

Blogging in the Classroom

Blogging is about writing and reading NOT about a technology platform. When using a classroom or student blogs, a global learning community and communication center can grow to facilitate student learning for 21st Century skills and literacies.

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

Introduction to Blogging

Being able to read AND express yourself in a digital world is an important part of being literate in the 21st century. Blogging is a way of linking writing, reading, connecting information and learning together.

Reading

Becoming an avid blog reader of a variety of blogs is the first step for teachers and students to gain confidence, articulate learning goals and objective and gauging quality. Reading blogs with metacognitive analysis in mind, will help expose readers to the potential blogging holds in relationship to LEARNING. Reading blogs also gives opportunities to make connections.

Quality

Reading, responding, assessing and monitoring students' progress on blogs requires pedagogical commitment. It is a commitment to student learning and quality work, not a commitment to using a specific technology platform.

Connecting with the World



Local (classmates, family, etc)

Global

Peers

Experts/Eye Witnesses

START

STEP 1

STEP 2

STEP 3

STEP 4

END

Why Blogging?

Provide your students with an authentic learning opportunity, give them a global audience, and engage them in conversation. Blogs are the platform that support 21st century skills and literacies, from communicating to connecting, from Digital Citizenship to information, network, global and media literacy.



Digital Citizenship

Through blogging, students receive exposure to mini lessons, woven into teachable moments. Among digital citizenship lessons are appropriate and responsible online behavior, Internet safety, digital footprint, plagiarism, copyright and Creative Commons.

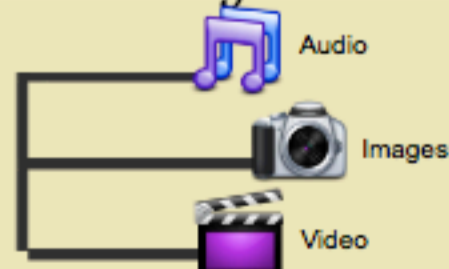
Commenting

Read comments (...lots of comments) to learn to distinguish between poor, mediocre and quality comments. Model commenting to your students by leaving QUALITY comments on their blogs. Commenting is about continuing a conversation started in a blog post. Commenting is about helping to (potentially) push the author of the post in a new direction, give a new perspective or connect them to new resources.

Writing

Writing is age and developmentally appropriate with content, grammar and vocabulary focus. Blog posts contain quality, relevant content and traditional quality writing characteristics. They show evidence of writing for an audience. Writing can be reflective. Attention paid to logistics of digital writing, such as hyperlinking, embedding media, categorization, etc.

Embedding Media



Global Communication Hub

The blog(s) has(have) become the central hub to showcase student work, reflect on learning, being part of a conversation, a platform to embed media and link to further information. Students write for a global authentic audience.



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