

Choose some options that work for you!

Social Studies Games

Promote social awareness/global citizenship and 21st-century problem solving skills while covering Social Studies objectives.

▣ <http://www.gamesforchange.org/>

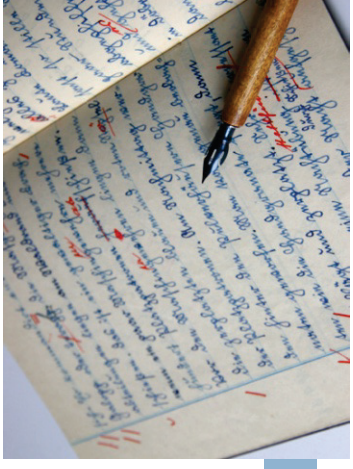




Websites with tools students can manipulate:

The next several slides will show websites that your students can use to present their learning. These sites provide alternative ways kids can demonstrate knowledge that may be more engaging to some than traditional papers or PowerPoints. **The important thing to remember is that students should never use technological tools only for the sake of using technology**-these tools should help you cover objectives in the content areas in effective and engaging ways. Technology is a support to help you accomplish your teaching goals, not something students should be playing aimlessly with!

Penzu



Penzu journal

ideas:

*field trip reflections

*science observations

*expressive writing

*writing idea bank

*reading log with

Penzu is a free web-based private journal. One of the best things about Penzu is that it is incredibly easy to use. Whatever you write is saved automatically and you can insert images if you like. You can keep your entries private or share them with others. Penzu can easily be used for class writing projects or students can access the program for keeping their own personal notes.

[Link to Penzu: penzu.com/home](https://penzu.com/home)

Toondoo

Toondoo is an interactive, free, user-friendly online tool for making comic strips.

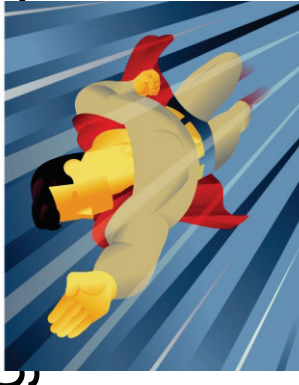
After students make a comic strip, other students can comment on it.

The site archives the comics so they're never lost.

There is a substantial image library and the strips are printable.

Students could make a Toondoo to reflect knowledge rather than making a Powerpoint, writing
It's just one other option!

Link: www.toondoo.com



Voki

Ideas for
classroom
use:

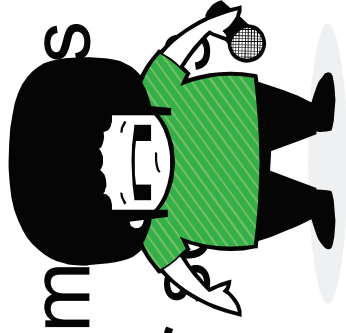
*representing
characters
from texts

*bringing
historical
figures to life

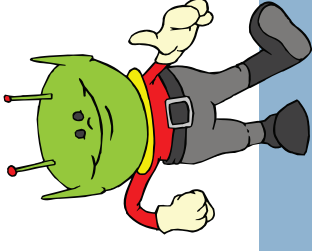
*using
avatars
to create
presentations

Voki is a free service that allows you to create online, speaking avatars that can be used on blogs, websites, emails, or any other online forum.

Students can type text in for the avatar to say, or record themselves speaking so that the avatar looks like them.



Xtranormal



This is a text to movie website where students can create movies through the use of a script (one character) or a dialogue (2 characters).

User-friendly, quick, and free!

Movies you make can be embedded on your blog, webpage, etc.

Students can make movies to reflect knowledge in any content area.

Example: [Lakeisha's Xtranormal](#)

Website: www.xtranormal.com

Weebly

This is a free and user-friendly tool for making websites.

Students could make and publish their own websites reflecting knowledge in any/all content areas. It provides an *occasional*/alternative to the uninspired research paper!

Sites can be simple or complex, one page or multiple.

Example of a site made with Weebly:

teachingwriting.weebly.com



Google Maps



Ideas for classroom use:

- *Plot historical places
- *Analyze relative and absolute location, also cardinal directions.
- *Zoom in to explore street

Everyone knows what Google maps is, but it does a lot more than give directions! Students can use it to plot multiple places and enter information about each place. Maps can be saved for future access and editing. It enables you to integrate literacy, social studies, and technology...maybe even math!

Example of a Civil War battle map:

[http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF&msa=0&msid=118112482746205174882.00048b3a9f03667910d4e\)](http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF&msa=0&msid=118112482746205174882.00048b3a9f03667910d4e)

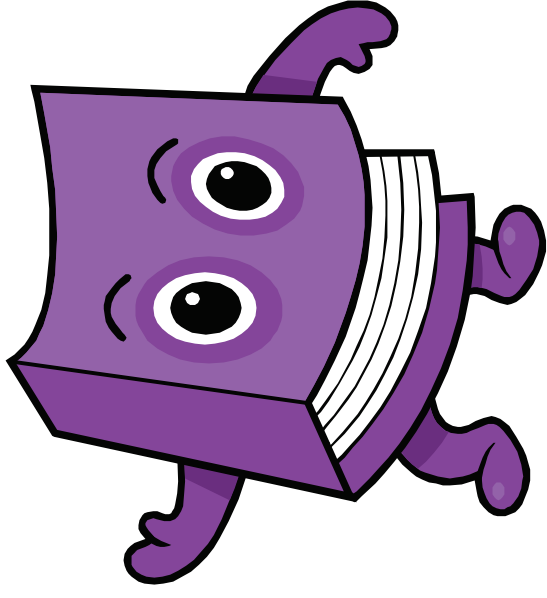
Tracing a character's journey in a text:

[http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=11779103711712559535.000001127080ed4b69333&z=4&om=1\)](http://maps.google.com/maps/ms?ie=UTF8&hl=en&msa=0&msid=11779103711712559535.000001127080ed4b69333&z=4&om=1)

America Writes For Kids

Great interactive literature-based website for kids. They can learn about authors, books, plays, and much more.

Link: <http://usawrites4kids.drury.edu/>



Virtual Field Trips



Interesting virtual trips on the site:

*Titanic

*Federal Reserve Bank

*The Angles at Antietam (civil war battle)

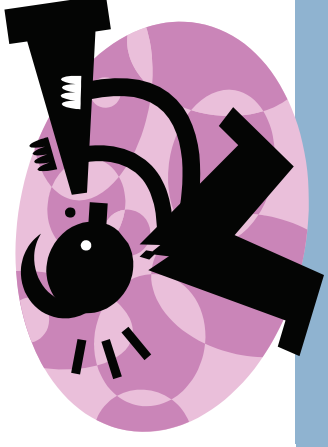
Students can take virtual field trips on the computer to learn about different content areas.

Site is very kid-friendly and has LOTS of virtual trip options.

The site is based on the Utah Standard Course of Study, but many of the NC objectives align nicely as well.

Link: <http://www.nhan.org/tours/>

Webquests



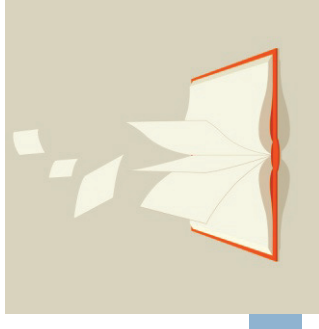
Students are on an online quest to research specific information.

It provides scaffolds because resources and links are included within the webquest.

Explore various webquests to determine which are well designed; make sure all links and sites within the webquest(s) you choose are still working.

Link: <http://questgarden.com/search/>

Online Book Fun



On this site children can blog about books (and sometimes other issues, such as global warming, etc.) with other children all around the world: <http://community.scholastic.com/scholastic?category.id=kidBoards>

This site is less of an ongoing discussion, but provides a space for children to post book reviews: <http://www.spaghettibookclub.org/>

Random character trading card tool that's SUPER fun! <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/games-tools/character-trading-cards-a-30181.html>

Developing Online Navigation Skills

This site helps kids determine which search engines best meet their needs: <http://www.noodletools.com/debbie/literacies/information/5locate/adviceengine.html>

Internet scavenger hunt to help kids practice using key words and different search terms: <http://www.educationworld.com/on/archives/hunt.shtml>

