

Google Tools are great, but Google has a history of taking away tools not used to support their existence. Good example is iGoogle going away in the near future.

20 Google Tools for Today's Classrooms

By Laura Turner

Google continues to provide a wealth of useful easy-to-use tools that can be used well in the classroom. Some of these are newer and some have been around for a while. All of these tools, as well as additional tools can be found at [Google Options](#).

1. Google Sky - <http://www.google.com/sky>
Allows you to view celestial objects, including stars, constellations, galaxies, planets and the Earth's moon.
2. Google Scholar <http://scholar.google.com/schhp?hl=en>
This site allows you to search scholarly online material.
3. Google News - <http://news.google.com>
Aggregated headlines and a search engine of many of the world's **news** sources.
4. Google Image Swirl - <http://image-swirl.googlelabs.com>
Is a visualization tool that organizes image search results into a hierarchy of groups and sub-groups.
5. Google Video - <http://video.google.co.uk>
Search and watch millions of **videos**. Includes forum and personalized recommendations.
6. Google Books - <http://books.google.com/books>
Search and preview millions of books from libraries and publishers worldwide
7. Google Docs – <http://docs.google.com>
Create and share your work online and access your documents from anywhere. Manage documents, spreadsheets, presentations, surveys and more.
8. Google Trends - <http://www.google.com/trends>
Google Trends, provided insights into the search terms people have been entering into the Google search engine.
9. Google Insights <http://www.google.com/insights/search>
Google Insights provides a visual representation of regional interest on a country's map. It displays top searches and rising searches that may help with keyword research. Results can be narrowed down with categories that are displayed for each search terms.
10. Google Art Project - <http://www.googleartproject.com>
Users can explore 17 museums from around the world, discover and view hundreds of artworks at incredible zoom levels, and even create and share their own collection of masterpieces. This

is an awesome resource for Art related activities

11. Google Swifty (beta) <http://www.google.com/doubleclick/studio/swifty>

Annoyed that you can't view Flash files on your iPad? You're not alone, Google "Swifty converts Flash SWF files to HTML5, allowing you to reuse Flash content on devices without a Flash player (such as iPhones and iPads).

12. Google Earth - <http://earth.google.com>

Google Earth lets you fly anywhere on Earth to view satellite imagery, maps, terrain, 3D buildings, galaxies in outer space, the oceans, Mars and the Moon. GEarthHacks

<http://www.gearthhacks.com> Download 3D overlays that can used with Google Earth

13. Google Building Maker - <http://sketchup.google.com/3dwh/buildingmaker.html>

Building Maker is a 3D modeling tool for adding buildings to Google Earth. It's fun to use, and an easy way to get on the 3D map. Here's how it works: **Select a city** from around the world. **Make a building** with photos we provide. **Save your building** and it will be reviewed. **See your 3D building** in Google Earth!

14. Google Reader <http://www.google.com/reader/view/#overview-page>

Google Reader is a Web-based aggregator, capable of reading Atom and RSS feeds online or offline

15. Google Sites - <https://sites.google.com>

Google's web creation tool

16. Google Talk <http://www.google.com/talk>

Google Talk is Google's approach to instant online communications. GTalk has an in-browser chat function, tied to the iGoogle and GMail pages, with both Video chat and Voice over IP connectivity available.

17. Google Alerts - <http://www.google.com/alerts>

Google Alerts are email updates of the latest relevant Google results (web, news, etc.) based on your choice of query or topic. Enter the topic you wish to monitor, then click preview to see the type of results you'll receive.

18. Google Finance <http://www.google.com/finance>

Google Finance is a wonderful tool include stock quotes, business information and news and interactive charts.

19. Google Translate <http://translate.google.com/?hl=en#>

Google Translate is a free translation service that provides instant translations between 58 different languages. It can translate words, sentences and web pages between any combination of our supported languages. With Google Translate, we hope to make information universally accessible and useful, regardless of the language in which it's written.

20. Google for Educators - <http://www.google.com/educators/index.html>

At Google, we support teachers in their efforts to empower students and expand the frontiers of human knowledge. That's why we've assembled the information and tools you'll find on this page. Here, you'll find a teacher's guide to [Google Tools for Your Classroom](#). And to spark your imagination, you'll find examples of innovative ways that other educators are using these tools in the classroom. While you're here, you can sign up for the quarterly Google for Educators newsletter, as well as check out the latest from The [Infinite Thinking Machine](#), a Google-sponsored, WestEd-produced blog for educators, by educators.