

Google Sites *in the Classroom*

Created by CUE and WestEd for Google



Get the tool: <http://sites.google.com>

Google sites

What is it?

Google Sites is a tool that allows students and teachers to create custom web pages, adding content, attachments, and embedded media from many other services, including Picasa Web Albums, YouTube video, and Google Docs. A site can be created for a class, a school, or any other group that needs to quickly share information and ideas—even a team or a club. The easy-to-use editor makes it possible to build a site in minutes using templates for specific types of pages, such as announcements, dashboards, file cabinets, or lists. Google Sites also offers control over who has access to the page; share with everyone, or only specific individuals.



Why use it?

Students can use Google Sites to:

- Manage a to do list for their assignments and activities.
- Create a personal portfolio of their work.
- Collaborate and share ideas with other students for group work and peer tutoring.

Teachers can use Google Sites to:

- Create a class web page, including handouts and tutorial videos.
- Collaborate with other teachers on department or school-wide projects.
- Manage a international project that connects teachers and students around the world. Ask students to create pages about subjects they are interested in.

Expert Tip



Conduct an online class poll (or quiz) on your site. A form can be created using a Google Docs spreadsheet and then be embedded in your Google Site. Then students answer questions right on your site, and their responses appear in your spreadsheet in Google Docs!

Instructional Ideas

Elementary and Middle School. Create a public website for posting announcements, a calendar of events, reading and spelling lists, weekly themes, fun stuff and more. Create a private site to share information with parents, like curriculum resources. Students must be 13 or older to have a Google Account to add content to Google Sites or to view private sites, but anyone can view public sites, like this example site: <http://sites.google.com/a/googleclassrooms.org/mrs-richau/Home>.

High School. Have students create a site for their own government, including pages for a constitution, separation of powers, government officials and laws. Each student can take the role of a government official and provide a position statement, party affiliation and campaign material, including images and video.

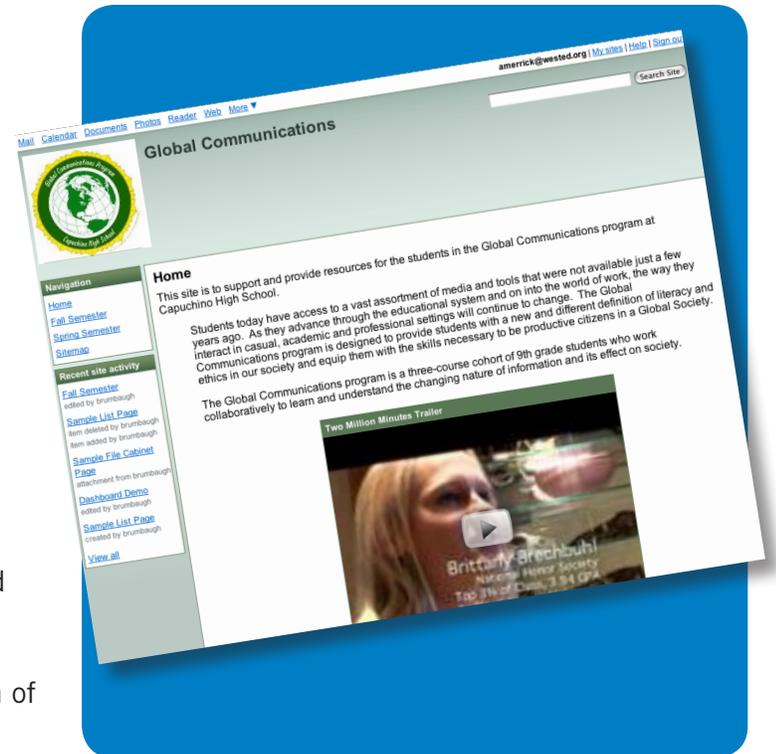
Google Sites in Action

Project: Global Communications Program

Grade/Subject: 9th Grade Global Communications course

URL: <http://sites.google.com/site/global-com>

The Global Communications program at Capuchino High School is a smaller learning community, where students share three teachers in common, allowing them to engage in interdisciplinary projects throughout the school year. The classes work on several large projects during the school year, completing some of the work in each of the three courses they are enrolled in. Using Google Sites, they can collect all of the material in one location making it easier for each teacher to monitor progress toward the completion of the project.



Additional Resources

More Examples

Google Sites Video

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_KnC2EIS5w

Google Sites Tutorial

<http://tinyurl.com/5tby55>

Google Sites Interactive Tutorial

<http://services.google.com/apps/resources/overviews/welcome/topicSites/index.html>

Google Sites Help <http://www.google.com/support/sites/?hl=en>

Sites for Teachers <http://www.google.com/support/sites/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=153055>

Complementary Tools

- Google Calendar
- Google Docs
- Google Reader
- Picasa Web Albums
- YouTube

In order to comply with federal law and the Google Terms of Service, students need to be over 13 years of age to use any product which requires a Google Account. Students may participate in product use if the account is owned by a parent or teacher and that parent or teacher is present when the product is being used.

<http://www.google.com/educators>