The Publishing Playground

Why a Playground? Free play helps you learn to communicate with others, practice conversation, and expand vocabulary on topics that you may never have encountered before. Playgrounds can help learn how to follow and change rules, share, and take risks without punitive strings (or punishments). These kinds of social interactions can also help practice picking up on social cues like body language and tone of voice.

Purpose: Today, you want to 'play' with different modes of publishing writing. In our upcoming multi-genre writing project, you'll want to think about how you want to publish your work AND how you want to 'package' your work. The tools you'll be working with today may impact your decision making as you move through the unit. You want to take time to play and experiment with a variety of tools that will shape your project. Use the chart below to help you keep track of your thinking as you play. You want to take good notes of ideas as they occur to you so that you can reference this throughout the end of the semester.

Playground Tool	How did you interact with it? How did it enhance your "Writing into the Week" post?	Would you use it in your upcoming project? Why or why not?	What kinds of writing would this tool enhance or help convey information?
Piktochart.com	I interacted with the various features that the website has to offer, from clipart to varying transitions. It enhanced my writing by allowing me to attach small graphics to my writing and present it in a more simplified way.	I could see the value in using Piktochart to present overall findings. I don't think it's that great if you want to share specifics, but it could be useful to summarize findings at the beginning or end.	This tool would help with conveying statistics and other numbers, I wouldn't use it for personal writing.
Podcasting	I interacted with the recording and editing functions available on GarageBand. It allowed me to give my writing a more personal touch because you can hear the tone of my voice and I can read it outloud the way I want others to	I definitely can see myself utilizing a Podcast feature in my upcoming project because it creates a multimedia project that is more engaging. Additionally, it makes the writing more personal and allows the audience to feel	This tool would be great to share poetry or read fiction because you can use your voice to add additional elements that wouldn't traditionally be available to add in a text only format.

	hear it.	more connected.	
Storyboardthat.com	I interacted with this tool by adding various elements that allowed me to really visualize my writing. I decided to enhance week seven's prompt, the prompt about being a tour guide to aliens. This prompt went well with this tool because it's very easy to envision what aliens visiting Earth may look like. It made the writing more humorous and was a good addition.	I'm not sure that I would utilize this in a project because it feels very informal and if done incorrectly, would take away from the message. I think it's fun and can see how it would be useful for different applications.	This tool would be great for enhancing comedic writing. It was fun to try and convey my writing about taking aliens to Las Vegas with this tool, but I wouldn't use it to try and get actual, important information across.