

Flickr (<http://flickr.com>) is a website that allows you store, sort, search, and share your photos online. The free version of Flickr allows you to upload up to 20MB of photos each month (a paid version with a 2GB limit is available for \$24.95/year). In addition to being a place to host your images, Flickr is also a community site. All images uploaded to Flickr that have not been marked as private can be searched using the tags associated with them. You can also search for and join groups to view photos from other users that match your interests. Flickr has a section for photos that have been shared with a Creative Commons license. This is a type of license that allows teachers to use images found on Flickr in classroom projects as long as they cite the person who took the picture (the conditions of use will vary depending on the type of Creative Commons license).

Setting Up An Account



To set up a new free Flickr account:

1. Go to <http://www.flickr.com> and click on the Sign Up! button.
2. Flickr is owned by Yahoo! If you already have a Yahoo! account, enter your Yahoo! ID and your password and click on Sign In. If you do not have a Yahoo! account, click on Sign Up.
3. Fill in the information needed to get a Yahoo! ID in the next page (you must complete all items marked with an asterisk).
4. Select a Flickr screen name by entering it in the Yahoo! ID text field. When you enter your ID, a Check Availability button will be displayed. Click on this button to verify that the ID you want to use is available.
5. You must also enter the letters and numbers displayed as an image at the bottom of the page. This is a security feature.
6. Click on I Agree.
7. A confirmation email will be sent to the alternate email address you provided. You must click on a link in this email to fully activate your account.
8. Click on Continue to Yahoo! Flickr.
9. Click on Sign In to get started using Flickr with your new screen name.

Uploading Images

To upload images to Flickr:

1. Click on the triangle next to You on the navigation bar and select Upload Photos.
2. Click on a Choose File button and find the image on your hard drive you want to upload.
3. Add any tags (keywords) you want to add to the images you want to upload.
4. Click on one of the radio buttons to choose a privacy setting (Private or Public). If you choose Private, you can select to make it visible to either only Family or Friends.
5. Click on Upload.
6. On the next screen, enter a title and a description.
7. Click on Save.

You can also upload photos to Flickr using an uploader program. The uploaders are available for Windows, Mac, and Linux. If you use iPhoto to manage your photos on the Mac, there is also a plugin for iPhoto that allows you to upload photos to Flickr by selecting File > Export in iPhoto. All of these tools are available by clicking on the Tools link (to the right of Help) at the bottom of any Flickr page.

Working With Your Photos

When you're finished uploading your photos, click on You in the navigation bar at the top of the page. This will display thumbnails of all the images in your account. Below each thumbnail is an area where you can click to add a brief description. Each thumbnail will also include some information below it, such as its privacy setting and the date it was uploaded.



Click on the Delete link below any photos you no longer want in your collection, or on the Change link next to the privacy setting if you want to change who can view a photo. Click on the thumbnail itself to open the photo.

When you open a photo, you will be able to perform several actions using the buttons in the toolbar above it:

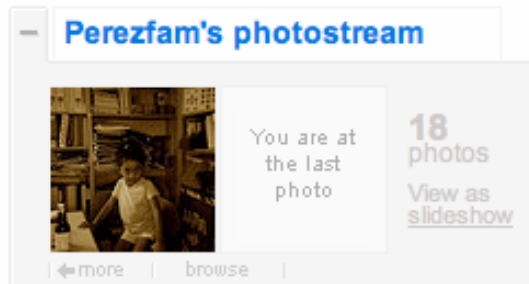
- **Add Note:** Adds a hot spot to a photo. When the viewer hovers over the hot spot with their mouse, a text box will pop up. Notes can include links to web pages.
- **Send to Group:** Adds the photo to a group pool. Group members can view the photo even if it is private.
- **Add to Set:** Adds the photo to a set of similar photos. When you click on the button, you will see a list of sets you can add the photo to by clicking on their names. If you want to create a new set, click on Create a new set and enter a title and description then click on Save. You can remove a photo from a set by clicking on the X next to the set's name when you click on the Add to Set button.
- **Blog This:** Allows you to include the photo in a blog post.
- **All Sizes:** Shows the different sizes of the photo available for download. You will also see text boxes with the HTML code and im-



age URL you can copy and paste to add the photo to a web page or blog.

- Rotate: Opens up a popup window where you can rotate the photo in either direction. 
- Delete (X): Removes the photo from your collection. 

On the right side, you will see a photostream for your entire collection as well as for each set the photo belongs to. You can flip through the images in a photostream by using the arrows below the thumbnails, or you can click on the View as slideshow link to view the photos as a slideshow.



Below your photostreams you will see the meta-data associated with each photo:

- Tags: Lists the tags (keywords) associated with a photo. Click on Add a tag to add more tags, or on the X next to a tag name to remove that tag from the photo.
- Additional Information: Copyright information, privacy settings and other information about the photo.

Other people can view your photos by visiting your Flickr web page. The URL for that page is <http://flickr.com/photos/yourusername>. Each page will have a View as slideshow link that can be used to view the photos on that page as a slideshow.

The slideshow will play automatically. Click on the pause button and use the arrows if you want to flip through the images at your own pace. The slideshow also has a slider at the top to control the rate at which photos are displayed. When you hover over a photo, a Findr bar will be displayed at the bottom. Click on any photo in the Findr bar to go directly to that photo in the slideshow.

The Organizer

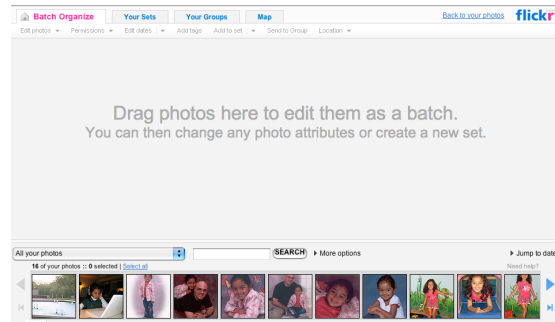
Flickr has a batch organizer that can be used to work on more than one photo at a time. To open the Organizer, click on Organize in the navigation bar.

To work with multiple photos in the Organizer,:

1. Drag photos from the Findr (photo browser) at the bottom to the canvas.
2. Use the pulldown menus at the top of the canvas to perform the same actions on every

photo on the canvas (add tags, add to set, permissions, etc.).

3. To change the photos displayed in the Findr, use the pulldown menu above it. You can then view only non-tagged photos, the photos uploaded on a certain date, a specific set, etc.



Sets

Sets allow you to group similar photos. The Organizer makes it easy to work with sets. To add a set:

1. Click on the create a new set link at the top of the canvas.
2. Drag images from the Findr to the canvas to add them to the set.
3. Drag a photo from the set to the drop zone above the title field. That photo will represent the set on any page where it is listed.
4. Add a title and description.
5. Drag and drop to change the order of photos in the set, or use the arrange drop down menu to sort the photos in different ways.
6. Use the Batch Edit drop down menu to perform the same actions on every photo in the set.
7. When you're finished working with the set, click on Save.

When you return to the Your Sets page, you can drag and drop the sets in the canvas to change their order.

Groups

Groups allow you to share photos with other users on Flickr. When you add a photo to a group, it becomes part of the group pool. Any group member can add comments, tags, and notes to any photo in the pool, regardless of the privacy settings you assigned to the photo. Your photo will retain the privacy settings for people who are not members of the group.

There are two ways to add a photo to a group:

- Use the Send to Group button at the top of the photo's page.
- Use the Organizer. Click on the Your Groups tab at the top, then drag images from the Findr to the group name. You will be asked to confirm



that you really want to add the photo to the group pool.

To view all the groups you belong to, click on the Groups link in the navigation bar. To the right, you will see a Create your own group link you can use to start your own group.

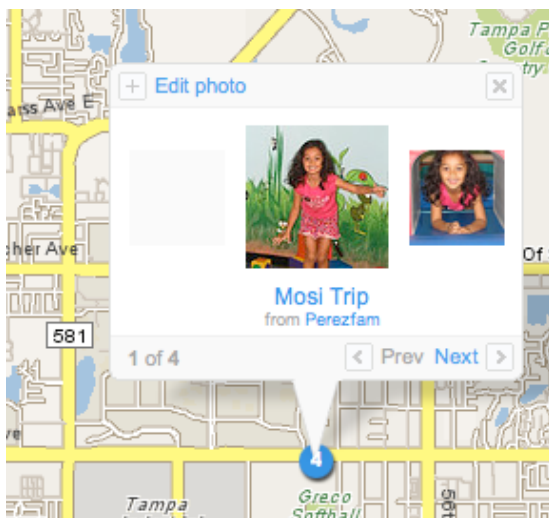
There are three types of groups in Flickr: public, public (invitation only), and private. Private groups are useful for classroom projects, or for sharing photos with friends and family members. They are hidden from group searches.

Maps

Flickr supports “geotagging”, or adding location information to photos. Geotagged photos can be displayed on a map of the world so that others can see where you took them.

The easiest way to geotag photos is by using the Organizer:

1. Click on the Organize link in the navigation bar to open the Organizer.
2. Click on the Map tab.
3. Use the controls on the right to change the zoom level and navigate around the map until you find the location you want. You can also switch to a satellite view.
4. Drag a photo from the Findr to a location on the map. This will add a place marker. To add more photos to the same location, click on the place marker to open it, then drag in photos from the Findr to the pop up window. You can use the arrows on the lower right of this window to flip through the photos saved at that location.



To find the exact location used for the photo (latitude and longitude), click on a place marker to open it, then click on the Edit photo link. If you click on the Location link, you can see the exact latitude and longitude as well as change who can see where the photo was taken.

You can view your map at any time by clicking on the triangle next to You in the navigation bar and selecting Your Map.

Exploring Flickr

The Explore drop down menu in the navigation bar provides several ways to explore the public photos in the entire Flickr collection:

- Explore Page shows the most interesting photos from Flickr. The photo shown on this page will change each time you visit the page. You can select a month from the pull down menu to see interesting photos by month in a calendar view.
- Last 7 Days Interesting will display a list of interesting photos from the last week.
- Calendar will display a calendar view of the current month, with an interesting photo for each day.
- A Year Ago Today will display interesting photos from a year ago in calendar view.
- Photos on a map displays a world map with geotagged photos from other Flickr users.
- Popular Tags displays a tag cloud. You can click on any word to display photos tagged with that word.

Creative Commons

Creative Commons is a way of licensing photos that allows the person who took the photo to share it with others while maintaining some rights. Most photos on Flickr will have “all rights reserved” below them. This means that you cannot use the photo without contacting the person who took it first.

With Creative Commons, the owner of the photo allows you to use the photo as long as you follow the terms of the license. You do not have to contact them first. Sometimes you can use the photo as long as you cite the user who uploaded it, or you may only use it in non-commercial projects. When you select Creative Commons from the Explore pull down menu you will see a list of photos arranged by license type.

BY: Attribution License



On the right side, you will see a list that briefly explains what each license type means. Click on the See More link to search all of the photos that have been saved with a particular license type.

RSS

Flickr automatically creates an RSS feed for the photos in each account. This feed can be accessed by clicking on the orange RSS icon at the bottom of the Your photos page. Safari and Internet Explorer 7 users can view the feed in their web browser because both of these browsers have a built-in RSS reader. Firefox or Internet Explorer 6 users have to copy the feed address and open it with a separate RSS reader or with a website that can display RSS feeds.



To copy the RSS feed address, right-click on the RSS icon or on the Feed link next to it and select Copy Link or Copy Link Location (this will vary depending on the browser you're using).

Adding to a Blog

You can post any public photo on Flickr to a blog. Before you can post a photo to a blog, you must set up blogging support for your account:

1. Click on the triangle next to the You link in the navigation bar and select Your account.
2. Find the Blogging section and click on Your blogs.
3. Click on the Set up your blog link.
4. Select a blog type from the pull down menu and click on Next.
5. Enter your user name and password for the blog you selected in step 4 and click on Next.
6. If you have more than one blog under the same account you will be asked to select the blog you want to set up using a pulldown menu. Once you've made your selection, click on Next.
7. Click on All Done when you arrive at the Confirm your details screen.

To post Flickr photos to your blog:

1. Click on the Blog This button on the toolbar that appears above the photo when you open its page.
2. Select the blog you want to post to by clicking on its name.
3. Enter a title for your blog post and any text you want to include with your photo.
4. Click on Post Entry.



Flickr Tools

- **Flickr's Badge Maker**
(http://flickr.com/badge_new.gne)
Allows you to create either an HTML or Flash badge for your web site.
- **fd's Flickr Toys**
(<http://bighugelabs.com/flickr/>)
This site has a great collection of different tools you can use with your Flickr account. You can create a motivational poster, a magazine cover, and more.
- **Preloadr**
(<http://preloadr.com/>)
An image editing tool for your Flickr images.

Preloadr allows you to adjust the brightness, color balance, sharpness, and more. It can also be used to crop your images. Preloadr uses your Flickr account. You do not need to register for a separate account.

Educational Uses of Flickr

Some ideas for using Flickr in the classroom:

- Upload Powerpoint/Keynote presentations. Save the slides as images and upload them to Flickr. You can create a slideshow of your students' work for parents who can't attend parent's night or an open house.
- Web design, photography or artwork critique. Provide feedback on your students' work by using the Add Note feature. The photos must be part of a group pool.
- Single image writing prompt. Show your students a random photo from Flickr and have them write about it for a specified period of time. You can also have your students build a story together by continuing the story using the comments feature.
- Illustrated poetry. Take a poem from a student and link the words in the poem to photo pages in Flickr.
- Geography and social studies lesson. Save images from Google Earth or Google Maps and upload them to Flickr. Using the Add Note feature, have students add information to the map, such as where a key event took place, etc.
- Storyboarding for video projects. Students upload photos representing the shot sequence for a video project. They can use the Organizer to rearrange the shot sequence.
- Digital story telling. Create an assignment where students have to tell a story using just images.
- Student autobiography. Have students find the community where they grew up on Google Earth, save the image, then upload it to Flickr. In Flickr, they will use the Add Note feature to add memories to their map (visit <http://www.flickr.com/photos/tags/memorymap/> for examples). This activity can be used as a precursor to a writing assignment, or as a way to share the writing assignment with the rest of the class.
- Virtual field trips. Use Flickr to find images of a city or historical site you want to visit with your students. Create a set with the images and view them as a slideshow with your students.
- Build flash cards. Upload images (or save slides as images in Powerpoint or Keynote) and have the answer appear when the student hovers over the image in Flickr.