Tech Tools & Tips

Tech Tips

Digital Stories are a great way to engage students and spark their creativity. They can be used to pre-teach, build background knowledge, review new concepts, retell information, and create original products.

- Digital stories are stories told using digital tools.
- Digital stories can focus on a specific topic or point of view, and are not always just a story told on the computer.
- Digital stories usually contain a mixture of computer-based images, text, recorded audio narration, video clips and/or music.
- Digital stories can vary in length, usually between two and ten minutes.
- Topics can range from personal narratives to retelling historical events, or exploring one's community. The possibilities are endless!!

Numerous websites and applications are available for your students to explore. Here are several versatile ones for a start.

Storybird

Storybird is one of many websites that allows student to write their own stories. It provides artwork, illustrations, and animations for writers to turn images into stories. Begin by signing up for free. When you set up your site, you will input username, email address, and password. You will also need to upload an avatar, so you might want to have that ready. You pick the grade level K through adult and you are started. Note that while making, sharing, and reading stories on Storybird is free, printing them or downloading them have various fees that are clearly explained with each option.

WeVideo

This app is available from Goggle Play Store. It allows students to easily create video stories using pictures and/or videos. A quick video introduction is available when you search for WeVideo. Make and share videos using WeVideo's online video editing software, available on Android, iPhone, iPad, Mac, PC, and Chromebook. In this cloud-based collaborative video creation platform, you can save your work to your hard drive, upload to the cloud, and pick up where you left off on another computer. Note that free accounts are limited to 5 minutes of published video time and 2GB of cloud storage.

Please share your experience with these or other tech tools on our TLC Blog at:
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