2013 Cullman County Educational Technology Conference



Web 2.0 Tools for the Classroom



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What are Web 2.0 tools?

Online services such as blogs, wikis, and Google docs that allow one user or several collaborators to access the sites from multiple computers and devices such as phones and iPads.

Note: Technology is great, but unreliable (not to mention painfully slow). Murphy's Law is ALWAYS in play. Plan B's are strongly recommended.

| PRESENTATION SITES | For teachers and students alike |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Prezi (www.prezi.com) | FREE to public (limited features; all Prezis are public to other Prezi users) FREE educator license available (can upgrade regular license to educator license free; Prezis are private) |
| Glogster (http://edu.glogster.com/) | FREE: Single Teacher Account (provides teacher code which can be given to students; incredibly limited functions; students must email project URL to teacher |
| | SUBSCRIPTION: \$30/year (50 student accounts) or \$99/year (200 student accounts); teachers add and manage students; no need to share URLs |
| | SUGGESTION: Use class fee money to cover a license each year; can pay using PO |

 \rightarrow http://thecopyrightsite.org/ \leftarrow Helpful information for teachers and students to reference before downloading and using images to presentations.

| TEACHING TOOLS | Tools to help during instruction | |
|--|--|--|
| Stopwatch (www.online-stopwatch.com) | FREE! Contains a variety of stop watches and timers; great for use | |
| | on a screen to help students keep track of time during assignments | |
| Tiny URL (http://tinyurl.com/) | FREE! Converts long URLs into short URLs to insert into documents, | |
| | bibliographies, web pages, emails, etc. | |
| Twitter (http://www.twitter.com) | FREE! Professional learning networking tool; Share classroom news | |
| | with students and parents. | |
| Skype (http://www.skype.com) | FREE! Connect with authors, experts, etc. anywhere in the world | |
| | via video calls without ever leaving the classroom. | |
| Popplet (http://popplet.com/) Quizlet (http://quizlet.com/) | FREE! Great site for concept mapping | |
| | Similar sites | |
| | -Bubbl.us (https://bubbl.us/) FREE | |
| | -Webspiration | |
| | (http://www.inspiration.com/webspirationclassroom) | |
| | SUBSCRIPTION | |
| | | |
| | FREE (limited features but probably sufficient; no real need for | |
| | subscription; create flashcards; site creates variety of | |
| | study/assessment activities; track student progress) | |
| | SUBSCRIPTION (\$15/year; no ads; can upload own images; | |
| | unlimited groups) | |

| | FREE! Send text and/or email messages with class info without | |
|--|--|--|
| Remind 101 (https://www.remind101.com) | collecting student numbers or giving out your own. | |
| Google Voice (http://www.google.com) | FREE! Sign up for a local number that will ring to your cell phone and receive text messages. Share with parents or use with students for pronunciation exercises. | |
| VIDEO / FILE CONVERSION | How to get those awesome YouTube videos to play in class | |
| | FREE for files up to 100MB in size (premium account available); web-based. | |
| | NOTE: link to converted file sent via email; only available 24 hours | |
| Zamzar (www.zamzar.com) | Similar Sites (not all are web-based; all are free) -WinX (http://www.winxdvd.com/hd-video-converter-for-mac/download.htm) FREE (no reason to pay for this; features of free version are sufficient) -We Transfer (http://www.wetransfer.com/) -VLC Media Converter (http://www.videolan.org/vlc/index.html) -RealPlayer (http://www.real.com/) -Fastest Free YouTube Downloader (http://www.fastestvideodownloader.com) | |
| SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE | | |
| Dropbox (www.dropbox.com) | FREE! 2 GB of online storage (only drawback is lack of storage; more storage available by adding Dropbox to devices, inviting users) SUBSCRIPTION may or may not be worth it to pay; depends on | |
| | storage needs/preferences | |
| | Similar Sites -Copy (www.copy.com) FREE 15 GB of online storage -Pogoplug (www.pogoplug.com) FREE (may or may not be blocked in the classroom) -Ubuntu (https://one.ubuntu.com/)FREE -SugarSync (https://www.sugarsync.com/signup?startsub=5) FREE -SpiderOak (https://spideroak.com/signup/promo/supportus) FREE | |
| Sqworl (http://www.sqworl.com) | FREE! Store your favorite and most frequently used sites in one | |
| Evernote (www.evernote.com) | easy place. FREE! Make notes that show up on all your computers and/or phones. | |
| | | |

What is a wiki?

A wiki is a website in which multiple users are able to simultaneously add, modify, or delete content via a web browser using an easy interface that the average person can easily understand.

| TEACHER / CLASS WEBSITES AND WIKIS | |
|---|---|
| Google Sites | FREE (Sign in through your school email account) |
| | Similar sites (Websites) -SchoolRack (http://www.schoolrack.com/) FREE -Weebly (http://www.weebly.com/) FREE |
| | Similar sites (Wikis) -PBWorks (http://pbworks.com/using-pbworks-individual-classrooms) FREE workspace for individual educators -Wikispaces (http://www.wikispaces.com/) FREE for individual educators |
| CLASSROOM LIBRARY SITE | |
| Classroom Organizer (http://www.booksource.com) | FREE! Scan your books and check them out to students. |
| OTHER NOTE-WORTHY SITES | These sites have potential but may require some experimentation and/or cost |
| LiveBinders (http://www.livebinder.com/) | FREE! A 3-ring binder for the web. Collect your resources and organize them neatly and easily. |
| Flikr (http://www.flickr.com/) | FREE! Photo upload site |
| Blabberize (http://www.blabberize.com) | (NOT recommended for student usage and NOT for the faint of heart. Funny concept with loads of potential, but tedious process) -DON'T CLICK ANYTHING BESIDES THE MAIN LINKS! Full of SPAM/phishing/etc., so use cautiously. Using the main controls shouldn't cause any problems; just avoid the ads. |
| Animoto (http://www.animoto.com/education) | FREE 30-second videos; limited features; 6-month free trial provides up to 50 student accounts SUBSCRIPTION: \$30/year OR \$5/month if you only want to use it once or twice a year; student accounts available; very private and |
| Xtranormal (http://www.xtranormal.com) | FUN! FUN! FUN! Make movies online. Great for a language class! Retell stories; create foreign language dialogues, etc. Costs moneypay for a month's usage\$10/teacher, PLUS \$0.50/student. |
| Voki (http://www.voki.com/) | FREE! Lets you create customized avatars and add your voice to make really cool announcements, etc. Post your Voki to any blog, website, or profile. |

The information in this presentation is just the tip of the iceberg.

For a well-organized, easy-to-navigate source for more Web 2.0 tools, please see the LiveBinder at this link:

http://www.livebinders.com/play/play_or_edit?id=365641

And of course, you can also Google any of these sites for additional similar sites. For example, "dropbox + similar" revealed myriad alternatives to Dropbox.

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