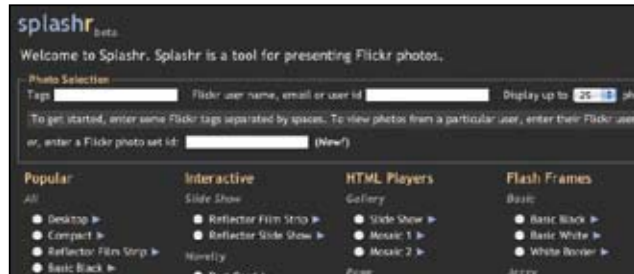


LESSON PLAN 41: CREATE A PICTURE DICTIONARY

Objective: Select and use images to define and illustrate words using Splashr

Age range: 7-13



WHAT IS SPLASHR?

Splashr (<http://splashr.com/>) is an online tool for creating 'galleries' of photos from Flickr.com. There are a number of presentation styles to choose from, ranging from a basic black background to colourful layouts, and there are both Flash and HTML options. It's very quick and easy to set up, and the end results can be saved as a download, added to a website or shared via email.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

What you do is enter what's called a 'tag' – this is a word (or words) that describe or identify the image you want to find. For example, if you want photos of trees, enter 'trees' or 'forest' or perhaps the names of specific trees, like 'kauri', 'oak', or 'pōhutukawa'. Or you may want photos taken by a specific person or from a specific collection. Again, simply search using the name (or gallery ID) of the person or collection. (Tags are added to photos when they're uploaded to Flickr for exactly this reason, so photos are searchable.)

Once you have identified your photos, choose one of the many presentation styles (32 at the last count), and Splashr will create your gallery, and provide you with a URL that you can share.

YOU WILL NEED

Computer. Internet access. Tag words for your images.

DEVELOPING SKILLS

Research, presentation, visual communication, words/language/vocabulary, photography

METHOD

1. You can create picture dictionaries on your own for use in class. Or you may want to turn the process of making them into a classroom activity in its own right.
2. Talk to your class about dictionaries – ask them what they are and the function they perform. Discuss the different types of dictionary: defining, biographical, language, encyclopaedic, specialised (medical, law, etc.), and so on.
3. Explain to your students that you have made (or they are going to make) a picture dictionary, which is a dictionary that uses photos or drawings to illustrate words. Discuss how using images is different from simply using words, and how they can be useful in learning.

4. Picture dictionaries are often organised by topic instead of being an alphabetic list of words. They're almost always made up of a set of basic vocabulary and only include a small number of words. Decide what topics/words you want to include in your picture dictionary.

If you want to learn about zoo animals, you may want an image of a: lion, tiger, elephant, zebra, hippopotamus, giraffe, chimpanzee, kangaroo, penguin, seal, etc.

Or you may be studying geography and want images from around the world. Here you can get quite creative with your search 'tags'. If you want images from France, try: France, French, and Paris; or even try things like Napoleon, pétanque, Eiffel Tower, or croissant.

Or you may want to reinforce particular concepts like size or colour, and search accordingly.

5. If you leave Splashr to make the choice, you will end up with all sorts of pictures. This in itself can be a topic of discussion, as to the relevance of images to your search. For a range of images on a broad topic, like 'France' or 'Trees' this can be a fun and interesting way to go. However, if you want specific images, say one photo of each of your zoo animals, then you may want to create your own gallery in Flickr and link to this.

6. Go to <http://splashr.com>



7. In the photo selection panel, enter your tag(s), or the Flickr user name, email or user ID, if applicable, and the number of images to be displayed.



8. Select the style of your gallery. There are currently 32 choices. Some of the names are self-explanatory; others you'll have to explore for yourself!



9. Click 'Next' and you'll be asked what you want to do with your gallery. Obviously, you can view it, or email the link, use on a website/blog, or go back and create another.