

**7 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT...  
WEB 2.0 TECHNOLOGIES:**

**Effective Applications for Research-Based Writing**

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**Educause's 7 things you should know about...series:**  
<http://www.educause.edu/7ThingsYouShouldKnowAboutSeries/7495>

**BLOGS**

Web Logs (Blogs) are online journals that often can also receive comments from readers. More advanced blog programs can construct entire websites.

**Blog Applications:**

- Edublogs (<http://www.edublogs.org>)
- Blogger (<http://www.blogger.com/start>)
- LiveJournal (<http://www.livejournal.com/>)

**Resources to Help You Understand Blogs:**

- **Instructional Blogging on Campus: Identifying Best Practices** ([http://www.campus-technology.com/news\\_article.asp?id=11311&typeid=155](http://www.campus-technology.com/news_article.asp?id=11311&typeid=155))
- **Educational Blogging** (<http://www.educause.edu/pub/er/erm04/erm0450.asp?bhcp=1>.)
- **Bloggng as a Course Management Tool** ([http://technologysource.org/article/bloggng\\_as\\_a\\_course\\_management\\_tool/](http://technologysource.org/article/bloggng_as_a_course_management_tool/))

**WIKIS**

Wikis are quickly and easily revised and updated websites that are collaboratively constructed by more than one person. Revisions are tracked like in document sharing applications, and they invite open discourse and collaboration.

**Wiki Applications:**

- Wetpaint (<http://www.wetpaint.com>)
- PB wiki (<http://pbwiki.com/>)
- Wikispaces (<http://www.wikispaces.com/>)

**Resources to Help You Understand Wikis:**

- Wikis in Plain English, YouTube: v=-dnL00TdmLY
- Wetpaint in Plain English, YouTube: v=F7BAU2XX5Ws
- Exploration Guide: Educational Uses of Blogs, Wikis, RSS Feeds, etc. (<http://www.tltgroup.org/blogs.htm>)
- Wild About Wikis (<http://www.techlearning.com/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=191801354>)

**DOCUMENT SHARING**

Document sharing applications provide an environment where writers can collaborate and comment on each other's documents easily. Instead of sending a file back and forth, the file is saved on a remote server, and everyone accesses it there. Writers can track the history of revisions made to the document.

**Document Sharing Applications:**

- Google Documents (<http://docs.google.com/>)
- Zoho Writer (<http://www.zohowriter.com/>)
- Think Free (<http://www.thinkfree.com/>)

**Resources to Help You Understand Document Sharing:**

- Google Docs in Plain English, YouTube: v=eRqUE6IHTEA
- Teaching Collaborative Revision with Google Docs: <http://www.google.com/educators/weeklyreader.html>
- Zoho Show and the Changing Face of Education: <http://blogs.zoho.com/show/zoho-show-and-the-changing-face-of-education/>

## PERSONAL PORTALS

Personal portals allow individuals to construct an internet browser homepage (default page) with tools and links that are relevant and regularly used. Most are private pages for the individual. Pageflakes has a "public" option that allows individuals to share their portal pages.

### Personal Portal Applications:

- Google Homepage (<http://www.google.com/ig>)
- MyYahoo (<http://my.yahoo.com/>)
- Pageflakes (<http://www.pageflakes.com/>)
- Netvibes (<http://www.netvibes.com/>)

### Resources to Help You Understand Personal Portals:

- iGoogle...Another Reason to Love Google (<http://education.zdnet.com/?p=1033>)
- Using Pageflakes as a Student Portal (<http://weblogg-ed.com/2006/using-pageflakes-as-student-portal/>)

## SOCIAL BOOKMARKING

Social bookmarking allows individuals to share their bookmarks (including annotations) and also allows users to access "their bookmarks" from any computer that is connected to the web.

### Social Bookmarking Applications:

- Del.icio.us (<http://del.icio.us/>)
- Diigo (<http://www.diigo.com/>) has a built in social element that makes sharing easier.
- Fleck (<http://www.fleck.com/>) allows users to annotate specific webpages.
- Digg (<http://www.digg.com/>) allows for more detailed annotation and has a ranking system.

### Resources to Help You Understand Social Bookmarking:

- Social Bookmarking in Plain English, YouTube: [v=x661V7GOcNU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x661V7GOcNU)
- Sites to See: Social Bookmarking ([http://www.education-world.com/a\\_tech/sites/sites080.shtml](http://www.education-world.com/a_tech/sites/sites080.shtml))
- Towards a Managed Social Bookmarking Environment in Higher Education (<http://blogs.open.ac.uk/Maths/ajh59/005107.html>)
- Criteria for Evaluating Social Bookmarking Tools (<http://www.iddblog.org/?p=5>)

## RSS FEEDS

Readers can subscribe to Really Simple Syndicated (RSS) feeds with an RSS aggregator (reading tool). RSS feeds give you updates on blogs and news that you read frequently.

### RSS Aggregators:

- Google Reader (<http://www.google.com/reader/>)
- Newsgator (<http://www.newsgator.com/>)

### Blog-o-Sphere Search Tools (look for blogs of interest to you):

- Technorati (<http://www.technorati.com/>)
- Blogarama (<http://www.blogarama.com/>)

### Resources to Help You Understand RSS Feeds:

- RSS in Plain English, YouTube: [v=0klgLSxGsU](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0klgLSxGsU)
- RSS: A Quick Start Guide for Educators (<http://weblogg-ed.com/wp-content/uploads/2006/05/RSSFAQ4.pdf>)

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Project management sites provide space for organizing research and tracking sources with built-in features that help with documentation and annotation.

### Project Management Applications:

- Zotero: (<http://www.zotero.org>)
- Basecamp: (<http://www.basecamphq.com>)
- Backpack: (<http://www.backpackit.com>)
- Foldera: (<http://www.foldera.com>)

### Resources to Help You Understand Project Management:

- Zotero Quick Start guide (<http://www.stanford.edu/group/cubberley/service/s/zotero>)
- "Mark of Zotero" in *Inside Higher Ed* (<http://insidehighered.com/views/2007/09/26/mclmee>)