

Writing Connection

Tech Tool: Glog

What is a glog?

A glog is a graphic blog. It is a way of sharing images, text, audio and video clips with others.

Digital Task Card: Promoting Positive Self-Image

Create a glog that will promote positive self-image in young adolescents.

Think of a way you can challenge the traditional views of beauty, friendship, athleticism, and talent. How can you find ways of appreciating the unusual, different, and unique features in everyone?

Use images, text, and audio and video clips in your glog as a way of encouraging others to see themselves through a positive lens. Convince your viewers that different is special. How can you portray these differences as positive?

Save and share your glog with others. Encourage them to share their opinions with you. Use your glog as a forum to think about social pressures, decisions you are challenged with, and biases you have encountered in society.



Reading Connection

Tech Tool: Podcast

What is a podcast?

A podcast is a series of digital audio or video recordings.

Digital Task Card: Breaking News Broadcast

Create a podcast that sounds like a breaking news broadcast.

Select a book that you have recently read. Think of an exciting event in the book that could have made the evening news.

- Create a script for an interview with one or more of the characters. Ask your friends to play the parts of the characters and record their responses.
- You can pretend to be the news anchor and describe the important events in the book.

Once you've recorded your piece, add special effects and music jingles to begin and end your Breaking News Broadcast.

Share your podcast with your classmates. Invite them to comment on your work. Perhaps your podcast will inspire them to read the book.



Writing Connection

Tech Tool: Comic Creator

What is a comic creator?

A comic creator is a tool that allows the user to employ a bank of graphic images to create comic strips.

Digital Task Card: Comic Creation

Create a glog that will promote positive self-image in young adolescents.

Create a comic strip that shows how you feel about learning new things at school. You can use humor—through words and body language—to help convey your ideas.

You might choose to create a comic strip that shows how you feel when you work on computers, complete science experiments, approach artistic tasks, work cooperatively with your peers, or are faced with a challenging math problem. You might include things you've learned in science, social studies, or another subject.

You'll need to be selective about the text you include. Try to express a point of view, to state your opinion, or to make a joke in a few short sentences.

Remember to always be respectful to your teachers and peers.



Social Studies Connection

Tech Tool: Digital Story

What is a digital story?

A digital story is a series of pictures that are combined with text to tell a story or share information.

Digital Task Card: Inclusion Social Story

Use a digital story to create a social story about how and why students with different exceptionalities should be included in our classrooms and games.

Use the Internet and nonfiction resources (books, magazines, texts, etc.) to find information about students with different exceptionalities. These may be physical challenges or learning disabilities.

Create a series of images that shows ways in which we can all be friends to students with exceptionalities.

- What do we need to know in order to support them better?
- How can we include others in our learning and our games?

Combine images with your research to create a digital story. Save and share your story with your classmates.



Science Connection

Tech Tool: Prezi

What is a Prezi?

Prezi is an interactive presentation format. With a Prezi, you can create a project with infinite space; you can zoom into and out of images.

Digital Task Card: Virtual Tour of the Solar System

Use the Prezi presentation format to create a virtual tour of our solar system.

You can use images of each of the planets and the sun. Add pictures to the Prezi, and plan how you can navigate through our galaxy. Use each image as a place to record information about the celestial bodies found in space. You can zoom into the sun to find out more, surf the rings of Saturn, and bounce on the moon.

You'll need to place the images first and think about how you will organize your virtual tour. Once you've created the solar system, add some information about each item. Use the Internet or nonfiction books to research the different parts of our galaxy. Remember to respect copyright on images and information. You need to write your ideas using your own words.

Create a path that will zoom through the galaxy at the speed of light.

Save and share your Prezi with your friends.



Social Studies Connection

Tech Tool: VoiceThread

What is a VoiceThread?

VoiceThreads is an online tool that allows users to have an ongoing conversation. Participants can respond with text, audio, or video entries.

Digital Task Card: Issues Forum

Use VoiceThreads to create a forum for a discussion about an important social, historical, or environmental issue.

The VoiceThread needs to start with one image that will invite others to join in the discussion. Choose an image that is clear and directly connects to the theme of the discussion. You can use an image that you've taken with a digital camera or one from the Internet. Make sure that you respect copyright rules when using Internet images.

Start the discussion thread with an audio, video, or text entry. Invite your classmates to join in the discussion and add their opinions to the conversation.

You can start a VoiceThread on any topic, but here are some suggestions to get you started:

- Who was the most influential person in history?
- What should be done about the pollution of our oceans, rivers, and lakes?
- How can we respond to natural disasters in other countries?
- What can we do in our community to make the world a better place?

