

Create Locally, Share Globally

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Blogging Platforms

Kidblog.org Teacher has complete control over displaying posts & comments. Posts can be visible to teacher, classmates, connected classes, or public. Google sign-in and Drive integration available. \$36/year for unlimited classes & students assigned to a single teacher.

Edublogs.org Free to create student blogs. Powered by WordPress blogging platform. Offers blogging challenges throughout the year. Teacher management tools (highly recommended) cost \$39.95/year.

WriteAbout.com Free for up to 40 students to create five posts each with full teacher moderation tools. Larger classes or more posts cost \$30-\$40/year (Free for Global Read Aloud classes). Built in writing prompts and groups help with finding an audience. Built for Google sign-in and Google Classroom integration.

Easyblog.org Free unlimited use, but requires payment to save content at the end of the school year. Teacher moderates posts and parents decide on sharing permissions. Designed for iPads and primary grade use.

Blogger.com Free to use, but fewer teacher controls. Schools using Google Apps for Education can set up students as contributors to a teacher-controlled blog.

Keeping things safe

Creating Accounts Check district procedures and keep administrators in the loop. In Cd'A Schools, fill out the [Social Media Site Authorization form](#) before creating a class blog or Twitter account.

Anonymity Protect students by avoiding full names. First names, initials, or student-chosen usernames offer some privacy.

Permission Cd'A district policy calls for getting parent and student permission before publishing student work. Send home a [permission slip](#) as soon as possible. On most platforms, students will give permission by marking their work for publication.

Creating Connections

Hashtags [#comments4kids](#) is specifically for sharing blog posts, but you can find connections through [#IDedchat](#) & other communities you interact with.

Global Read Aloud Project runs Oct. 3 - Nov. 11 with books at five levels. Sign up at theglobalreadaloud.com

Quadblogging.com Sign up to have a four week exchange with other classes. Each class gets one week to be featured while others comment.

Idaho Kids Vote Book Award Students read nominated books and vote on a favorite in April. Participating classes can share blog posts. For the 2016-2017 school year all nominated books will be middle grade level. The project may expand to include other categories in the future. KidsVoteAward.org

More Resources & Links at

<http://blog.jimwindisch.com/p/student-blogging-resources.html>

Setting up your blog

<u>Platform</u>	<u>Account Creation</u> ☐ Teacher Created ☐ Students use join code _____	<u>Username</u> (Avoid full names or e-mail usernames)
<u>Digital Citizenship Instruction</u> Fair use/copyright: Appropriate commenting:		

Project Planner

Blogging project/assignment name:		
<u>RAFT</u> Role of the writer: Audience: Format: Topic:	• <u>Timeline</u> • How many class periods? • Due date:	<u>When will students post?</u> ☐ First draft ☐ After some revision/editing ☐ Polished piece
• <u>Expectations</u> • Elements to include in writing: • Included media: • Citations: • Links:		<u>Commenting</u> <i>Partners:</i> ☐ Teacher Chosen ☐ Student Chosen How many required comments? <i>Elements of a good comment:</i> ☐ Specific compliment ☐ Suggestion for improvement ☐ Question for the author ☐ Connection to post
<u>Connections</u> People & Classes to share with: Hashtags to share with:	• <u>Projects to incorporate</u> • Are there any projects that you can tie in to this blog post?	

