



Blogger *in the Classroom*

Created by WestEd for Google



Get the tool: <http://www.blogger.com>



What is it?

Blogger is a tool that makes it easy to instantly publish weblogs or “blogs.” Blogs are simple web pages, often made up of short, informal, and frequently updated posts. Blogger makes it easy to create blogs, post text and pictures, and start generating feedback in minutes.

Why use it?

Blogger makes it easy for teachers to:

- Post resources, lessons, and homework assignments.
- Keep parents up-to-date on class happenings.
- Reflect on their own teaching practices and share their ideas with other educators.

Blogger makes it easy for students to:

- Share schoolwork with their peers, parents, and others.
- Collaborate on projects and get feedback from others.
- Keep a reflective journal throughout the school year.

Instructional Ideas

Elementary: Post a series of images and links to great reading activities that kids can do from home. See <http://techcenters1.blogspot.com/2006/10/reading-theme-3-lets-look-around.html>

Middle School: Students can post reviews of their favorite books and invite comments from other classes, their parents, or the general public.

High School: For history class, students conduct original interviews with local senior citizens, placing text, images, and audio clips on their blog as a digital archive of local history.



Expert Tip

You can create private blogs seen only by your class, parents or school. From the Blogger Dashboard, click on *Settings*, select *Permissions*, and set who can view the blog.

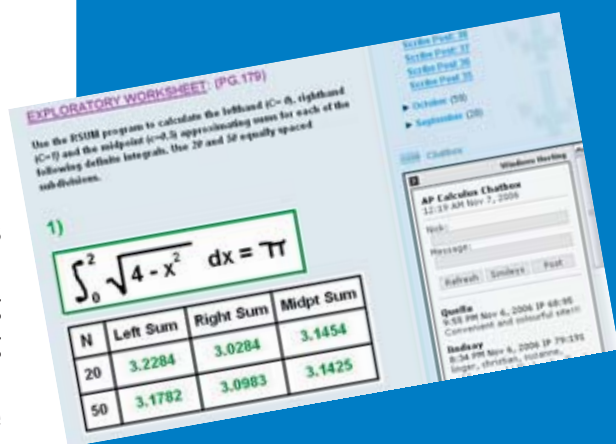
Blogger in Action

Project: AP Calculus Blog

Grade/Subject: Grade 12 Mathematics

School: Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute, Canada

One high school teacher is using Blogger to support his math classes, including senior AP Calculus. Each day, a different student is the class scribe, responsible for posting the day's class notes to the blog. With clever formatting and the use of pictures and graphs, sophisticated math lessons are shared each day. Discussion develops in the online comments. The teacher also customized the Blogger template to provide additional resources for his students. See <http://apcalc06.blogspot.com/>



Additional Resources

More Example Blogs

Computer Centers – A blog for kindergartners, using clickable pictures.

<http://techcenters.blogspot.com>

The Parent/Child Book Club – Sixth graders studied Touching Sprit Bear with their parents. The author, Ben Michealson, responded to their questions.

<http://parentchild.blogspot.com>

My Year Eight English Experience – A student reflects on books being studied in class, and relates them to life outside school.

<http://casper.learnerblogs.org/>

Woodland Technology – This blog for teachers provides support for the tech team and for the professional learning communities on campus.

<http://woodlandtechtteam.blogspot.com>

More About Educational Blogging

Weblogg-Ed – Will Richardson's blog about the read/write web in the classroom.

<http://weblogg-ed.com>

Two Cents Worth – David Warlick's blog about literacy in the 21st century.

<http://davidwarlick.com/2cents/>

Edublog Insights – Ann Davis' blog about educational blogging.

<http://anne.teachesme.com/>

SupportBlogging.com – A site set up to provide an opportunity for students, teachers, administrators, parents, and others to understanding of the benefits of educational blogging.

<http://www.supportblogging.com>