

Lesson Plan

Intro to Blogging

Book: *All About Social Networking*

Series: Cutting-Edge Technology

Level: Navigator

Objective

To help students practice using the Internet to publish writing and interact with others.

Supplies

- *All About Social Networking*
- Wordpress (<https://wordpress.com/>) or another site that lets users create free blogs

Before the Activity

Read through the *All About Social Networking* book, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

After reading *All About Social Networking*, ask students the following questions:

- What is a blog? (Answer: a kind of online diary people often use to write about what is important to them)
- What is the word “blog” short for? (Answer: web log)
- What are some things that people use blogs for? (Answer: writing about current events, sharing art or music, staying connected with others, etc.)

Split the students into groups of three or four. Each group will work together to create a blog. They should use Wordpress (or another free blogging site) to set up their blog. They can post creative writing, reviews of books or movies, original music or artwork, or links to other posts or websites that they like.

The students should work together to decide the following things:

- What kind of content will their blog have?
- What kind of template or format would be best for this content?
- What should they name their blog so that it will catch people’s attention and help readers know what kind of content to expect?

For the next month, the students will write or post content for this blog. Each student should create one post each week. They should also make a schedule for this content. They should decide the following things:

- What topics will the blog cover during the next month?
- Which person will write about each topic?
- What day of the week will each person publish his or her post?

Make a list of all the students' blogs, and distribute it to the class. Ask the students to read and comment on each other's blogs, too. They should leave at least one substantive comment on another student's post each week.

Evaluation

Give the students 10 points for each blog post they create. Give them 2 points for each substantive comment they leave on another student's blog post.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' writing standards, grades 5 and 6 (W 5.6; W 6.6).