

Next Issue:
Creating a group
conversation using
VoiceThread

Visit our Laptop Support COW



The Laptop Support COW is one of the Hunter Central Coast Regional COWs (Collaborative Online Workspaces)

Access

Access the COWs via the link on the HCC Regional Intranet:
https://detwww.det.nsw.edu.au/regions/hunter_ccoast/

Login with your DET portal username with the suffix @det

e.g. Jennifer.Wise@det

Have you seen our DER Professional Learning Blog?

Go to:

<http://share-der.nsw.posterous.com>

DER Professional Learning

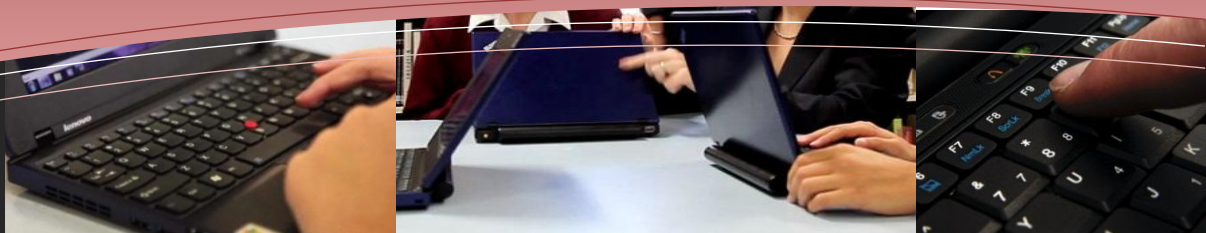
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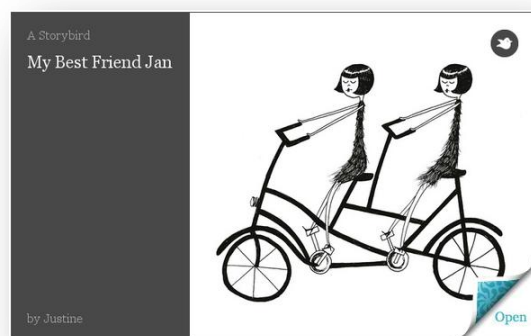
Creating a digital story using



What is 'StoryBird'?

'StoryBird' is a web-based application designed to easily create digital stories using online art works as a stimulus. You can create collaborative digital stories with friends or share your own digital stories through social networks, by emailing a link or by embedding them into your website, blog or moodle. 'StoryBird' is unblocked for all students K-12.

What does a 'StoryBird' digital story look like?



Above: An example of a digital story created in 'StoryBird' and embedded in a moodle page

Where can I find 'StoryBird'?

'StoryBird' is located at the following URL:
<http://storybird.com/>

What does StoryBird cost?

Nothing. You can create a StoryBird digital story for free.

Do I need a StoryBird account?

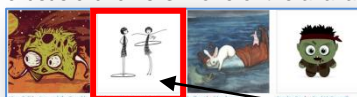
No - you can try StoryBird without creating an account.

Simply click on the **Start a Storybird Now** button on the home page, choose from an artist style or one of the listed themes and get started, however if you create an account you will be able to save your StoryBird digital

stories. Click on the **Sign up** link up at the top right of the home page and complete your details to create your free StoryBird account.

How does StoryBird work?

To start your first StoryBird you need to select either an artist's artworks OR one of the available themes listed.

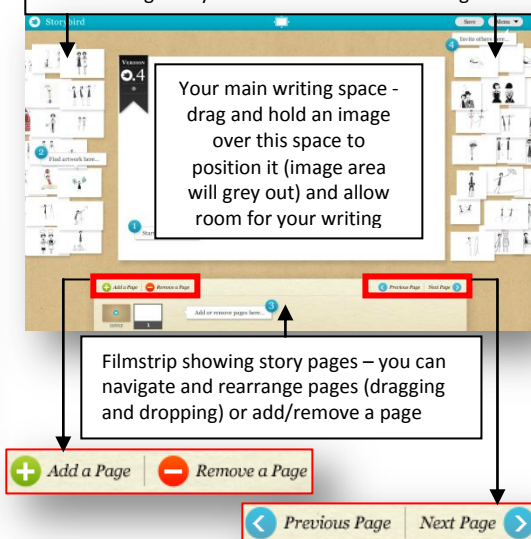


To choose your art, click on one of the **artist samples** or one of the **theme words**

apples aunt banana bandana beans breakfast brothers
celebration cherry dandelion dip dressup evil explore
funny guitar happiness hipster laundry leopard letter little
married meow moving nap new organs pet puppet race russian
safety scale searching sofa spring stairs strings sugar sunflower sunny
tail tree unicorn valentine waiting wand waves

Once you have chosen your artwork, click on the **Start a Storybird** link. Let's look at the StoryBird interface:

Available art images extend beyond the left and right of your writing space. Move your mouse to the far left or far right of your screen to view more images.



TIP: Click on an image once to see a larger view

How do I share my StoryBird story?

Choose whether you would like your story to remain **PRIVATE** or be accessible via the **PUBLIC** gallery, then save and publish it. Your sharing options include:



Facebook, Twitter, StumbleUpon or Email. You can only copy an Embed code if your story is set to PUBLIC and has passed StoryBird approval for the public gallery.

How can I integrate StoryBird into my teaching program?

There are endless opportunities for the relevant integration of StoryBird into your teaching program. Here are three ideas that you might like to try using StoryBird for in your classroom:

1. Creative writing

Students create a fictional text enhanced by the available artworks. This text could be free choice or based around a central theme or topic.

2. Making a social comment

Students create a persuasive text that comments on a social situation, human injustice or controversial issue.

3. Creating a collaborative text

Students collaboratively create a text of appreciation they can then publish in hard copy and provide as a gift.