



Blogger® *in the Classroom*



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.
- 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. Use a blog to post homework assignments and reflection questions, then ask students to respond in the comments.

High School. Students can use blogs across the curriculum to keep journals, lab notes, and other assignments online. When students post a response to an assignment, ask them to comment on their peers’ writing.



Expert Tip

To make Blogger® safer for kids, you can easily turn off the navigation bar in the header. Just follow the instructions at <http://help.blogger.com/bin/answer.py?answer=48787>. You can also use the new version of Blogger® in Beta to create private blogs for your class, parents or school.

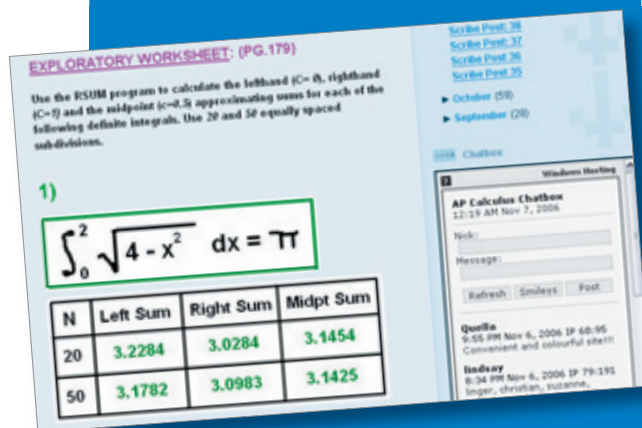
Blogger® in Action

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://woodlandtechteam.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>