

Not Another Powerpoint! : Ten Creative Presentation Tools to Try



Animoto – www.animoto.com

Anyone can feel like a producer by creating free 30 second videos with text, pictures, and music. Media center service learners have developed book trailers, and Susan Cooper's study skills students have created advertisements for selected careers. Free Animoto for Educators: Apply here

<http://animoto.com/education?gclid=CNqMiYWr4rECFYNM4Aod6mMAsg>

Capzles - <http://www.capzles.com/#>

Capzles is a multimedia tool for creating timelines with images, descriptions, backgrounds and music selections. Teachers may create a group log in for collaborative projects.

Facebook Templates – WORD: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/templates/facebook-template-word-TC102239159.aspx>; Search for various templates using powerpoint or explore Fakebook at <http://www.classtools.net/fb/home/page>. Ask students to create facebook profiles for chemical elements, Civil War leaders, notable figures in your content area, or characters in literary works.

Glogster - <http://edu.glogster.com/>

This online poster-making tool works for all content areas. Service learners have created Elements of the Novel posters, and modern language teachers ask students to teach others about countries through Glogster. Teachers may have 50 student accounts for \$29.95 per year, but students can register free with any teacher code.

Historypin - <http://www.historypin.com/>

An online photo album for the world, this tool links pictures, stories and memories. Users may explore collections or tours or create their own. English and social studies teachers may collaborate for students to map their history and that of their local communities. Users must have a Google account.

Infographics - Easel.ly - <http://www.easel.ly/>

Another infographics tool, Easel.ly allows users to create and share visual ideas online by selecting a "vtheme" template or creating one, drag objects, edit the canvas, and share with others.

Visual.ly – <http://visual.ly/>

Infographics tools allow people to create visual representations of information or knowledge so that it is easily understood. Show teachers how to explore topics and demonstrate an example.

Pbworks - <http://pbworks.com>

Online collaboration workspaces like pbworks, wikispaces, wet paint, etc. allow groups to share knowledge and achieve common goals. In this example, service learners created career pages with a common bibliography and commented on each other's work. Social studies teacher Lance Hansen assigns senior budget portfolios in pbworks. Teachers create student accounts and passwords up front.

Prezi – <http://prezi.com>

This presentation tool has a zoomable canvas that shows connections between ideas. Slideshare, Jux, Popplet, and Jing are other alternatives.

StudyBlue - <http://www.studyblue.com/>

StudyBlue enables students to study millions of flash cards and online quizzes or create them. Available in mobile formats as well. Class codes are available. Springnote and Evernote offer similar features.

Wordle - <http://www.wordle.net/>

Wordle generates "word clouds" from text that you type or paste. Words that appear repeatedly are given emphasis. Creators may experiment with fonts, layouts, and color schemes. Images may be printed or saved. No registration is required. Media Center Service Learners created signs for Dewey classifications, and Paula Duncan's New Model Me students developed character profiles from novels with Wordle.