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1      “Featured” refers to an application with detailed instructions for use; other sites are included.

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# Web 2.0 Tools in the Classroom

Web 2.0 tools allow for greater interaction and sharing among users. Users contribute content, reviews, comments and edits; therefore, collaborative tools are important. Users re-use, re-mix, personalise and customise data in a way to improve a product or make it their own.

## How is the Web 2.0 different from the Web 1.0?

According to Copacetic's blog, 29 May, 2006, (<http://joedrumgoole.com/blog/2006/05/29/web-20-vs-web-10/>)

Web 1.0 is about...	Web 2.0 is about...
Reading	Writing
Companies	Communities
Client-server	Peer-to-peer
HTML	XML
Portals	RSS
Taxonomy	Tags
Wires	Wireless
Owning	Sharing
Dial-ups	Broadband
Netscape	Google
Hardware costs	Broadband costs

The tools mentioned in this book do not comprise a conclusive list; instead, they are a compilation of tools that teachers and students have found to be very useful. The more the tools are used, the more tools are discovered.

For the purpose of this book, the Web 2.0 tools are divided into the two groups based on their use in the classroom: universal and subject-specific integration tools. Many of the Web 2.0 tools are universal to all subjects, classes, teachers and students, meaning they are generic and have no alliance to a particular subject. Other tools enhance certain subjects and engage students in these subjects.

The universal tools can be categorised into the following groups:

- Collaborative Tools
- Computer Utilities
- Content Sharing
- Conversations
- Social Bookmarks
- Reference – Resources

The subject-specific integration tools can be categorised into the following groups:

- General Curricula
- Pre-P – Year Two
- Fine Arts
- English
- Language Development (Languages other than English)
- Mathematics
- Science
- Social Studies

The ultimate goal, however, is to integrate and use these tools in a transparent manner to engage students, increase learning and inspire teachers.

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## File Resizers

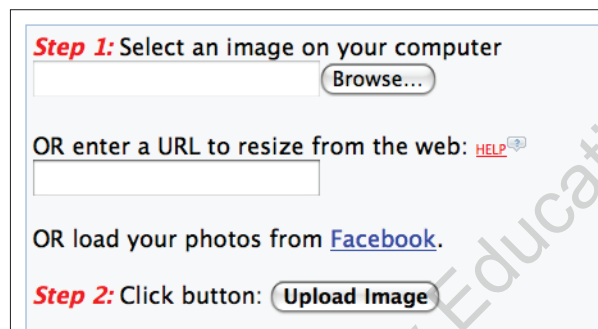
With the current megapixel cameras, many images are too large to efficiently upload to sharing websites, such as Flickr, or add to a web page or wiki. Resizing the images becomes necessary.

- **Resizr** (featured)  
(<http://www.resizr.com/>)

Resize pictures retaining high quality; crop images; rotate 90, 180, 270 degrees; specify the size you want.



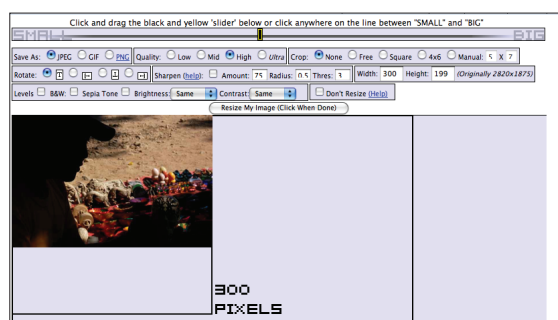
On the Resizr home page, select the image by browsing to it on your computer, enter a URL, or load it from a Facebook or Flickr page.



Once the image is uploaded, many editing options appear on the website. To resize the image, click and drag the slider. Markings are displayed for 150, 300 pixels, 500 and 800 pixels. Selections for file type (JPEG, GIF or PNG), quality (low, medium, high, ultra), as well as options for cropping, rotation and sharpening. Manual settings for size are available. The image can be made black and white or sepia and the brightness and contrast can be adjusted.

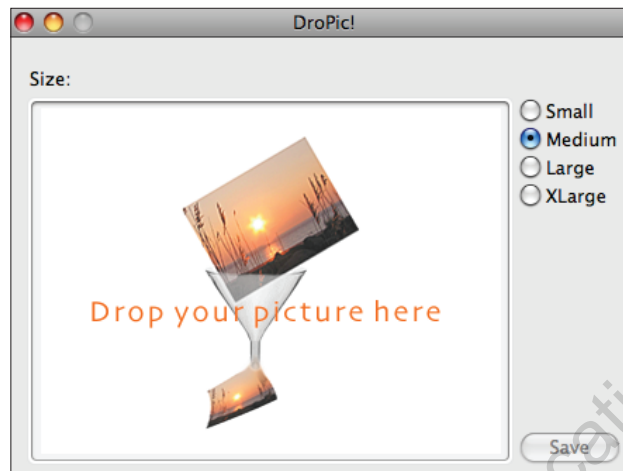
After the image is resized, the image can be

- ❖ viewed,
- ❖ saved by right-clicking and selecting “Save Target As”,
- ❖ sent to Facebook,
- ❖ sent to a phone via a text message,
- ❖ get HTML link from the Resize website, or emailed.



- **DroPic**  
(<http://www.kreynet.de/dropic/>)

DroPic is a simple photo resizing application for the Macintosh. Open the program and see this screen:



- **Resize!**  
(<http://kstudio.net/re.php>)

Resize! is a download application for Macintosh and Windows that will resize a folder of images in one step.

- **VSO Image Resizer**  
([http://www.vso-software.fr/products/image\\_resizer/](http://www.vso-software.fr/products/image_resizer/))

VSO Image is a Windows only download from Google. This application performs multiple tasks such as:

- ❖ resize images quickly for upload,
- ❖ change the format of the image,
- ❖ batch image resize,
- ❖ change file names using a template, and
- ❖ add a watermark.



## Screen Capture Utilities

The ability to capture and share images, screen movements, mouse clicks and audio is a very important teaching tool. Screen images embellish instruction sheets, making them easier to understand. The ability to capture mouse clicks on a screen in a video provides additional support in the re-teach effort.

- **Jing** (featured)  
(<http://www.techsmith.com/jing.html>)

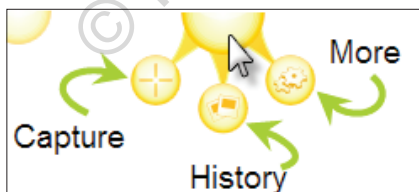
A free screen capture application (download) for Macintosh and Windows. Capture the screen or a region, record video and share online. Text, arrows, highlights and shapes can be added to images. The recorded videos are stored and shared online at **Screen Cast** (<http://www.screencast.com/>). Embed the video on a wiki or a web page. Comments can be made on projects and homework. Jing records screen actions to a 5-minute (or less) video. Share your projects:



- ❖ on Screencast.com (sign up for a free account to store your images and video),
- ❖ as a file,
- ❖ copy to the clipboard,
- ❖ FTP to a web server, or
- ❖ Upload to Flickr.

Getting started with Jing:

- ❖ watch a tutorial video  
(<http://www.techsmith.com/tutorial-jing.html>),
- ❖ download and install Jing from (<http://www.techsmith.com/download/jing/default.asp>).
- ❖ A “sun” will appear at the top of your screen. Mouse over to see the “three rays”.



The crosshairs ray is Capture. The History ray contains copies of your captures. The More ray contains settings such as hot keys or hide the “sun”.



- ❖ Click the **Capture** ray to begin the screen capture.
- ❖ Select an area of the screen to capture as an image or video. If you have a microphone, you can narrate the video screen movements.
- ❖ Save the captured image to the computer or clipboard. The captured video can be saved on Screencast.com, which returns a shareable link.



- **Cam Studio**  
(<http://www.camstudio.org/>)

Record your presentations or capture the screen.

View a Cam Studio Tutorial on YouTube: (<http://youtube.com/watch?v=Kiug3H3c4gk>)

- ❖ Click the  to pause or the X button to stop recording.
- ❖ Click the record button (red circle) to start recording.
- ❖ Drag the black frame so it surrounds the area of the screen to capture.
- ❖ If you are recording audio, verify the microphone level is OK by watching the  icon.

- **IShowU**  
(<http://www.shinywhitebox.com/home/home.html>)

IShowU is designed to record anything on your screen, instantly – both audio, and video! Great for capturing screen and voice for short how-to videos.

- **Macintosh Built-in Image Capture Utility**

Shift-Command-3 – Full screen capture, saves as a picture on the desktop.

Shift-Command-4 – Capture selected portion of screen, saves as a picture on the desktop.

Shift-Control-Command 4 – Capture selection portion of screen to clipboard; must hold keys down until selection is completed.

- **Print Screen**  
(<http://www.gadwin.com/printscreens/>)

Free download for Windows computer. Choose from several hot key combinations and select the Destination tab to capture to the clipboard, save to a specific location, email or print.