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Starter Sheet: Voicethread

<http://ed.voicethread.com/> or <http://www.voicethread.com/>

Request free (limited) educator account: <http://ed.voicethread.com/pricing/k12/educator/>

See TF Edge review at: <http://www.teachersfirst.com/single.cfm?id=8315>

A sample from Teachersfirst: <http://voicethread.com/share/1031647/>

Important distinction: free vs paid services. See a comparison chart (and Getting Started in the Classroom Help Manual) here: <http://ed.voicethread.com/pricing/k12/>. Limitations of free ed.voicethread membership: only 50 voicethreads per teacher, so you cannot keep finished products online forever, and they cannot be downloaded for offline use from the FREE membership.

A Voicethread overview of the **ed** area within Voicethread:

<http://ed.voicethread.com/share/36941/>

Terms to know:

Thread: a slideshow of images (or a single image) with narration. The projects you make using this tool are called “threads”

Comment: record narration or add text comments on your own images (or responses to other’s comments)

Publishing options: where you set choices such as keeping a Voicethread private, allowing comments, or not allowing comments. You can also decide to **moderate** comments and whether or not you want the thread to show when others “browse.” These options come up when you click “Share” after creating a Voicethread. You can always change them, too.

Thread options: settings for the speed and other aspects of your thread

Identities : a way to have multiple users SHARE a single account such as the free educator account. See an overview here: <http://ed.voicethread.com/share/240771/>

Try this first:

- Browse recent Voicethreads. There are many student-made projects for inspiration.
- Browse the library of educator uses of Voicethread: <http://ed.voicethread.com/library/> and many projects by clicking BROWSE at the top.
- Once you join, watch 1 Minute Voicethread (<http://ed.voicethread.com/share/8381/>) and other quick explanations of tools
- Try uploading an image and making a quick voicethread---then click “copy link and share” (top right) to set publishing options, etc.



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<http://www.teachersfirst.com/schoolwidelit.cfm>

Schoolwide literacy project ideas:

Examples:

<http://ed.voicethread.com/library/41/> gr 1 book talks
<http://ed.voicethread.com/library/40/> Kdg teacher-made book sharing
<http://ed.voicethread.com/library/20/> gr 4 poetry/oral expression
<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b428910.i2311940> gr 4 poetry
<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b129422.i677961> Kdg Mothers Day
<http://ed.voicethread.com/#q.b4372.i34450> Literature Study/ Reading Strategies on *The Sign of the Beaver*

(Gr 2) *(whole class account or individual student accounts within free limits). From PowerPoint templates** if you wish. Whole class, then small group:*

Whole class presentation on animals, animal babies, homes or other topic-- add recordings of students reading aloud and with expression, Student drawn slides with poems or stories read aloud/recorded. Invite parents to comment. Team reading of dialog passages to accompany pictures Ex. Two frogs talking about their habitat (expression!). Same options as Bookemon but with audio also added.

(Gr 3) Book talks on independent reading selections (digital picture or book)—done by teacher, then by students. St. can comment after reading the same book! Life cycle pictures and stories explained orally (create in PowerPoint** and upload to add narration). Narrated personal stories based on digital pictures or student drawings.

(Gr 4) Student-created books/Voicethreads for “little buddies” in lower grade (older buddies know the tool and help this year’s kids learn it). Individual Voicethreads of stories, poetry, book reports, with oral reading for expression. Oral commenting back to classmates with appropriate etiquette and clear speech. Listening and responding to comments from others.

(Gr 5) Narrated explanations of the science concept illustrated in digital pictures uploaded from class science experiments. Student-created digital drawings of cells, plant parts, etc., narrated and explained: A Guided Tour of A Cell (Including basic bibliography of sources). An Audio Field Guide to the Plants and Trees in your schoolyard (digital pictures). Listening to comments from others.

**** For more project ideas: See “Possible Uses” in the full TeachersFirst Review**

