

How to use technology with *Project: Glogster*

What is Glogster?

Glogster is a great collaborative tool that you can use to create interactive online posters. It encourages student creativity and it is a more environmentally-friendly alternative to the typical “cardboard and glue” poster.

You can enhance your Glogster posters with text, images, graphics, videos and music. You can then post them online for everyone to see or simply keep them private.



How can you design a Glogster poster?

In “Glogster language”, a Glogster poster is called a Glog. Designing a Glog is really easy!

How to get started with Glogster

The first thing you need to do is register for an account. Go to www.glogster.com where you will be asked to fill in a form with your nickname (like a username) and password and agree to the terms of use.

When working with students, it is a good idea to create one account for yourself (so you can try things out) and another account for every class you teach. This way, all the students in each class will have their Glogs on the same site and this will make it easier for you to monitor their work.

You only need to register once. After that you will simply need to log on when you want to use Glogster.

How to edit the first template

To start designing your Glog, click on **Create New Glog**, choose the template you would like to use and start editing it. You can change the background colours (which in Glogster language are referred to as *The Wall*), the text you would like to have on your poster and the multimedia elements you would like to add to it. You can also rotate images, resize them and add decorative elements (such as stickers and animations).



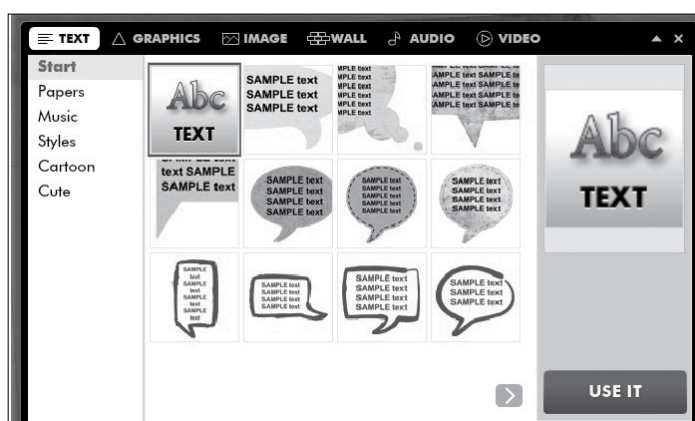
In order to edit the template, just click on the element you would like to change and a menu with all the options available will automatically pop up.



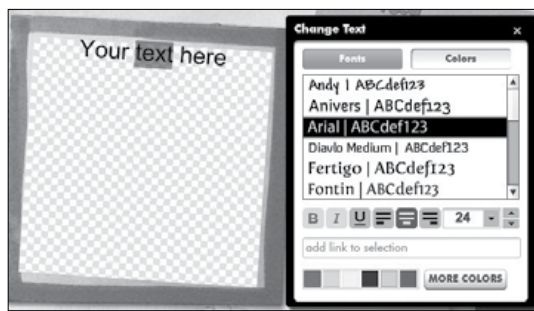
If you wish to undo any of the changes, click on the arrow in the toolbar. To discard a change, click on the rubbish bin icon. You can find out what each of the other icons is used for by rolling the mouse over it.

How to add text

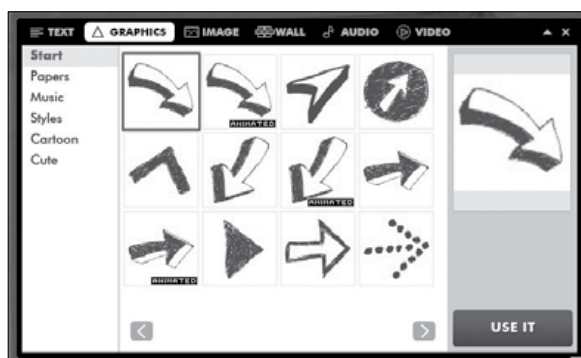
If you want to add text to a Glog, go to the **Text** menu on the Glogster toolbar. You can also double-click on the text which is already on the first Glogster template and highlight it to change its font, colour and size.



To make Glogs more appealing, you can also write your text in a bubble, in a sticker or as a title. To do this you just need to click on the **Text** menu and choose the option that suits you best.



Finally, you can add graphics and animated drawings which you can select from the **Graphics** menu on the main Glogster toolbar.



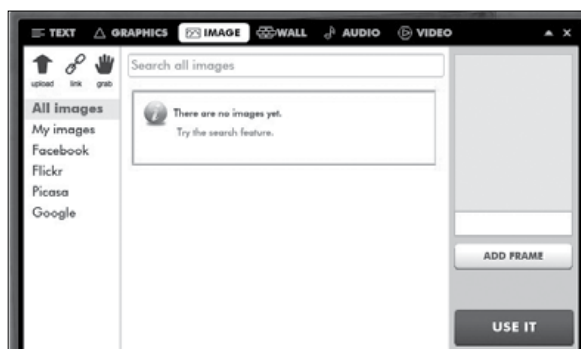
How to add multimedia

There are three possible options when adding images, sound and video to your Glog:
Upload, **Link** or **Grab**.

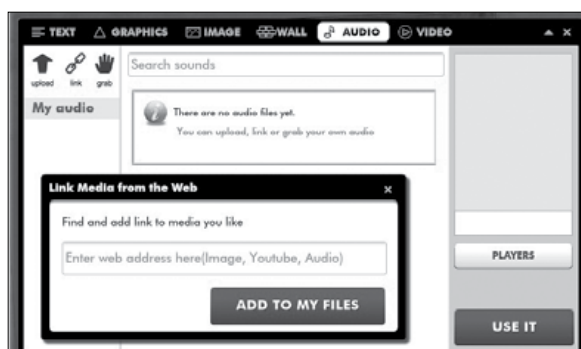
You can access them by clicking on the

Image / Audio / Video link on the main Glogster toolbar.

The option **Upload** enables you to choose files from your computer and drag them onto your Glog. When it comes to images, you can also upload photos from Google or from a Facebook, Flickr or Picasa account.



If you choose the second option **Link**, you can add links to images, videos or music directly from the Internet without having to upload them onto your computer first.



Finally, the **Grab** option enables you to take a photo or record some music or a video by using the webcam or the microphone on your computer (if you have one).



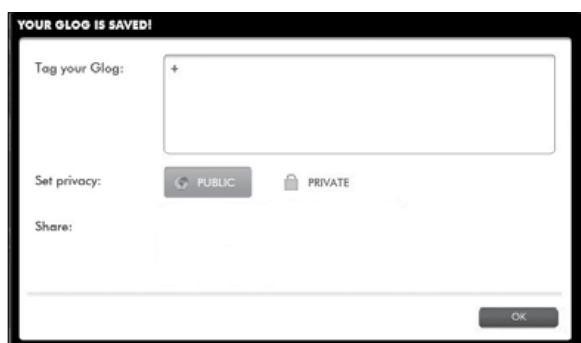
The last thing you can do with the images, videos and music on your Glog is frame them or add a player so the sound / video will start playing when you click on the **Play** button. You can access all the frames and players available from the **Image / Audio / Video** link on the main Glogster toolbar.

How to save and publish your Glog

When designing a Glog it is important to save your work periodically so you do not lose any of the changes made. You can also click on the **Preview** button to see what your Glog looks like at any time.



Once you have finished creating your Glog (or even if you would like to continue editing it at a later date), you need to click on **Save** to name your Glog and publish it. You will also have the option to keep it private so only those with the username and password can see it. This is probably the best option when your Glog is not completely finished.



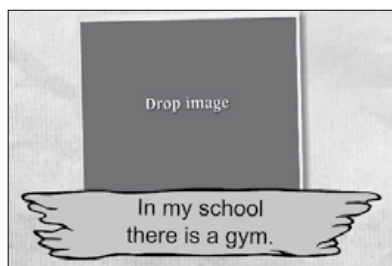
How can you use Glogster with your students?

Glogster is the perfect tool for the students to use to make the projects at the end of each unit.

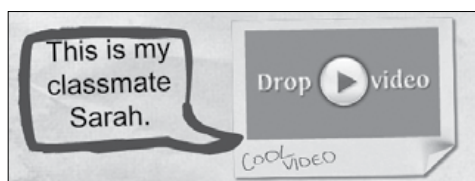
Sample project 1: unit 3

In unit 3 students could make a Glog to describe their school.

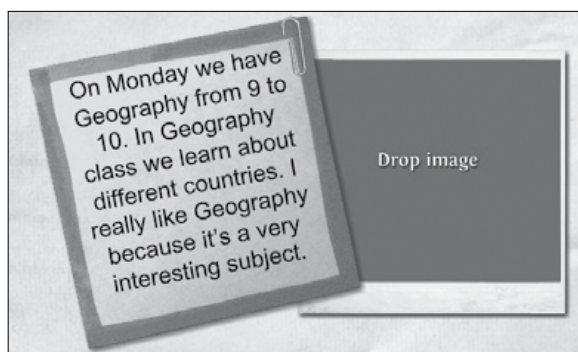
First of all, they could write sentences talking about its facilities. They can describe what there is and what there isn't in their school. To make their poster more visual, they could add a photo to illustrate each of the sentences. For example, if they write ***In my school there is a gym***, they could post a photo of the school gym above the sentence.



Students could then interview some of their teachers (in English, of course!) and post a short video of the interviews on the Glog. They could also include a short video of some of their classmates introducing themselves in English.



Another aspect that could be included on the poster is the subjects the students learn at school. On the Glog students could post their school timetable and talk about when they have each class, what they study in it and what their favourite subjects are. For example, they could write: ***On Monday we have Geography from 9 to 10. In Geography class we learn about different countries. I really like Geography because it's a very interesting subject.*** Next to this short paragraph they could add a photo of a map to illustrate what they usually study in Geography class.



The final step to the project could be for the students to present their poster to their classmates by preparing a short oral presentation.

Sample project 2: unit 4

In unit 4, students could design a Glog to talk about their free time.

First of all, they could write sentences describing what they usually do / don't do in their free time or at the weekend as opposed to what their day is like during the week. To make their Glog more appealing, they could add a photo to illustrate each of the sentences. For example, if they write ***In my free time I play the flute***, they could post a photo of themselves playing the flute next to the sentence.



They could also refer to their friends' or relatives' hobbies. If possible, they could interview some of them by asking them questions about their free-time activities. The interviews could then be posted on the Glog as a short video.