

Online Tools

Name: Quizizz

URL: <https://quizizz.com/admin>

Description with category: Quizizz is a quiz tool that allows you to create quizzes with various forms of questions! You can have multiple choice, poll, fill-in-the-blank, and more! I like Quizizz because it is user friendly and has several attractive features like images and templates that you can incorporate. You can look at reports, separate classes, and explore already-made quizzes.

Plan: I would use this tool to quiz my students or even have them create their own quizzes to practice with each other. This could be used before a test to ensure that they know the material, or it could be a pre-assessment before I introduce a new topic to see where students are at in their learning.

Example: <https://quizizz.com/admin/quiz/606e4b9f42ad62001bf82c2b>

Name: DoppelMe

URL: <https://www.doppelme.com/>

Description with category: DoppelMe is a free, easy to use Avatar Maker. You can create a very basic avatar without registering, but it takes about 60 seconds to register, so I'd suggest it! Once you've registered, you're able to change your hair style, clothes, and add accessories. You start with 2 coins that can be used to purchase more advanced things, like eyelashes (which I did). I like DoppelMe because it's super easy to use and it claims that it can be used "as an avatar in forums, instant messenger, blogs, email signature and almost anywhere else on the web."

Plan: I would use this at the beginning of the school year as a tool for students to not only express themselves but to get to know each other better as well. I know that students would have a blast creating their avatar, and they could include some accessories that would give us a glimpse into their interests. For example, I gave my avatar a coffee cup, so my students would know that I like coffee. Throughout the year, I would have my students insert their avatar into any digital assignment or forum as a means of identification. It's much more exciting than simply typing your name!

Example:



Name: Storybird

URL: <https://storybird.com/>

Description with category: I love Storybird! It is a writing tool that allows users to participate in writing challenges or just free write. Moreover, users are able to read to enhance their skills and gain knowledge or inspiration. I did the Fiction in a Flash challenge meant for grades 7 and 8 but can be done by anyone 9 years or older. I like that Storybird gives the user categories to choose from that suit individual needs and skillsets. Overall, this is a great asset to any writing lesson or ELA course.

Plan: I would use Storybird to guide my students through writing and help them develop their writing skills. As I mentioned, this tool gives users prompts and challenges, and middle school students love challenges! I would ask the class to choose a challenge that they feel is right for their skillset, and I would use this as a formative assessment at the end of a writing lesson.

The screenshot shows a Storybird story page. At the top, the date '4/8/2021' and the title 'Storybird - Artful Storytelling' are visible. The navigation bar includes 'YOU', 'CHALLENGE', 'READ', 'WRITE', 'EDUCATORS', 'PARENTS', and 'MEMBERSHIP'. The story title 'Always Checking' is prominently displayed. The author is 'emily38671' and the artist is 'carydraws'. The story text begins with 'She was always looking over her shoulder, never feeling comfortable walking alone. She had always heard, "Keep your eyes peeled," "Be aware of your surroundings," "Never get too distracted."' and continues with 'She was sick of looking over her shoulder. Why can't she feel secure? Why can't all women simply feel safe?' and 'She walked down the street briskly, clutching her keys through the space between her fingers, always, always looking over her shoulder.' On the right side, there is a section for 'BOOK SUMMARY' which states 'The author didn't write summary for this book.' and a button to 'Add to my Bookshelf'. At the bottom, there is a section for 'ADD YOUR COMMENT' with a URL 'https://storybird.com/flash-fiction/always-checking' and a page number '1/2'.

Example:

Name: Bubble.us

URL: <https://bubbl.us/>

Description with category: Bubble.us is a Mind Mapping/Graphic Organizer Tool. I like it because it is super easy to use and customizable! You can change the colors, the layout, and the size of your mind map. The free version only allows you to create 3 mind maps, but for a student, that should be fine! The upgraded version is not too expensive though, so if a teacher or parent wanted to use this tool, it would be no problem to upgrade and unlock tons more features, such as guest editing.

Plan: I would definitely use this tool to familiarize my students with mind mapping. They could create their own mind map about a specific topic, like elements of poetry. Students could collaborate on mind maps or create their own. Mind mapping is a great way to organize thoughts and ideas, and I know my students would benefit from practicing this skill in the classroom.

Example: <http://go.bubbl.us/b83903/2237?/To-Do-list>

Name: WeVideo

URL: <https://www.wevideo.com/hub#>

Description with category: WeVideo is a video editing tool that allows you to create and edit videos in high resolution! It has a professional look, and it gives lots of options for recording. You can record in a couple different portraits (horizontal, square, or vertical) and you can stitch clips together or just do a single take, like I did in my example. WeVideo gives you the option to start from scratch or use a template, which would be great for classroom use!

Plan: I would use WeVideo primarily for presentations to take the pressure off those who hate public speaking. Instead of having to stand in front of their peers, these students could pre-record their presentations and have more than one take in case they mess up. I would also love to use this feature for students to record book reviews.

Example: <https://www.wevideo.com/view/2131773866>