



# Blogging in the Classroom

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## What is a Blog?

- ◆ On-line diary made available on the web
- ◆ Posts are organized in individual chronologically ordered entries.
- ◆ Anyone can create and maintain a weblog with minimal technical experience.

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## How Are Blogs Used?

- ◆ personal on-line diary
- ◆ to talk about a particular topic
- ◆ News and information
- ◆ educational tool
- ◆ to build community

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**Advantages of Blogs**

- ◆ Can communicate with a world-wide audience
- ◆ Can publish to the web instantly
- ◆ Can socialize and interact with others
- ◆ Changes passive use of the Internet to active use
- ◆ Improve writing skills in a stimulating environment

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**EduBlogs**

- ◆ Students can express themselves on their own terms.
- ◆ Edublogs give learners their own soapbox, their own voice. They can become habitual writers.

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**3-types of EduBlogs**

- tutor blog
- class blog
- learner blog

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**Blogs in the World Language Classroom**

- access to authentic information
- chance to communicate with native-speakers of a language
- authentic activities (i.e. reading and writing)

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**Reasons for Using Blogs in the Classroom**

- students are familiar with blogging
- non-threatening way to practice/refine skills
- Students who post their on the Web may be more careful with their writing
- Blogs are immediate

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**Reasons for Using Blogs in the Classroom**

- Build community
- Encourage reflective thought
- Can be multidisciplinary

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**Tips for Using Blogs in the Classroom**

- Find a blogging service that will give you the resources and flexibility you need.
- Develop a focus for student blogs. Whether the blogs are daily reflections, reading reflections, classroom experiences, a blog about a student's hobby, or a blog from a character for literature or history, each student should have a definite focus for their blog.

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**Tips for Using Blogs in the Classroom**

- Make sure students understand the importance of not sharing personal information
- Get parental permission before starting a blogging project!
- Make sure students understand netiquette!
- Set goals and expectations for blogging.
- Establish rules of conduct for blogging.
- If you are uncomfortable with individual student blogs, consider a class blog!

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**Things to Do with a Classroom Blog**

- Online book club.
- Have students comment on news and current events.
- Have students respond to what they are currently learning in the classroom.
- Have students write using new vocabulary.
- Have students respond to quotes, poetry, art...

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**Things to Do with a Classroom Blog**

- Have students write book, movie, music, Web site or TV reviews.
- Communicate with another class.
- Have students write blog entries as a character from a book or as a person from history.

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**Blogging Sources**

[blogger.com](http://blogger.com)  
This is one of the largest free blogging services on the Internet. It takes you step-by-step through the process of setting up your blog.

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## Blogging Sources

### BlogMeister

[classblogmeister.com](http://classblogmeister.com)  
service  
designed  
specifically  
for schools.



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## Blogging Sources

### Bloglines

[bloglines.com](http://bloglines.com)  
aggregate  
content for  
different  
blogs on one  
page!



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## Blogging Sources

Global  
Voices  
[globalvoicesonline.org](http://globalvoicesonline.org)



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## Blogging Sources

Blogs  
Around the  
World  
[oscarjr.us/batw.html](http://oscarjr.us/batw.html)



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## Blogging Sources

Francofonics  
[francofonics.com](http://francofonics.com)



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## Blogging Sources

epals.com  
Locate other  
teachers who  
want to do a  
collaborative  
online  
project.



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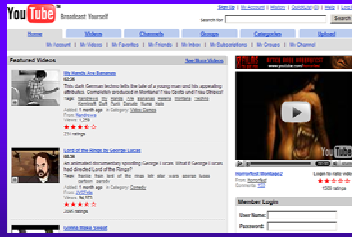


## Multimedia on the Web

### You Tube

youtube.com/

- social networking site that features video submissions from people all over the world. It is currently very popular with teens and young adults.



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