

Why create a blog or classroom website?

Source: <http://suite101.com/article/5-benefits-for-creating-a-classroom-environment-for-student-blogs-a285167>

- 1 Student Centered Learning: Transforming Learning
- 2 Online Learning: Flattening the Classroom
- 3 Collaborative Learning With Technology: A Shared Commitment
- 4 self-directed learning
- 5 peer-to-peer teaching and learning
- 6 inquiry-based learning
- 7 problem solving
- 8 Improved Reading Skills – students find they need to develop an increased understanding of what they read for two reasons. The first, good editing requires good reading skills. The second, preparation of clear and a concise blog post requires reading comprehension.
- 9 Improved Research Skills



Educational Benefits of Blogs

In addition to providing teachers with an excellent tool for communicating with students, there are numerous educational benefits of blogs. Blogs are

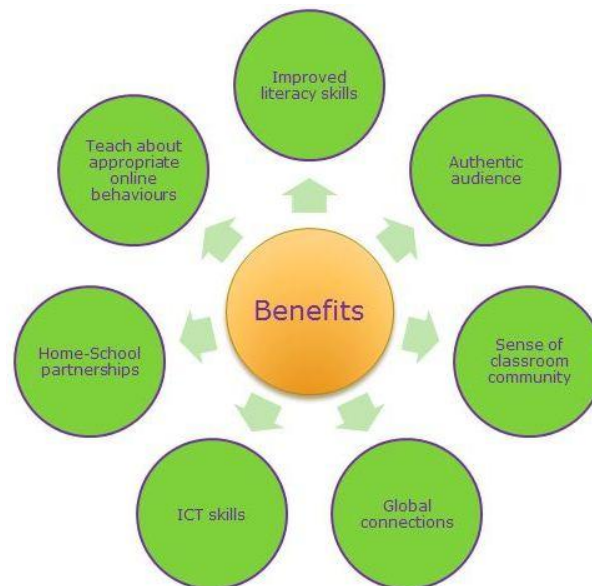
- motivating to students, especially those who otherwise might not become participants in classrooms
- excellent opportunities for students to read and write.
- effective forums for collaboration and discussion.
- powerful tools to enable scaffolded learning or mentoring to occur.

Using the Blog in the Classroom

As an educational tool, blogs may be integrated in a multi-faceted manner to accommodate all learners. Blogs can serve at least four basic functions.

1. *Classroom Management*
2. *Collaboration*
3. *Discussions*
4. *Student Portfolios*

Source: <http://teachingtoday.glencoe.com/howtoarticles/blog-basics>



Kathleen Morris <http://primarytech.globalteacher.org.au>

Further research suggests:

- **Improved Literacy Skills**
- **Authentic Audience**
- **Sense of Classroom Community**
- **Global Connections**
- **ICT Skills:**
- **Home- School Partnerships**
- **Appropriate Online Behaviours:**
- **Confidence**

Source: <http://primarytech.global2.vic.edu.au/2011/01/17/a-reflection-on-the-benefits-of-blogging/>