A Menu of Technology Tools for Creation, Development & Planning of Curriculum Maps, Unit and Lesson Plans

The descriptions provided come from each applications' website

Google Apps for Education: SFUSD has adopted Google Apps for Education and all the collaborative tools offered - Google Docs, Drive, Calendar, email and more. For more information on accessing your account and learning about how to use the array of Google tools, go to the official **SFUSD Gone Google site**. Available to all K-12 teachers and students

Google tools and project based learning

Planning: Where do you start when deciding on a project your students will spend significant time on, have some say in, that will address a number of learning goals and be meaningful and relevant?   Start with what most people know Google for: Search. Whether you're exploring current events, looking back on history, or seeing what's popular around the globe, you'll be able to find it with Google.

Inquiry: Once you've decided what the students will be focusing on, they'll need more information on the topic. Google's general search is a great place to start, but there are a number of other more specific tools that can help them both become better searchers and narrow down their searches a bit.

o Google PowerSearch
o Search Lesson Plans
o Scholar
o Patent Search
o Create a custom search engine
o Explore search trends

o Image Search
o Video Search
o News Search
o Earth
o Books

Connecting and Collaborating: As a part of their work, students will likely need to connect with others – with collaborators in the classroom and with folks around the globe that can help them learn about what they need to know.

o Google+
o Gmail
o Groups

o Hangouts
o Drive
o Calendar

Student Voice: An integral part of PBL is students having a voice in their work. When you need to get feedback from your students, put Google Forms to work for you. You can pose specific questions and pool the answers. Alternatively, creating a Site for your class can allow for a collaborative online space. A discussion forum using Groups can keep everyone in the loop and give everyone a voice.

Sharing, Presenting, Feedback, and Assessment: PBL encourages sharing work and getting feedback that is more meaningful than just a grade. Students will be sharing their work with more than just the teacher or the rest of their class. They can build websites, create photos, videos, maps or multimedia presentations. With many of these tools, the 'showing' doesn't need to be static. The documents and products can continually evolve along with the project over time.

o [Google+](#) o [Gmail](#)
o [Sites](#) o [Google Cloud Print](#)
o [Blogger](#) o [Picasa](#)
o [Drawings](#) o [YouTube](#)
o [Drive](#) o [Panoramio](#)
o [Slides](#)

Slideshows, video and presentations

Animoto: This incredible tool allows you to create short video clips and vibrant slideshows that will wow your students. Add music, text and other extras for full-featured presentations. The Animoto Lite version is completely free, and teachers can apply for a **free Animoto Plus account**. For students grades 5-12

Comic Life: Presenting Comic Life 3, the app with everything you need to make a stunning comic from your own images. Packed with fonts, templates, panels, balloons, captions, and lettering art, Comic Life is a fun, powerful and easy-to-use app with endless possibilities. You can get a free 30-day trial. Educator pricing can be found through **plasq education store**. For students grades 3-12

iMovie: A video editing software application sold by Apple Inc. for the Mac and iOS (iPhone, iPad, iPad Mini and iPod Touch). It is included in the iLife suite that comes installed on Apple computers. For students grades 5-12

Movie Maker: A video editing software by Microsoft. It is a part of Windows Essentials software suite available for PCs, and offers the ability to create and edit videos as well as to publish them on OneDrive, Facebook, Vimeo, YouTube, and Flickr. For students grades 5-12

Voice Thread: A totally web-based application that allows you to place collections of media like images, videos, documents, and presentations at the center of an asynchronous conversation. It allows for collaborating, sharing and commenting. You can purchase a Single Educator license ($15/month or $79/year for 50 student accounts; may add more for $2/student) or a School License starting at $450/year basic for 350 users). For students grades K-12

iPhoto: A digital photograph manipulation software application developed by Apple Inc. It was included with every Macintosh personal computer from 2002 to 2015, when it was replaced with Apple's Photos application. It is included in the iLife suite that comes installed on Apple computers. For students grades 6-12

PowerPoint: A complete presentation graphics package. It gives you everything you need to produce a professional-looking presentation. It offers word processing, outlining, drawing, graphing, and presentation management tools- all designed to be easy to use and learn. PowerPoint is provided as part of the Microsoft Office suite loaded on all district computers. It now has an online version to allow for collaboration – not provided by SFUSD. For students grades 2-12

Google Slides: You can create, edit and collaborate on presentations. You can edit PowerPoint slides using Google Slides, but be aware that formatting may change. This app is provided as part of the Google Apps for Education Suite available to all SFUSD teachers and students. For students grades 2-12

Story Creation

Toontastic: A creative learning tool that allows students to draw, animate and create their own cartoons. Students can learn about retelling stories, summarizing, story structure, sequencing, conflict resolution and theme as they use the application. The application is available for free on iPhone and iPad. For students grades K-5

myStoryMaker: Produced by the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, this site allows students to create their own stories. You have the power to decide -- choosing characters, taking them on adventures and creating your very own story along the way. This tool lets you control characters and objects -- and it creates sentences for you! Or, you can enter your own words. Once you are done with your story, you can print it out. For students grades K-5

Little Bird Tales: Students can create their own digital storybook using their own art, voice and ideas. They can draw and record their voices online or with an iPad. Little Bird Tales is also great for creating presentations. Teachers can create their own interactive lessons as well. The cost is $24.99 for a Teacher Account + 20 students; additional students can be added at $1.25/student. For students grades K-6

Storybird: Billed as a new literacy tool for the new generation, this collaborative storytelling site is definitely something your students will love. Work together to create artful stories to share, print and read. Your students can even play their stories like games, or send their works of art to friends and family, as books or greeting cards. Prices range from $2.99 for a printable PDF of a story to $29.99 for a published hardcover book. Prices are much less if you accumulate credit. Fundraisers can help with cost. For students grades K-12

StoryboardThat: At the heart of StoryboardThat is an incredibly powerful, yet easy to use storyboard creator. It includes and extensive image library, flexible layouts, and lots of characters to choose from in their extensive library. Educational accounts are $9.95 per month and include unlimited storyboards per week, more storyboard cells, unlimited users, and no watermarks on exports. It also includes a teacher view, admin view, and reporting features. For students grades 5 -12

TikaTok: Allows students to write and illustrate e-books. Provides lesson and story ideas for grades K-8. Snapshots/photos/student drawings can be inserted into the story. Cross-curricular resources are available for teachers to download/print. Templates, story starters and prompts are available for students. The cost of eBook publishing is $2.99 per book. For students grades K-6

inklewriter: a simple, easy-to-use app for writing simple interactive stories. It works in a web browser so there's no setup and no installation. Just click on the link and start writing. Students will be able to save their work and test it without fuss. Grades 6 - 12 (could be used in lower grades with lots of modeling and guidance)

Pixton: A site for creating stories as comic strips. Allows extensive stories with multiple rows of panels. An account is needed to use the site. You can create customized characters that you can use later whenever you want them in your stories. You can use this site for free, but they have a teacher service that costs to subscribe to; the cost is $8.99/month for an individual teacher or $1.75/month/student if purchased by a school. For students grades 2 -12

Mind mapping/Graphic Organizers
Mind42: Kids are never too young for mind maps, at least when mind maps can include photos and other images! Mind42 is a great, web-based mind-mapping tool that gets even the K-5 set engaged in idea creation. Best of all, you can open up your maps to group editing and even share your maps with parents, tutors and other classes. Free. For students grades K-12 (K-2 students will need teacher assistance)

Popplet: Popplet is an online tool that allows you to create mind mapping and brainstorming diagrams. You may create a maximum of 5 Popplets for free. Premium accounts are available. For students grades 1-12

Bubbl.us: A simple and free web application that lets you brainstorm online. You can create colorful mind maps online, share and work with friends, embed your mind map in your blog or website, email and print your mind map, save your mind map as an image. If you would like to produce multiple mind maps, there are premium plans offered. For students grades 8-12

Mindomo: An online tool for collaborative mind mapping, concept mapping and outlining. Teachers can create mind map assignments, set up groups for students, and more. Mind maps created with Mindomo can be turned into a presentation or a real-time editable outline. Smart mind maps – partially filled in templates – make mind mapping accessible for beginners. Video and audio files, including those that are recorded by students or their teacher, can be uploaded into a mind map project. The basic Mindomo is available as a free online solution, though there are costs to add premium features. It is also available as a free mobile native app for iPad and Android. For students grades 6-12

Slatebox: A collaborative mind mapping and concept drawing application for all ages. It allows users to create as many nodes and maps as possible. You can sign up and create logins for your whole classroom. Try it free for 30 days and then $8/month for all your students. For students grades K-12 (K-1 will need guidance)

Wikis/Blogs

Wikispaces Classroom: Young children have brilliant minds, and what better way to light the creative spark than to get your class involved in social storytelling? Wikispaces helps you create an online home for your class's writings, to share with parents and other students. Teachers are provided with 1 wiki free with Wikispaces Classroom. For students grades K-12

Kidblog: A resource for student blogging. It is designed for elementary and middle school teachers who want to provide each student with their own, unique blog. Students publish posts and participate in academic discussions within a secure classroom blogging community.   Free 30-day trial. $36/teacher/year. For students grades K-8

eAudiobooks & Podcasting
Audible.com: Audible is a subsidiary of Amazon and the world's largest producer of digital Audiobooks. Their selection includes over 200,000 best-selling digital Audiobooks, radio and TV programs, and audio subscriptions to popular magazines and newspapers. You can purchase Audible Audiobooks without a membership to their service or join and receive benefits that include 30% off purchases. To learn more about Audible, visit their About Us page. To browse their full selection of Audible content, click here. For use with/by students grades K-12

San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) eAudiobooks: Access **hoopla**, **Axis 360**, and **OverDrive eAudiobooks** through the SFPL. Free borrowing. For use with/by students grades K-12

TeachingBooks.net: A licensed online database, provided by SFUSD for SFUSD teachers and students, that can be used by teachers, students, librarians and families to explore children's books and young adult literature and their authors. For use with/by students grades K-12

GarageBand: A software application for OS X and iOS that allows users to create music or podcasts. **GarageBand** is developed and sold by Apple Inc. for OS X. **GarageBand** was formerly part of the iLife software suite provided free with the Apple OS. For students grades K-12 (K-3 students will need assistance)

Audacity: A free, easy-to-use, multi-track audio editor and recorder for Windows, Mac OS X, GNU/Linux and other operating systems. The interface is translated into many languages. You can also use it to record live audio. Free download. For students grades K-12 (K-3 students will need assistance)

Complementary Tools for Projects and Presentations
Google Earth: Google Earth is a free application that can give students the opportunity to explore, discover and create using maps, photos and information about locations across the land, under the sea, the Moon, Mars, and more! Check out the Brightpips site to find out some things students can do with Google Earth. Free download. For students grades 3-12

Flipsnack: an application used to convert PDF files into a flipping book that is easy to use. Simply upload a PDF file, customize the book, and share. The online flipbooks are designed to resemble regular print books. You can choose a classic, hardcover, coil, or interactive flip format for your book, as well as a book size. Color options for the cover and background are also offered. Finished flipbooks can be published privately or publicly and edited at any time. The final flipbook is attractive and professional looking. Books can be shared on Facebook and Twitter or emailed and embedded with a watermark. A free introductory class license is available that allows the creation of 10 student accounts. It has most of the same features as their premium plans which do have an associated cost depending on number of student accounts. For students grades K-12 (K-4 students will need assistance)