is like where they are stationed.



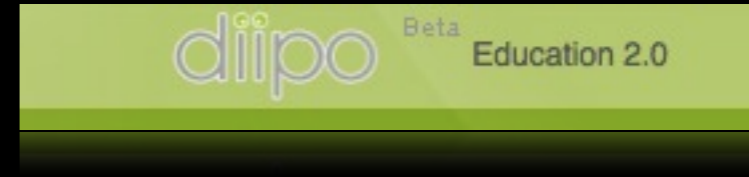
Collaborative Tools



Class Blogs

Class Blogs is a fabulous way for you to easily create and manage FREE classroom blogs! What makes Class Blogs so wonderful are all the extras that are built in. For example, with Class Blogs you can create a virtual classroom space. With just a few simple steps, you can create an online meeting space for your students to learn and discuss in. Blogs can be used to post assignments; when you post an assignment to your teacher blog, students can submit the assignment and a pingback will be sent to your blog. Class Blogs even has features that utilize SMS so that you can send a text message to students and the ability to host lesson plans complete with supporting resources!

- **Class Blogs** – Teachers and students can create blogs to help facilitate classroom learning or the blog can be an extension of the classroom conversation.
- **Learning Logs** – Learning logs are sites created by teachers for the purpose of creating online assignments for students. Students can then answer the questions and submit the assignments once they are completed.
- **Learning Management System (LMS)** – Teachers can create a blog and use it as a learning management system. Teachers can post online courses and students can submit their assignments (through blog posts) for the course online as well. These assignments can be viewed by the instructor, the instructor can submit feedback, and the instructor can grade the student's assignment online. Both the teacher and his/her students must have blogs in order to create a successful LMS.
- **Electronic Portfolio (E-Portfolio)** – An e-portfolio is a valuable learning and assessment tool which includes but is not limited to a collection of resources and accomplishments that represent the individual. Moreover, it is the author's personal reflection on the work included in the e-portfolio that creates a meaningful learning experience.
- **Web Conferencing/Virtual Classroom** – Teachers/professors have the ability to create meeting rooms or virtual classrooms from the backend of their site. You can upload your presentations, chat with students, public/private chat, webcam, and even share your desktop.



edmodo & diipo

Diipo is a social network created specially for education. Diipo makes it easy to communicate with your students, connect with other educators, and other classes. The interface is similar in feel to a Facebook or Twitter making it easy for students and teachers to pick up and start using right away.

Edmodo is a social networking platform for classrooms that has been around longer. Edmodo is a free, secure social network for teachers, students, and schools. It provides classrooms with a safe way to connect and collaborate by offering them place to exchange ideas, share content, and access homework, grades and school notices.



PBWORKS

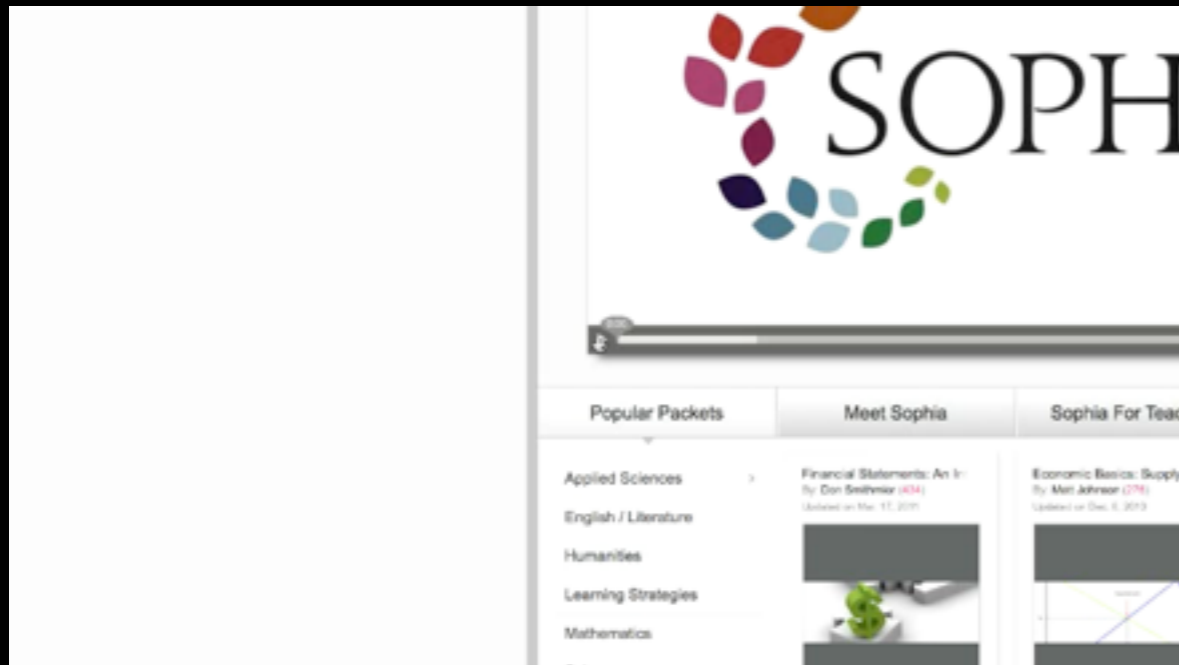
Wikispaces & PBWorks

If you aren't familiar with wikis, they are websites that anyone can edit and help grow through collaboration.

Wikispaces and PBWorks are easy to use wiki builders. They provide a place for students to collaborate on projects, they are so simple to use that even primary classrooms could make use of them. Both wikis provide a platform for your students to be the "experts" on a subject.



Sophia



Sophia can help students by offering them support in areas of weakness, opportunities for deeper learning, and the ability to follow areas of interest that aren't being met in the classroom.

As a teacher, Sophia can be used to supplement instruction, for blended learning opportunities, for "flip" learning, and for private personal learning networks (PLN). Students can use Sophia for additional classroom support, homework help, to participate in study groups, and to help others in their learning.

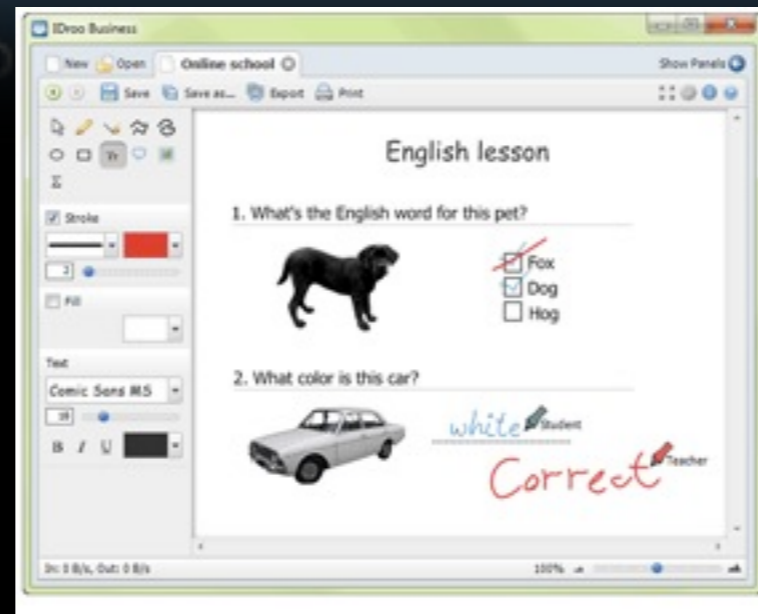
Will You TypeWith.me?

Click to Create a New Document

TypeWith.me

Collaborative tool that allows 16 people to type a document together in real time.
It has a chat tool.

Allows to save different revisions and it enables to retrieve any previous revision too.
It saves in different formats.



IDroo is an educational multi user whiteboard that lets students instantly collaborate online. Everything that is drawn or written on the whiteboard is visible to all participants in real-time. IDroo would be a great app for collaborating with other classrooms around the world. Students can use the multi user whiteboard space to work together, share ideas, and brainstorm. IDroo would also be fantastic as a way for teachers to tutor students virtually. Set up an “open lab” time once a week online where students can drop in and get extra help.



Enter The Group

Enter the Group is a fabulous online tool that makes it simple to work with, and organize, groups online. Enter the Group includes shared calendars, site email, file sharing, instant chat and message boards, the ability to create private groups and classrooms, tasks and assignments, polls, blogging, Twitter, and question/answer forum, and best of all: it is totally free! Enter the Group has some really nice classroom features that other online group management sites don't have. The built in blog feature is useful for the classroom setting, it provides students with a place to reflect that can be set as "private" so that it is a closed network for your classroom or school. This is especially helpful in schools where administration and the school community is hesitant to enter the world of blogging!



Other Web 2.0 Tools



Fotobabble

Just upload a photo, record your voice, and send or embed away.

The downside for use in education are: 1. on the home page of Fotobabble you can see other members creations, at the time of writing they are all clean but I would hate to send my kids here without knowing exactly what content they would run into; 2. To use Fotobabble as a student, you must first sign up. This requires an email address Which means that under the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, that children under the age of 13 cannot sign up for an account on the site for their own creations.

How to use Fotobabble in the classroom

1) Students could take pictures, or find creative commons images that illustrate vocabulary that they are learning and record themselves saying the definition and using the word in a sentence. Students could collect and trade Fotobabble vocabulary with other students in the class and embed them in a blog or wiki to create their own visual talking dictionary. If you teach students younger than 13, have teachers or parent helpers build audio visual dictionaries that can be added to throughout the year.

2) Upload student illustrations and record a story that they have written using their own voice. This is the perfect type of project to share at parent teacher conference time. Parents can get a good idea of their child's writing, reading, and fine motor skills all in one spot.



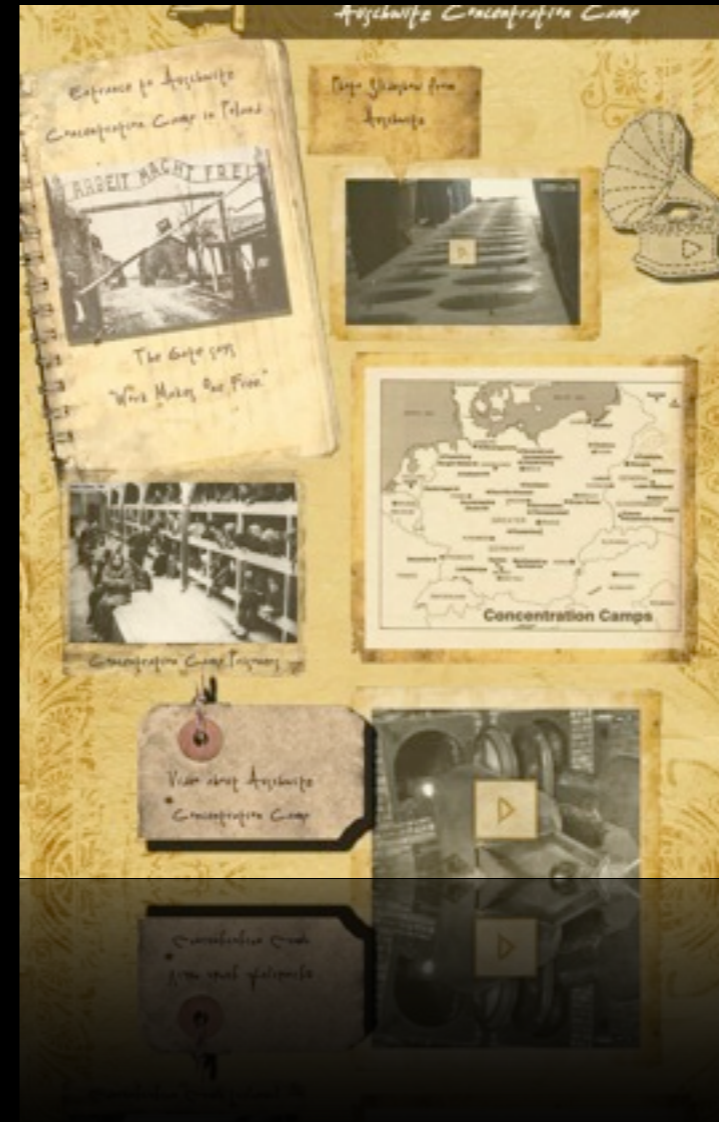


Glogster.Edu

Glogster is a great creativity site whose tag line is “poster yourself”. A ‘glog’ is basically an online poster web page. Students can combine text, pictures, graphics, video, and audio to create an interactive online poster. Glogster has a very simple to use interface. The final glog can be hosted by Glogster or you can embed it into a wiki, blog, or class web site.

How to integrate Glogster into the classroom:

Instead of creating a poster for a presentation, students can create an interactive glog to display information. Glogster can be used for history, math, language arts, book reports, science, social studies, and for public service announcements. In fact, I am having a hard time coming up with a subject that couldn't use Glogster in some capacity. Students can create these online posters to display any knowledge or learning.





Voicethread

A VoiceThread is a collaborative, multimedia slide show that holds images, documents, and videos and allows people to navigate slides and leave comments in 5 ways - using voice (with a mic or telephone), text, audio file, or video (via a webcam).



Magazine



ToonDoo

ToonDoo is for educational use, allowing kids to make comic strips in the classroom (even if they can't draw), and letting teachers use them as instructional tools.

ToonDoo is helping teachers out a bit by introducing ToonDooSpaces, which gives each classroom its own sandbox - with comments and other social features - that the teacher can moderate.

The Wordle logo, featuring the word "Wordle" in a black, cursive-style font with a trademark symbol (TM) to its upper right. Below the logo is a thin horizontal line.

Wordle is a toy for generating “word clouds” from text that you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the source text. You can tweak your clouds with different fonts, layouts, and color schemes. The images you create with Wordle are yours to use however you like. You can print them out, or save them to the Wordle gallery.

Tagxedo



Tagxedo

Tagxedo turns words -- famous speeches, news articles, slogans and themes, even your love letters -- into a visually stunning tag cloud, words individually sized appropriately to highlight the frequencies of occurrence within the body of text.

You can integrate it in social studies to compare two different candidates during a political campaign.



A Trip to Antarctica



Capzles

Capzles is a new website service that allows users to create linear presentations with a variety of media in an engaging way. The idea behind the application is based loosely on creating a time capsule archive based on an event, a topic, or something of interest. I see some great applications of this concept in the classroom. It could be used much like a Prezi, PowerPoint, or even Glogster.

MYFAKEWALL

Beta



My Fake Wall

Create an information page about one historical figure that looks just like a Facebook information page. This can give students the opportunity to think about characteristics, interests, activities, quotes, and some creative license to flesh out the details. Unfortunately My Fake Wall, is full of adds, and requests an email address, but it is a great place place for students to create a character profile.

You can add posts, add picture/event posts, add comments, change your profile pic, add friends in the left column : just click on the **[orange links]**



Crocodoc

Review a Word document, fill out a PDF form, mark up an image, and more...All with Crocodoc, all online, all for free.

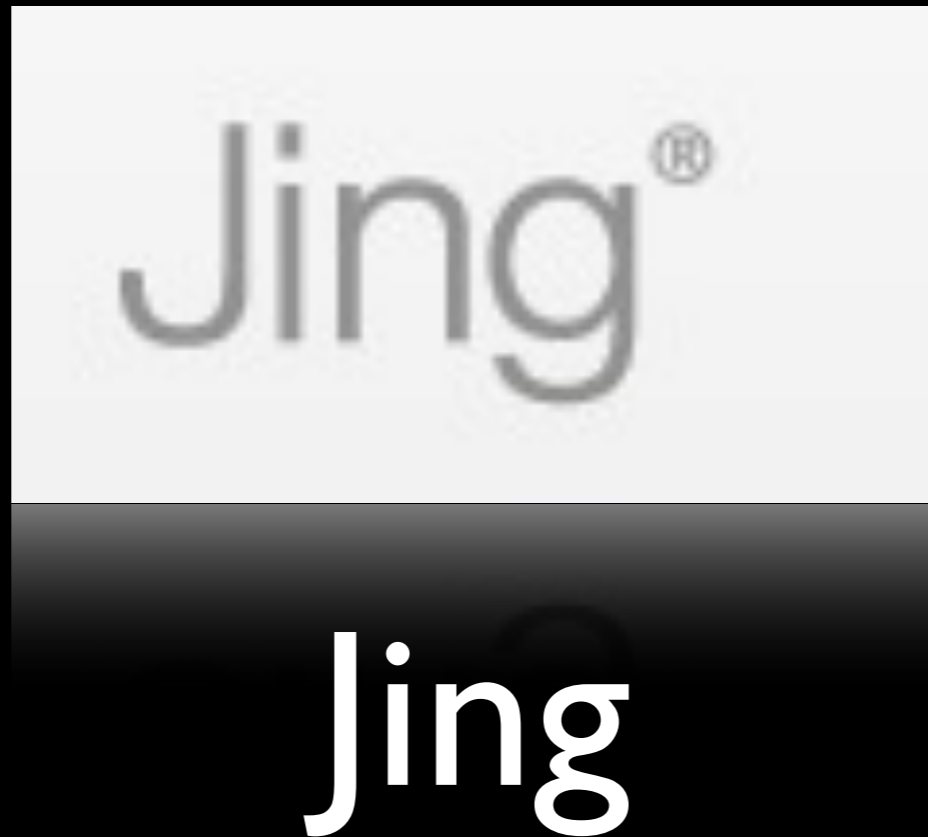
This will be a great alternative to My Fake Wall. You can create your Facebook page using Pages or Word. Then, you can export the Pages document as a PDF and upload it to Crocodoc for students. You will have to upload it once for each student (so each would have a unique URL to edit). Students can use Crocodoc to annotate over the template and then could download the finished pdf it to their computers.



ClassTools.net

Create free educational games, quizzes, activities and diagrams in seconds! Host them on your own blog, website or intranet! No signup, no passwords, no charge! [\[more\]](#). Unfortunately ClassTools.net, is full of adds.

It includes tools, such as: Twister (a fake Twitter), Plagiarizr (which allows students and teachers to check if the reports or essays are plagiarized), VennDiagrams, and Timeline.



Jing allows you to capture anything on your screen as a static image or a movie, then save it or store it on TechSmith's free 2 GB of server space (hosted at Screencast.com). If you choose to store it, send the link to anyone and everyone. There's also a 2 GB bandwidth limit.

Using Jing to record a video screenshot is simple and straightforward. The resulting video (of five minutes or less) can be saved in SWF format (a Flash format which can be read by any browser with Flash installed), or stored on Screencast.



Making video social

Creaza

Creaza offers you an integrated, web-based toolbox for creative work, both at school and in your free time. You use the toolbox along with various fully developed thematic universes: historical periods, fairy-tales, fantasy worlds, and current challenges, such as climate/environment.

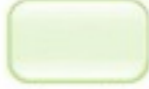






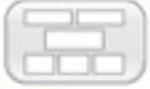
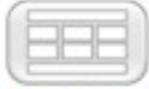






Creaza allows you to edit your media with professional looking titles, transitions, effects, animation, music, and narration online.



Example

DomoAnimate

Bring presentations or role-plays alive by using the free animation web tool Domo Animate. A motivating and fun way of practising writing.

 <p>Blank template Futurelab A blank thinking guide where you can create your own from scratch</p>	 <p>Review plans Futurelab Analyse or appraise anything in a structured way</p>	 <p>Anticipate issues Futurelab Work backwards from the ideal future to a realistic present</p>	 <p>Invite feedback Futurelab Create lots of ideas around an issue then turn ideas into actions</p>	 <p>Possible futures Futurelab Think about the way an issue may develop in the future</p>
Solve problems				
 <p>Knowing trees Futurelab Think through a question and identify supporting evidence</p>	 <p>Is / is not Futurelab Scope a problem by identifying what it is and is not</p>	 <p>Reversal Futurelab Reverse a problem to stimulate new thinking when stuck</p>	 <p>Use the essence Futurelab Get to the heart of the issue then look for new ideas</p>	 <p>Digging up roots Futurelab Explore a problem by digging down to its roots</p>
Explore				
 <p>Futures wheel</p>	 <p>T.A.S.C.</p>	 <p>Question things</p>	 <p>Compare and contrast</p>	 <p>A day in the life</p>

Mind-Maps & Organizers

The logo for bubbl.us, featuring the text 'bubbl.us' in a rounded, bubbly font. The 'bubbl' part is blue and the '.us' part is red. The logo is set against a yellow-to-white gradient background with a subtle drop shadow.

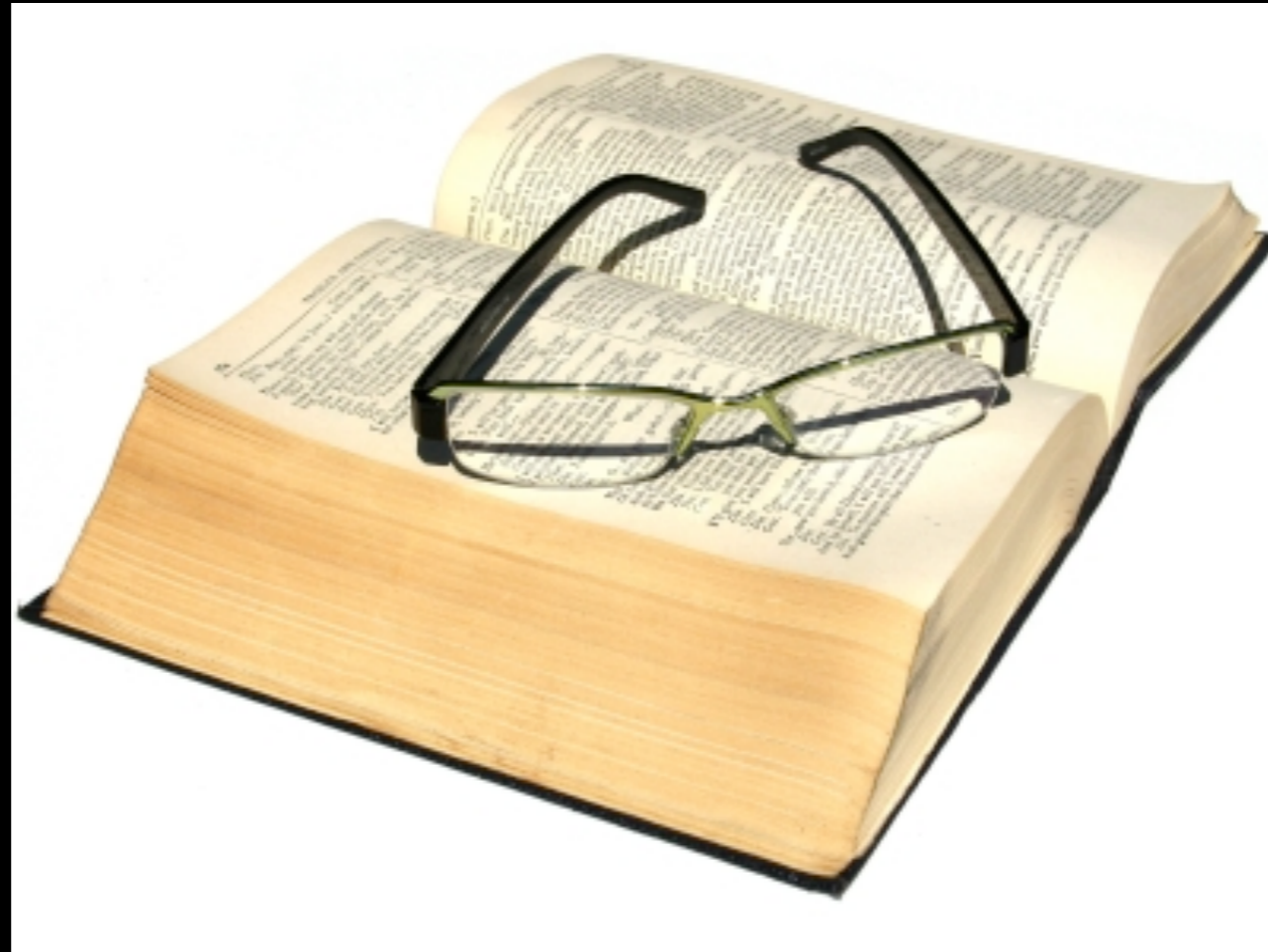
bubbl.us

Bubbl.us is a mind-mapping product aimed towards literally anyone who needs help organizing their thoughts or any untidy information.



Exploratree - Graphic Organizers

Exploratree is a free web resource where teachers and students can download, use and create interactive thinking guides (graphic organizers). Students can use thinking guides to explore the scientific process, for KWL type charts, to predict what will happen in literature they are reading, to plan a story or report, to explore a historical figure, to organize thoughts before a writing assignment, in social studies as a current event organizer, to think about choices and possible outcomes, to show mathematical processes, to explore a topic using different senses or points of view, sort facts and opinions, and a day in the life of a notable figure just to name a few.



Videos and Other Resources

The logo for NeoK12 features the text "neoK12" in a sans-serif font. "neo" is in blue, "K" is in orange, and "12" is in yellow. The logo is set against a white background with a thin horizontal line below it, and the entire graphic is reflected on a dark, glossy surface below.

neoK12

Neo-K12

Neo K12 is an outstanding online collection of educational videos, lessons and games for students in grades k-12. Neo K12 believes that “kids learn best by ‘seeing’ the real world.” They have created this site with that belief in mind. Neo K12 has cataloged the best free online educational videos from the Internet in one place. Each video is watched and reviewed by k-12 educators to ensure their accuracy and appropriateness for students. Subjects include physical science, life science, human body, earth and space, social studies, math, English (including phonics, stories, and grammar), and fun videos such as time lapse, slow motion, arts and crafts, learn magic, music lessons, and sports lessons. In addition to videos, Neo K12 has Web 2.0 tools.



Free Federal Resources for Educational Excellence

Free Federal Resources for Education is an excellent resource for finding teaching and learning resources from federal agencies. Resources are broken down in to subjects arts and music, health and physical education, history and social studies, language arts, math, and science. Subjects are further broken down in to sub categories making it simple to find exactly what you are looking for quickly. There is also a great section called U.S. Time periods where you can search US history resources by time period.



KhanAcademy & Academic Earth

Khan Academy was started by Salman Khan quite by accident. He tutored his cousins in math and when he moved away from them, they still requested support. Sal began making algebra videos and uploading them to YouTube for his family, it has grown to over 2,100 videos and 100 self-paced math, science, and history exercises for students.

Academic Earth is another extensive video library that lets students (and adults) take video courses from the worlds top scholars all in one place...for free! The mission of Academic Earth is to give everyone access to a world class education.

Students can use these resources to support the learning happening in the classroom and to fill any gaps that students may have in their learning.