

Uploading Options for Activity One: My Own Summer Vacation

The collaboration component of this activity is to upload students work to the Internet. Prior to having students publish any written work or illustrations, you will want to decide how you are going to share their work. This will determine the resources needed and the steps your students will need to follow. Below you will find a number of resources to help you get this done. Remember, if you would like other classes to comment on your students' work, be thinking about that when you select your uploading method.

General:

1. Prior to uploading any student work, make sure that you have the appropriate Media Release paperwork/documents for each student. You can check with your school's office or computer resource teacher to learn more about what your school and/or district require. Remember – we want to keep all students safe and respect their privacy.

Student Work:

Making a decision as to how your students will get their work ready for the Internet is important. Below you will find a few different options.

Paper to Internet: If your stories and illustrations are in paper format you have two choices:

1. Scan the documents and save them as either a PDF or image and upload.
2. Take a photograph of each document. (Doing this outdoors in the sun will get you the best results.) Use a photo editing program to crop the photo as needed and then save the image file.

Digital to Internet: If you are going to create your stories in a digital format, make sure you know what file type they must be saved in for proper uploading. (This is determined by how you are going to be uploading – see more information below.) The software you have available will determine how your students create their stories and illustrations.

Here are a couple of options:

1. Students can use a word processing program to create their story. They would then use a program like Kidpix to create the illustration. Following software directions, export the illustration as an image file and insert that file in the word processed document. Depending on the software and options you have available, you can export this document as a PDF for uploading.
2. Use the same process as above, but use presentation software like PowerPoint to create the story.
3. Students publish their written work straight to the web page. (Or you can do some copying and pasting.) You can either use the paper to Internet or digital to Internet directions from above for the illustration.

Web site: If you have a classroom or school web site, you can upload your students' work to the site. Be sure to visit with your school/district webmaster if necessary. They can help you understand any particular requirements for your documents including size and file type.

Email me the URL of the page that houses your students' work at: ttc.collaboration@gmail.com. This link will appear on the Showcase page.

Blog: Your school or district may have a blog feature within their web site. Visit with your school/district webmaster to learn more about this possible option. They can also make sure that you understand any particular requirements for your documents including size and file type. You may also choose to sign up for a free blog service such as:

Blogger: <https://www.blogger.com/start>

Edublogs: <http://edublogs.org/>

21classes: <http://www.21classes.com/>

Email me the URL of the main blog that houses your students' work at: ttc.collaboration@gmail.com. This link will appear on the Showcase page.

Wiki: Your school or district may already have access to a wiki. Visit with your school/district IT or computer resource teacher to learn more. You will also want to make sure that you understand any particular requirements for your documents including size and file type. You may also choose to sign up for a free wiki service such as:

Wikispaces for Teachers: <http://www.wikispaces.com/site/for/teachers>

PBWorks: <https://plans.pbworks.com/academic>

Email me the URL of the wiki that houses your students' work at: ttc.collaboration@gmail.com. This link will appear on the Showcase page.

Smilebox: Prior to creating a standard account or doing any uploading, you will want to visit this URL and set up your "Teacher Toolkit" account that will provide you with a free upgrade: <http://media.smilebox.com/teachers/welcome>
Since this is an image-based service, you will want to have all student work in an image file format.

Once your images are uploaded you will be provided with a link to share with others.

Email me this link at: ttc.collaboration@gmail.com and it will be posted on the Showcase page.

SlideShare: Visit <http://www.slideshare.net/> to set up your free account. SlideShare supports PowerPoint, OpenOffice and Keynote presentations. It also supports common document formats such as Microsoft Word, Excel, OpenOffice, PDF files and text files. You may also want to visit the SlideShare FAQ page to get some help with your first upload: <http://www.slideshare.net/faqs>

Once your documents are uploaded you will be provided with a link to embed and/or share with others. Email me these links at: ttc.collaboration@gmail.com and they will be posted on the Showcase page.

VoiceThread: This site offers a basic and free account. You can also pay a low, one-time fee for a few upgrades. Visit <http://voicethread.com/#home> to learn more. From this same page, you can download a "Getting Started in the Classroom," a PDF guide to using Voice Thread:

http://voicethread.com/media/misc/getting_started_in_the_classroom.pdf

Once you have created your VoiceThread you will be provided with embed code. Email me this code at ttc.collaboration@gmail.com and it will be posted on the Showcase page.

Other Tools: Feel free to utilize another tool for uploading your student work to the Internet. If possible, please share information regarding the tool you use in our social group forum.

Technical Help: Be sure to visit the Help/Community/Blog pages within the sites listed above. They often house great resources for first-time users. You can also become a member of our “How To” social group within The Teacher’s Corner forum. (A copy of this document will be housed within this group.)