Action Stations

Cool Tools for the Connected Classroom

Anne Mirtschin

9781742004983 | 2010

80 pp book

Why use Web 2.0 tools in the classroom?

The advent and continuing advancement of online technology presents teachers with a prime opportunity to rethink their classroom practice to include technology – now a mainstay of students' day-to-day lives. Introducing Web 2.0 tools to classroom pedagogy ensures teachers continue to provide meaningful and empowering content and outcomes.

With so many online tools to choose from, and more constantly emerging, it's easy to feel overwhelmed. **Cool Tools for the Connected Classroom** presents a concise introduction to the best Web 2.0 tools. It provides suggestions on how to get started, practical classroom examples, lesson plans, activity sheets, tips and hints.

You can read more about **Cool Tools for the Connected Classroom** or purchase it through our secure, online bookshop.

About the author

Anne Mirtschin teaches accounting and ICT at Hawkesdale P12 College. She has won many awards (see below) for innovative work in the use of online tools to create powerful learning opportunities for students.

Anne is passionate about education. She has presented on digital learning both nationally and internationally and co-moderates regular weekly online PD sessions in Elluminate.

MS Innovative Teacher Victoria 2008; ICTEV Leader of the Year 2009; Bailleu Myer Rural Leadership Scholarship 2009; Australian Excellence in Teaching Award 2009; Finalist in Innovative Curriculum Award 2009 (DEECD); Finalist in Secondary Teacher of the Year 2010 (DEECD)

Read the author's blog

- http://murcha.wordpress.com/

Follow the author on Twitter

- http://twitter.com/murcha

Weblinks from Cool Tools for the Connected Classroom

All of the weblinks from the book have been gathered together here in one handy location. Click on the name of the workshop or topic you're interested in to expand the list of links.

Teacher Essentials

This section of the book introduces the main types of Web 2.0 cool tools, and how they can be effectively used in the classroom. Starting points, questions for teaching teams, and an overview of some of the best tools to getting started with, are included. These websites are discussed in this section.

Facebook
www.facebook.com

LinkedIn
www.linkedin.com

Skype www.skype.com

Ning
www.ning.com

Twitter
http://twitter.com

Plurk
www.plurk.com

Delicious
http://delicious.com

Diigo
www.diigo.com

Flickr
www.flickr.com

Photo Friday
www.photofriday.com

Illustration Friday
www.illustrationfriday.com

Twitpic
http://twitpic.com

Tweetdeck
www.tweetdeck.com

Snitter
http://getsnitter.com

Twitbin
www.twitbin.com

Twitterrific
http://twitterrific.com

Twitterfeed
http://twitterfeed.com

Twtpoll
http://twtpoll.com

Twission
http://twission.com

Global Teacher
http://globalteacher.org.au

Global Student http://globalstudent.org.au

Building a Better Blog
http://betterblog.ning.com

The Edublogger
http://theedublogger.com

VoiceThread
http://voicethread.com

Teaching Tips - Wikis in the classroom
www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001969.shtml

Cool Tools for Schools
http://cooltoolsforschools.wikispaces.com

Teacher Tube
www.teachertube.com

YouTube
www.youtube.com

Common Craft
www.commoncraft.com

Learning Tube http://mylearningtube.com

Classroom20
www.classroom20.com

Guide to Innovation
http://guidetoinnovation.ning.com

Edulists
www.edulists.com.au

Oz Teachers Mailing List
xxoz-teachers-bounces@rite.ed.qut.edu.au

Global Education Collaborative
http://globaleducation.ning.com

Flat Classroom Project
www.flatclassroomproject.org

Elluminate www.elluminate.com

Day in a Sentence
http://dogtrax.edublogs.org

Projects by Jen
http://grou.ps/projectsbyjen

School Beyond the Walls
http://horslesmurs.ning.com

Onlineprojects4teachers
http://grou.ps/onlineproj4tchrs

Global School Net
www.globalschoolnet.org

Education Network Australia
www.edna.edu.au

ms1001tales
http://ms1001tales.wikispaces.com

es1001tales
http://es1001tales.wikispaces.com

Google Docs
www.docs.google.com

DiscoverE Virtual Classroom
www.globaldreamers.org/discovdepth.html

Timebridge
http://timebridge.com

Cover It Live
www.coveritlive.com

Dimdim
www.dimdim.com

WiZiQ
www.wiziq.com

My Avatar Editor
www.myavatareditor.com

Build Your Wild Self
www.buildyourwildself.com

Portrait Illustration Maker
http://illustmaker.abi-station.com/index_en.shtml

Reasonably Clever
www.reasonablyclever.com/mini/kidsafe.htm

Tools for Connecting

This section of the book introduces the main types of Web 2.0 and cool tools for connecting with others online, lessons plans for effective use of them in the classroom and supporting student activity sheets. These websites are discussed in this section.

Clustrmaps
http://clustrmaps.com

Weather Pixie
www.weatherpixie.com

Feedjit map
http://feedjit.com

Flag Counter
www.flagcounter.com

Clock
www.clocklink.com

The Edublogger
http://theedublogger.edublogs.org/2008/07/21/what-are-the-different-roles-of-users

Spell City
www.spellingcity.com

SuperClubsPLUS
www.superclubsplus.com.au

Quest Atlantis
http://atlantis.crlt.indiana.edu

Poll Daddy
www.polldaddy.com

Survey Monkey
www.surveymonkey.com

Global Student
http://globalstudent.org.au

My Avatar Editor
www.myavatareditor.com

Build Your Wild Self
www.buildyourwildself.com

Cover It Live
www.coveritlive.com

VoiceThread
www.voicethread.com

Skype
www.skype.com

Ning
www.ning.com

Blogger
www.blogger.com

Blogspot
www.blogspot.com

Blogmeister
http://blogmeister.com

Wordpress
http://wordpress.org

Tools for Communicating

This section of the book introduces the main types of Web 2.0 and cool tools for communicating and interacting with others online, lessons plans for effective use of them in the classroom and supporting student activity sheets. These websites are discussed in this section.

Wikispaces
www.wikispaces.com

Pbworks
http://pbworks.com

Wetpaint
www.wetpaint.com

Wikipedia
www.wikipedia.org

Flat Classroom Project
www.flatclassroomproject.org

ms1001tales
http://ms1001tales.wikispaces.com

VoiceThread
http://voicethread.com

Timeanddate
www.timeanddate.com

Doodle
www.doodle.com

Library Thing
www.librarything.com

Flickr
www.flickr.com

Picasa
http://picasa.google.com

Photobucket
http://photobucket.com

SlideShare
www.slideshare.net

Scribd
www.scribd.com

Imageloop www.imageloop.com

Prezi
http://prezi.com

Authorstream
www.authorstream.com

SlideBoom
www.slideboom.com

Animoto
http://animoto.com

Slide
www.slide.com

PhotoShow
www.photoshow.com

Slideroll
www.slideroll.com

Photopeach
http://photopeach.com

Twitter
http://twitter.com

Chatzy
www.chatzy.com

Tinychat
http://tinychat.com

Edmodo
www.edmodo.com

TodaysMeet
http://todaysmeet.com

Snapfish
www.snapfish.com

Taggalaxy
www.taggalaxy.com

Google Applications
www.google.com/apps

Wordle www.wordle.net

Tagul
http://tagul.com

IrfanView
www.irfanview.com

DiscoverE Virtual Classroom
www.globaldreamers.org/discovdepth.html

Elluminate
www.elluminate.com

Dimdim
www.dimdim.com

FlashMeeting
http://flashmeeting.e2bn.net

Learncentral
www.learncentral.org

Tools for Creating

This section of the book introduces the main types of Web 2.0 and cool tools for creating online communications, lessons plans for effective use of them in the classroom and supporting student activity sheets. These websites are discussed in this section.

Facebook
www.facebook.com

MySpace
www.myspace.com

Ning
www.ning.com

Clock
www.clocklink.com

IrfanView
www.irfanview.com

Chatty's Blog
http://chatty.globalstudent.org.au

BeFunky
www.befunky.com

Animoto
http://animoto.com

Creative Commons Australia
http://creativecommons.org.au

Smartcopying
www.smartcopying.edu.au

YouTube
www.youtube.com

Flickr
www.flickr.com

Audacity
http://audacity.sourceforge.net

Jamendo
www.jamendo.com/en

Wavcentral
www.wavcentral.com

Blabberize
http://blabberize.com

ToonDoo
www.toondoo.com

MakeBeliefsComix
www.makebeliefscomix.com

Pixton
www.pixton.com

GoAnimate
http://goanimate.com

Bubbl.us
http://bubbl.us

Poll Daddy
www.polldaddy.com

Survey Monkey
www.surveymonkey.com

Vizu
www.vizu.com

Twitter
http://twitter.com

Cool Tools for the Connected Classroom Glossary

A

Asynchronous time - unlike real-time, communications that occur in asychnchronous time don't require both parties to be online at the same time.

Attention literacy - being able to pay attention and stay on task without being distracted by the many online options available when using a laptop, handheld or other mobile device. [Howard Reingold]

B

Back-channel - a tool whereby a text language chat is happening at the same time as a live, spoken presentation.

Blog - a personal online journal that is frequently updated and shared publicly.

C

Creative commons - an international non-profit that provides free licences and tools that copyright owners can use to allow others to legally share, reuse and remix their material.

Cyberspace - the world of information accessible through the World Wide Web. [www.wiktionary.org.au]

Cyber bully - a person who bullies online, in cyberspace.

Cyber safety - protecting your safety online. For example, not posting personal photos, contact details.

D

Digital citizenship - responsible online networking or usage.

Digital literacy - the ability to locate, organise, understand, evaluate and create information using digital technology, including the use of hypertext language, blogging, wikis and social networking.

H

HTML - the primary programming language used to write content on the web. It is an abbreviation for Hyper Text Markup Language. **Hyperconnected** - refers to person-to-person and person-to-machine communication in networked organisations and networked societies via various means of communication, such as email, instant messaging, telephone, face-to-face contact and Web 2.0 information services.

M

Microblog - a blog of 140 characters or less.

N

Netiquette - using good manners in online communications.

Ning - a platform for creating social websites. It is used to create an online destination that weaves social conversations.

P

Plurk - a short message, viewed as part of a thread so you can track the development of the conversation. May be either private or public.

Podcast - an audio recording posted to a website and made available for download so it can be listened to on a personal computer or mobile device.

R

RSS feed - a web-feed format that is used to publish up-to-date information - as it happens - to other websites. You can also set up an RSS feed on your own site to include automatic feeds from other sites. RSS is an abbreviation for Really Simple Syndication.

S

Synchronous time - at the same time.

T

Tweet - a message posted using Twitter.

U

URL - is a worldwide web address. URL is an abbreviation for Uniform Resource Locator.

V

VoiceThreads - a tool for online collaborative conversation.

Voki - is an animated avatar that can be used to customise personal animated IDs, add voice to communicate online or via a mobile phone. They can be embedded into blogs, wikis and other sites.

W

Web 2.0 - the second generation of the World Wide Web, especially the movement away from static webpages to dynamic and shareable content and social networking. [www.wiktionary.org.au]

Widgets - pieces of code that can be added to the sidebar or a post.

Wiki - a tool that creates a document that is accessible and editable by many users. Wikis can include text, links, images, video, podcasts etc.

These definitions are a guide only.