



Visual Creation Tools

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Elementary

NOTE: This icon means the Web site has no age restrictions, and the tool is appropriate for younger students. Other tools may be appropriate for elementary grade use with the teacher's facilitation.

Drawing

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
NGA Kids: BRUSHster* <div>Elementary</div>	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/brushster.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full drawing program. • Offers over 40 brushes and customizable size, transparency, texture, and stroke options. • Offers a rainbow palette and a toolbox of special effects that blur, ripple, smudge, blend, and fragment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> designs. No registration required. 						
NGA Kids: Faces and Places*	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/facesplaces.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provided by the National Gallery of Art. Can create portraits or landscapes featuring characters and elements from over 100 famous paintings. Also includes traditional folk music and surprising animations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No actual drawing—just selection of elements to place in a picture. Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓
NGA Kids: Jungle*	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/jungle.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can create an imaginary landscape with animals, flowers, trees, and plants—many of which can be significantly modified for creative use. Inspired by the paintings of French artist, Henri Rousseau. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No registration required. 						
NGA Kids: SwatchBox *	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/swatchbox.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mix and draw with a full palette of millions of colors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓

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Graphics Creation

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
Aviary*	http://aviary.com/tools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A suite of powerful creative applications. • Image editor offers layers, masks, and effects. • Visual effects editor allows experimenting with pixel-based images. • Vector editor allows creation of scalable vector art. • Image markup can be used to capture, edit, and mark up images and screenshots. • Color palette analyzer can be used to create and analyze colors. • Audio editor can be used to create and edit remixes, sound effects, and other audio recordings. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Powerful” can also mean complicated. • Full-featured tools, not for novices. • Offers many tutorials. 	✓	✓ Can select how artwork will be shared.		Must be at least 13 years old unless supervised by parents or guardian. If under 18, may only use the site with the consent of a guardian.	

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
NGA Kids: 3-D Twirler*	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/3dtwirler.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can design a shape and then see how it looks in 3-D. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited use, but interesting for spatial understanding. Can only save drawings by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓
NGA Kids: Collage Machine and Collage Machine II *	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/collagemachine.htm www.nga.gov/kids/zone/collagemachine2.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can create a collage of shapes, pictures, and objects. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓
NGA Kids: PaintBox and Wallovers*	www.nga.gov/kids/zone/paintbox.htm www.nga.gov/kids/zone/wallovers.htm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can create designs with symmetrical patterns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can only save a drawing by creating a PDF or taking a screenshot. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓
SumoPaint*	www.sumopaint.com/app	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes standard editing tools. Offers unique shape drawing tools, a large variety of brushes and brush styles, and interesting transformation tools for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> May be too difficult for novice users. Registered account holders can see other users' artwork and photos, some of which may not be appropriate for students. 	✓	✓		✓	✓ Required for registration.

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		scaling, moving, and rotating objects. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Registration optional.• Registered accounts include free, online image storage and allows image layers to be saved and edited.• Available in 52 languages.						

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Image Editing

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
FotoFlexer*	http://fotoflexer.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can “pull” photos from a variety of online photo storage sites or upload from computer. • Offers a variety of special effects as well as basic editing tools. • Available in 22 languages. • Registration optional. 		<p>✓</p> <p>No ads once in the editor.</p>	✓		Must be at least 13 years old.	✓
Picnik*	www.picnik.com www.picnik.com/app#/home/welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easy to use and learn with embedded instructions. • Can “pull” photos from a variety of online photo storage sites or upload from computer. • Registration optional. • Default editor for Flickr* and owned by Google*. • Available in 15 languages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Premium (paid) features are shown in the editor but cannot be used in the free version, which can be frustrating. 		✓		Must be of “legal age to form a binding contract.”	✓ Required for registration.

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
Pixlr*	www.pixlr.com/app	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers advanced photo editing. • Editing and saving is quick. • Edits photos directly in a browser and does not require uploading (Flash* 10 and above). • Available in 23 languages. • No registration required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not appropriate for novice users. 	✓	✓		✓	✓
Pixlr Express*	www.pixlr.com/express	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intuitive and easy to use. • Editing and saving is quick. • Edits photos directly in a browser and does not require uploading (Flash 10 and above). • No registration required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must remember to click the Apply button after each editing change. 	✓	✓		✓	✓
SumoPaint*	www.sumopaint.com/app	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Useful for creating graphics and illustrations as well as photo editing. • Includes standard editing tools. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be too difficult for novice users. • Registered account holders can see other users' artwork and photos, some of which 	✓	✓		✓	✓ Required for registration.

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers unique shape drawing tools, a large variety of brushes and brush styles, and interesting transformation tools for scaling, moving, and rotating objects. • Registration optional. • Registered accounts include free, online image storage and allows image layers to be saved and edited. • Available in 52 languages. 	may not be appropriate for students.					

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Mind Mapping/Graphic Organizers

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
bubbl.us*	www.bubbl.us	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming tool. Can create and share colorful mind maps, and embed them in blogs or Web sites. Can e-mail, print, or save a map as an image. Offers quick and “automatic” formatting and entering of points and subpoints around a core idea. Limited tools are easy to use with embedded instructions. Registration optional. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Very basic brainstorming tool—no graphics or tools included to create other types of flow charts or graphic organizers. 	✓	✓		✓	✓ Required for registration.
Cacoo*	http://cacoo.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concept map tool. Can create layouts, diagrams, and flowcharts. Offers many stencils and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tool can be used for many purposes—the amount of tool and formatting choices may be overwhelming for young students. 	✓	✓		✓	Can use account immediately without responding to an e-mail confirmation.

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		layouts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can upload images up to 512 KB. • Can “chat” with collaborators in the tool. • Collaborators can edit maps concurrently. • Available in English and Japanese. 						
Exploratree*	www.exploratree.org.uk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concept map tool. • Offers many preformatted concept maps (“thinking guides”) based on the type of brainstorming or problem-solving desired. • Offers a fair amount of shapes. • Can create customized thinking guides and share with students. • Can share maps with others. • Can submit maps for comments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No concurrent editing. • Text boxes are created with existing text and have to be deleted, which can be time consuming. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	Must confirm e-mail before use.

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
Mindmeister*	www.mindmeister.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming tool. Automatically formats points and subpoints around a core idea. Provides mobile and offline use. Collaborators can edit maps concurrently. Can export maps as an image, PDF file, or RTF file, or publish to a Web site. Available in nine languages. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free version only allows three maps. 	✓	✓		✓	All collaborators must have e-mail addresses.
Mindomo*	www.mindomo.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming and causal map tool. Automatically formats points and subpoints around a core idea. Offers a variety of shapes, images, and formatting. Can attach comments and create notes using a separate panel. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free version limited to seven maps. 	✓	✓		✓	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Can embed video and audio files. Uncomplicated, and offers a full set of tools. 						
Seeing Reason*	http://educate.intel.com/en/thinkingtools/seeingreason	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Causal map tool. Provides a way to investigate a system or problem involving cause and effect. Designed to target higher-order thinking skills. Easy to use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires teachers to set up projects and create student accounts. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓
Showing Evidence*	http://educate.intel.com/en/ThinkingTools/ShowingEvidence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Argumentation tool. Provides a way to present a claim or position, identify evidence, evaluate the quality of the evidence, evaluate how the evidence supports or weakens the claims, and reach conclusions. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires teachers to set up projects and create student accounts. 	✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	✓	✓

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes a full-version tool and a simplified tool for younger students. 						
Webspiration*	www.mywebspiration.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brainstorming and concept map. Can create outlines and diagrams. Can switch between outline and diagram views. Offers predesigned templates. Includes many graphics categorized by topics. Offers a variety of shapes, images, and formatting options. Allows users to collaborate concurrently. Allows an unlimited number of collaborators. Includes a chat feature in the map. 		✓	✓	✓ Designed for education.	Must be at least 13 years old.	

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Web-based version of Inspiration*.• Can download as a Microsoft Word* document, Inspiration document, or transfer directly to Google Docs*.						

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Vodcasting/Video Editing

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
Flickr*	www.flickr.com www.flickr.com/creativecommons	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Videos are limited to 90 seconds in length, and 150 MB in file size. Videos can be mapped to a location. Once uploaded, videos can easily be embedded in other Web pages or blogs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Members are limited to two video uploads per month. Any member can upload high definition video, but only members with paid accounts can view videos in high definition. Must have a Yahoo!* account to get a Flickr account. 	✓	✓		Must be of "legal age to form a binding contract"; under 13 allowed under a "family account."	✓ Creates an e-mail account at the time of Yahoo!* registration.
iTunes: Creating Video Podcasts	http://www.apple.com/itunes/podcasts/specs.html Windows: www.apple.com/quicktime/tutorials/videopodcasts_win.html Mac: http://www.apple.com/quicktime/tutorials/videopodcasts.html	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Best known interface with which to subscribe to video and audio podcasts. Unlimited size and length of videos because iTunes copies the location of a video feed (URL) to subscribers' iTunes libraries instead of hosting files. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Free software needs to be installed on a computer submitting a vodcast to the iTunes store and on subscribers' computers. All episodes in a video podcast must be available as .m4v, .mp4, or .mov video file formats. iTunes does not host video files. 	✓	✓		Must be at least 13 years old.	

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
Motionbox*	www.motionbox.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upload videos up to 300 MB each, up to 750 MB total. • Can control who can view, edit, and comment on videos. • Can embed videos on blogs, Web sites, or profile pages. • Offers easy-to-use editing tools to crop and combine video segments. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trimming beginning and end of video can be tricky. 	✓	✓		Must be at least 18 years of age; or must be at least 15 and an emancipated minor or possess legal parental or guardian consent.	
One True Media*	www.onetruemedia.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can upload 100 MB per month. • Offers easy connections to Flickr* and Photobucket*. • Can combine photos and video into montages. • Includes transitions, free music backgrounds, and text. • Allows frame-by-frame editing of a video. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Logo appears in the bottom corner of videos or montages in the free version. 	✓	✓		Must be at least 13 years old.	

Name	URL	Strengths	Weaknesses/ Considerations	Ad-Free	Student Privacy Maintained	Educator Version Available	Available for All Ages	Does Not Require Student E-mail
School Tube	www.schooltube.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uploaded content is moderated. • Can upload files up to 100 MB each. • Only members can rate and leave select comments on videos. • School name required during registration. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must wait for a moderator to approve a video before it is available on the site. 		<p>✓</p> <p>Videos can be searched for by school name.</p>	<p>✓</p> <p>Designed for education.</p>	Must be at least 13 years old.	
Vodcast Directory: Software*	www.videopodcasts.tv	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of links to software to assist with vodcasting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most software links point to downloadable software that is not free. 					
Zamzar*	www.zamzar.com	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quick conversion of video (and other) file formats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-mail address required to receive a link to download a new file. • Must download converted file within 24 hours—after which time the file is deleted from the server. 		<p>✓</p>		<p>✓</p>	

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