



## Create a Blog

**E**ncourage students to pick an area of personal interest, such as soccer, movies, ballet, or astronomy. Then they set up their own blog, and write at least one post each week.

### Materials

- ✿ Computer with Internet access

### Procedure

1. Assist students with selecting a subject that will remain interesting over time. Compare it to writing a research paper or keeping a journal.
2. Have students go online and find a free software tool for creating blogs. They name their blogs and create a blog address or URL. Encourage students to make the title catchy.
3. Have students choose a template, a tool that creates the page where they write and categorizes content.
4. Have students write their first blog posting. As students gain experience and refine their topics, they may add other features. (See *Parts of a Blog* on page 17.) Encourage students to post photographs to enhance and personalize their blogs.
5. Assign students to read other classmate's blogs and post comments. Remind them to follow blog etiquette. (See *Wiki and Blog Etiquette* on page 15.) If your school doesn't already have an official policy, be sure to let students know an important rule: Keep personal information private. Do not post it on an Internet site.

### Types of Blogs

- \* **Vlogs**  
a video blog made of short video clips
- \* **Photoblogs**  
content consists mainly of photographs rather than text
- \* **Audio blogs**  
a blog of audio files instead of text