



Storytelling has existed since the beginning of time as a form of human interaction. It evolved from cave paintings and oral transmission of how and why our people existed and as an explanation of the world around us to troubadours who traveled the country to inform others of news and happenings of places and people far away. As human interaction and the range of imagination changed over time, so have the methods that allow storytelling to reach a wider audience and allow us to preserve a voice, an image and a moment in time for posterity in a way that was never possible before.

The Digital Storytelling tools discussed in previous chapters, such as Moviemaker, Photostory, Google Maps or VoiceThread, are new kinds of tools that create a final “story product” in a different media than we were used to before. The use of technology tools has created a new process and new forms of storytelling. We can easily use different kinds of media and rearrange them in new ways. We can now publish and share them with the world for enjoyment or to solicit their perspective or information. It is a new way of documenting our history, our way of looking at the world, of materializing our memories, or of passing on to the next generation what is important to us.

Mixbook.com is web-based but sets itself apart from the previously mentioned tools. It allows us to use storytelling in a way that we all are already comfortable and familiar with. The process does not create a new media, such as a podcast, a video clip uploaded to YouTube or a VoiceThread embedded in a blog or wiki, that most people are still getting comfortable in handling. Mixbook is a tool that allows anyone to tell a story by creating and publish it as a book!

With images and/or text, anyone can create a photo book, an illustrated story, or a scrapbook. The ratio of text and images is up to. What makes Mixbook so attractive and what earned itself a spot as a Web 2.0 tool, is its ability to allow collaboration among many authors of the same book. No need to sit next to each other on the same computer. Collaborators can be classmates or teachers within the same school or who live a world away from each other.

“Mixbook allows you to create books with your friends and family about the things that are important in your life. Mixbooks can be shared online or as coffee-table quality printed books.”



Get started by creating an account with Mixbook.

Help | Signup | Login

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Search the Site

Give Feedback

Create beautiful photobooks in seconds.

create an account

Jim created this book in **17 seconds!**

Get Started Now!

What's New at Mixbook | A new update is born!

Subscribe in a reader

Use photos from

Beautiful books at great prices.

Build a book with a friend.

Once logged in, simply click on the "Create" tab.

Welcome, Silvia Tolisano (0) | Account | Help | Logout

Home Create Explore

Search the Site...

Give Feedback

Welcome, Silvia

My Home

- My Books
- My Friends
- My Photos
- My Inbox

My Profile

Welcome to Mixbook, Silvia!

getting started

Mixbook is the fun and easy way to create amazing books with your friends.

If you're new to the site, look around, get acquainted, and start making books! We hope you'll love Mixbooking as much as we do!

[Learn How It Works](#) | [Start a New Mixbook](#)

Like Mixbook? [Invite Your Friends!](#)

You can change this information later.

Title: * **enter title of your book**

Description: Give your contributors an idea about what to create for this [Mixbook](#).

Tags: Separated by commas...

Category: Choose one... ▾

* Required Fields

Viewable By: [Close](#)

Everyone: Let the world view this book! (Recommended)

Only Friends: Your network of friends can view this book.

Only Those Invited: Choose who can view this book.

Editing Is: [?](#)

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Open to Friends: Your network of friends can contribute.

Not Open: Contributors must be invited to edit.

Note: Your selection for "Viewable By" has disabled some options.



Sharing Options:

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- Allow Ordering:** **Yes:** Anyone viewing this book can order it.
 No: Only allow me and other contributors to order this book.
- Allow Embedding:** **Yes:** Anyone viewing this book can embed it on external sites.
 No: Nobody can embed this book.

Invite:

[Add Contributors](#)

click here to add contributors and enter their e-mail addresses

Create *Mixbook*

[Cancel](#)

Once you click "Create Mixbook", you now have a choice between allowing them to AutoMix the images for you or to create the layout from scratch. You can always change your mind later too.

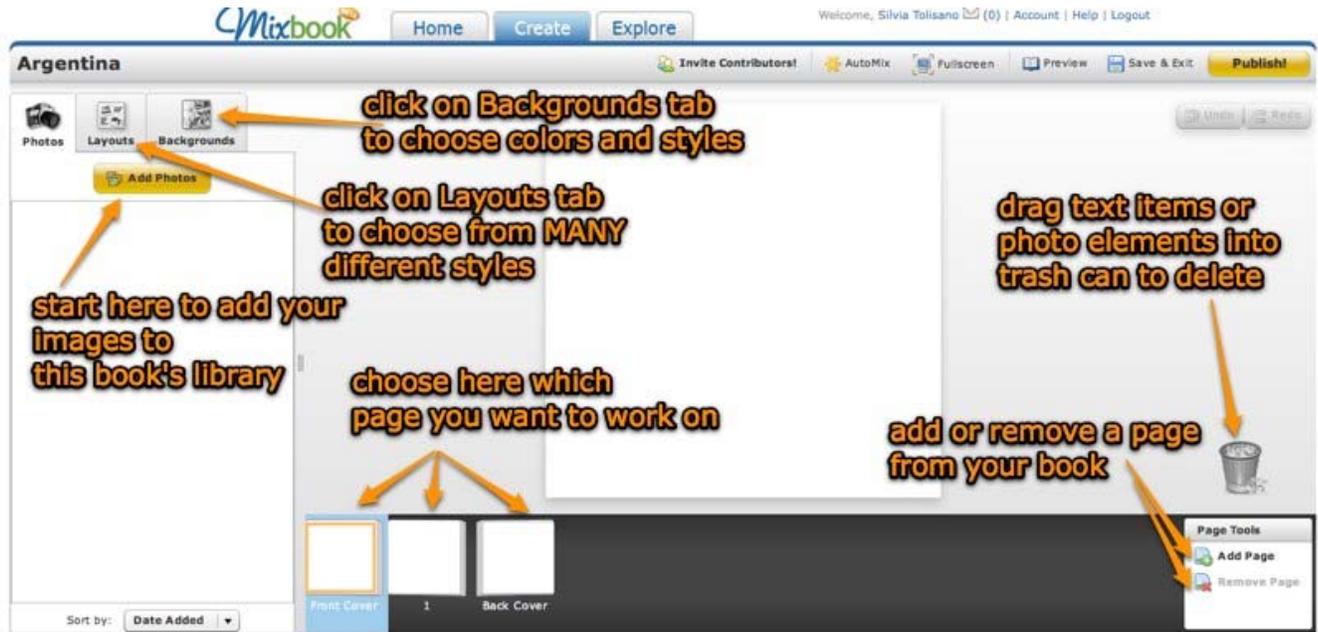
Create Your Photo Book! ✕



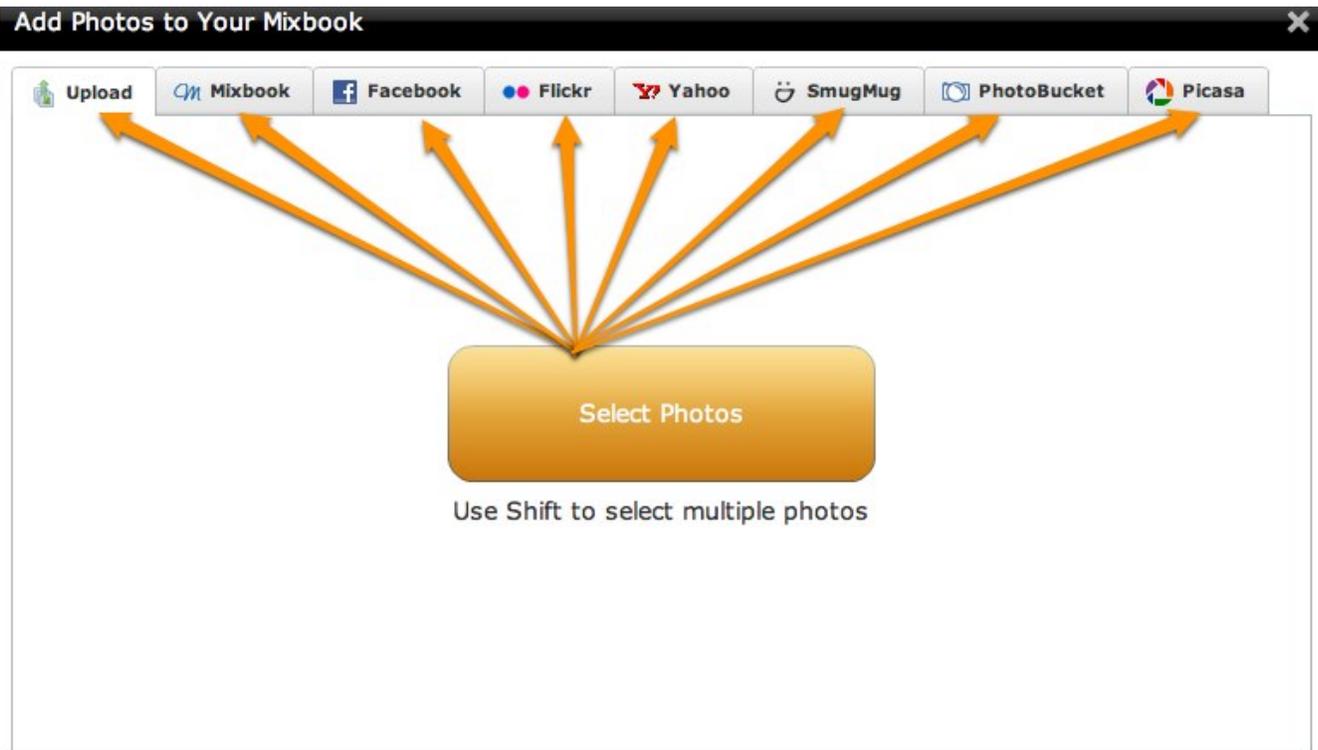
Use AutoMix - It's Easy!
Using AutoMix, we'll take your photos and automatically arrange them for you in your book. Then you can tweak it to perfection!

Create from Scratch
Drag and drop photos, add text and select from hundreds of backgrounds and customization options! You can always AutoMix later if you want!

AutoMix My Book!  **Create from Scratch**



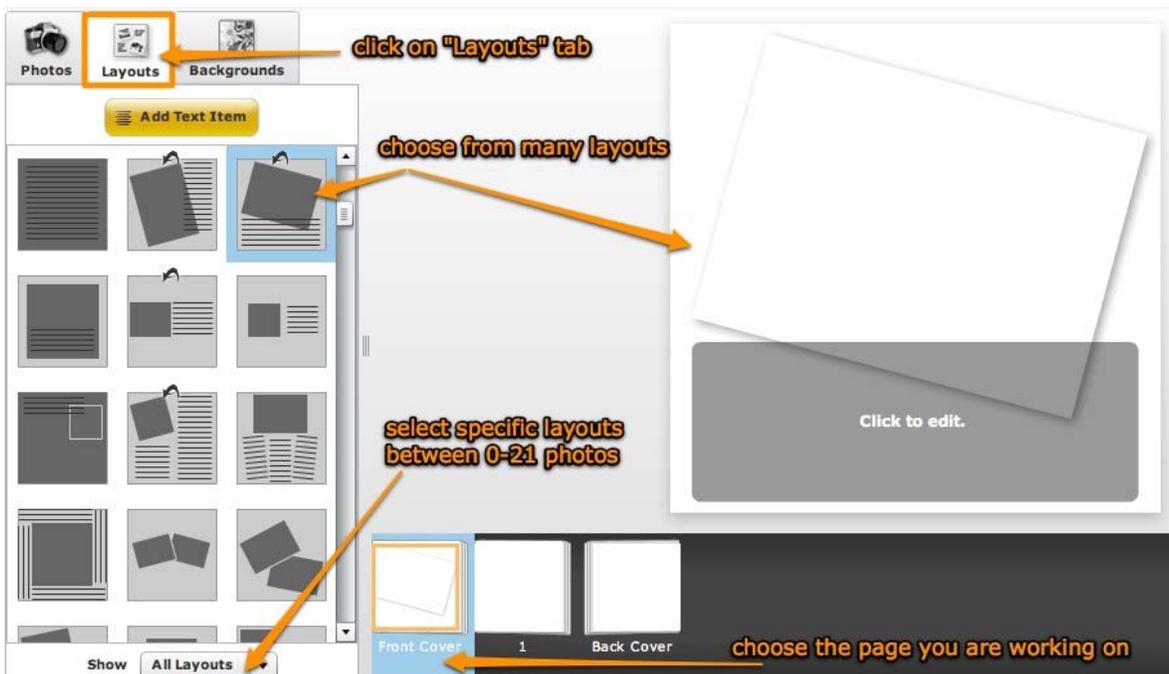
Get started by uploading the images you want to use in your book. These can be photos, scanned in illustrations or momentums. You can choose from a wide array of sources where to upload your images. I prefer uploading directly from my computer and the integration with Flickr.com, where I hold an account.



Once I allow Mixbook to access my Flickr account, it is as simple as selecting the image set to locate the images for the book and selecting each image by clicking on it. In order to select multiple images, hold down the CTRL key before selecting more images.



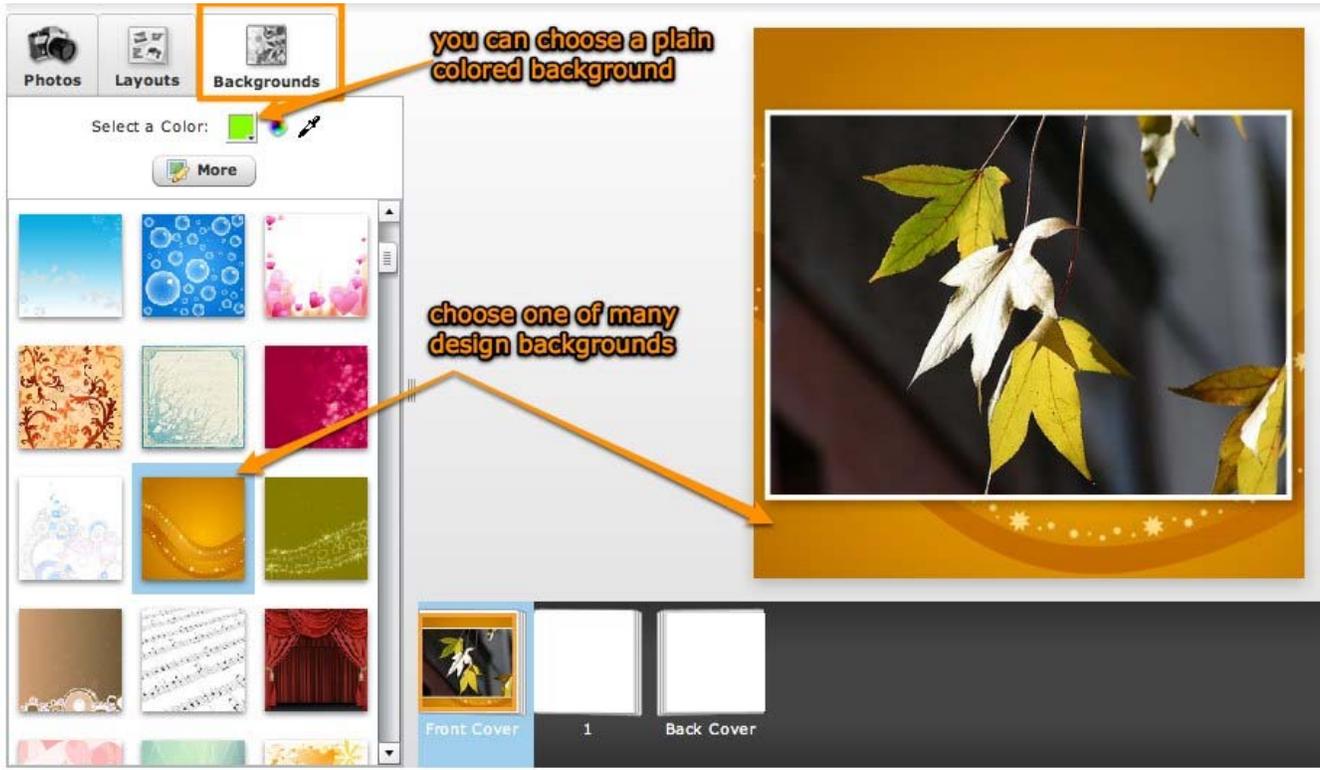
Once images/photos are uploaded, make sure the correct page is selected that you want to work on, then click on the "Layout" tab and choose from many layouts available. These layouts are images or text only or a combination of both. You can choose to include 0-21 images per page.



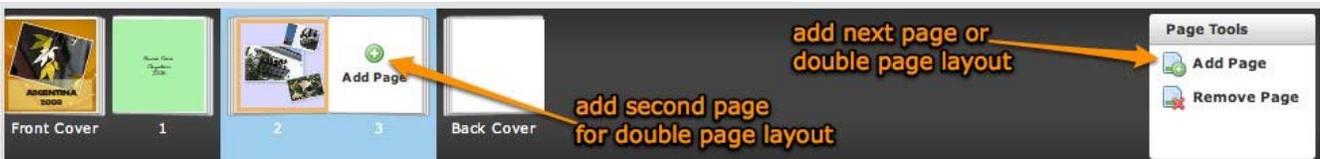
Once you have the layout selected, go back to the “Photos” tab, select an image and drag and drop it into the workspace of the page on the right. Don’t worry you can always change your layout later and the images you have selected will adjust.



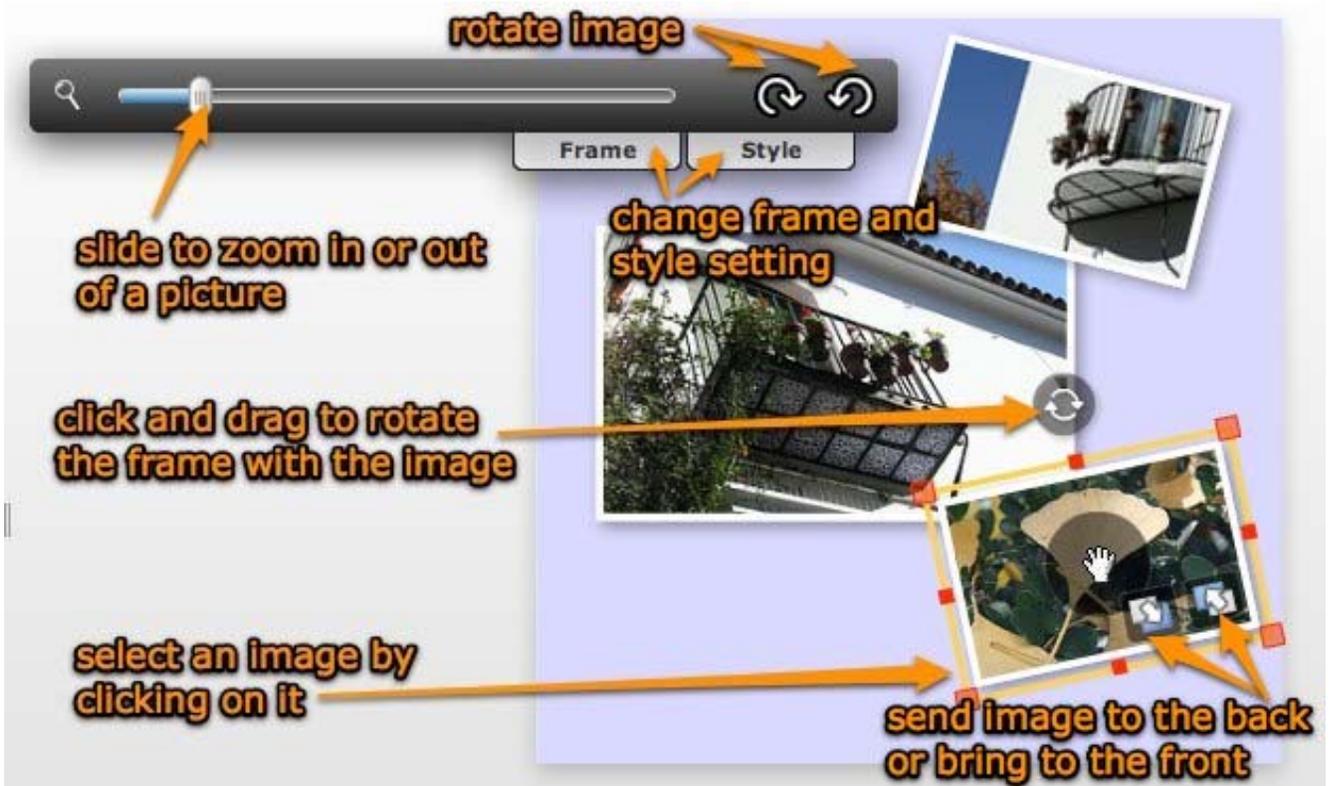
Once the layout is set, you can move on to the “Background” tab and choose a solid colored background or scrapbook like design backgrounds. Click on background of your choice and it will be instantly displayed in the preview window. Change as many times as you like.



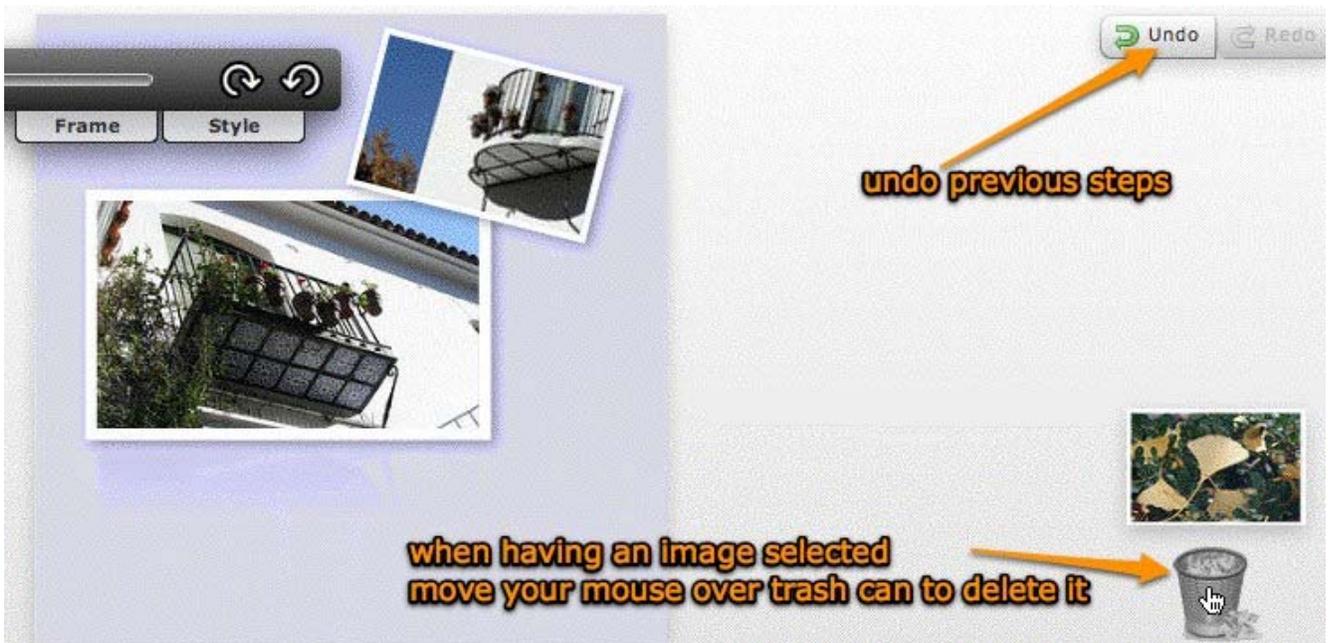
In order to add and select a new page in a double page layout, click on the green circle with the plus sign. You are immediately ready to choose your layout and drag and drop images from your “Photos” tab. You can also add or delete a page from the Page Tools menu.



Once your images are placed in the layout, you can continue manipulating them by selecting each individually. You can edit and personalize the previously chosen layout by rotating the frames, and changing their color, width and style. You can also zoom in or out of each image within a frame or send the entire image with frame to the back or bring it to the front of the page.



In order to delete an image, simply select it, move your mouse over the trashcan a click.



When you have completed your book, it is time to publish it, which allows you to purchase a hard copy of the book or distribute a link for others to order your book from the company. You can also go back to the main page of your book, scroll down and find the code that allows you to embed your Mixbook into your blog, website or wiki.

The screenshot shows a Mixbook interface. At the top, there are size options: mini | **medium** | large | colossal. Below this, the book's status is shown: Rate: ☆☆☆☆☆ (0 Ratings), Views: 9, Comments: 0, and a Flag icon. There are buttons for 'Email to a Friend' and 'Share' with various social media icons. A 'Comments' section shows 'There are no comments for this book.' and a 'Post a Comment' button. On the right, the author's profile is displayed: 'By: Silvia Tolisano', 'Joined: 10 months ago', and 'Books: 1'. Below the profile, there are 'Invite' and 'Edit' buttons. The 'About This Mixbook' section includes: Title: Argentina, Tags: [argentina](#), Started: 3 days ago, Updated: 38 minutes ago, and Category: Education. At the bottom, an 'Embed' section shows a code snippet: `<object width='380' height='380'><param name='movie' value='http://w`. An orange arrow points from the text 'highlight and copy this code. Paste into your blog or website to embed your book' to the embed code.

Check out the following examples and ideas how to Mixbook as a tool to tell a story with your students.

- Kids for Kenya: An A-Z book for Childrens' Rights
<http://www.mixbook.com/books?bid=1246798>
 A projectcreated by Karen Kliegman.
 A rare opportunity to hear from children what they believe their rights as young humans are.
 A poignant example it the letter "I", "Children have the right to express their ideas."
- San Jose Episcopal Day School's Journey to Egypt
<http://www.mixbook.com/books?bid=324511>
 SJEDS traveled to Egypt in the 2007-2008 school year. Follow along as each grade level learns and experiences the journey.

