

# **Blogging in the Literacy Classroom**

Students will demonstrate an understanding of the benefits of classroom blogging, as well as how to create and maintain their own classroom blog.

## **Unit 1:**

What is a blog and how do I use it in the literacy classroom?

### **Objective**

1. Participants will demonstrate an understanding of the benefits of classroom blogging in the literacy content area.
2. Participants will demonstrate an understanding of blogs and their basic functions by developing an initial classroom literacy blog.

### **Activities**

- Professional literature
- Blog surfing (models)
- Videos
- Class discussion
- Blog experimentation (begin developing classroom blog)
- Begin identifying a specific curriculum-based literacy area to be developed through blog discussion

## **Unit 2:**

Dangers of blogs and safeguarding our students

### **Objectives**

1. Participants will identify potential dangers of using blog technology.
2. Participants will demonstrate their understanding of blog safety by determining appropriate and relevant safety features for their particular students and by creating a classroom blog safety contract.

### **Activities**

- Professional literature
- Class discussion
- Examination of district technology policy
- Research specific blogs' safety features
- Select and implement safety features
- Create classroom literacy blog safety contract

## **Unit 3:**

Facilitating discussions and comments in the blog space

### **Objectives**

1. Participants will display an understanding of effective literacy discussions by developing curriculum-based literacy discussion questions to be implemented through blogging technology.
2. Participants will demonstrate their understanding of blogs and their basic functions by finalizing and implementing their own classroom literacy blog.

### **Activities**

- Professional literature
- Develop a discussion toolkit, consisting of:
  - two open-ended literacy discussion questions (focused on a current classroom topic)
  - potential facilitating questions
  - student blog discussion checklist
  - sample student response
- Refine and finalize classroom blog (open discussion space)
- Implement literacy blog with students