



Pedagogical Assessment of:

Modern Tool Rating: 4

Website: www.piktochart.com



Usage

Piktochart is an online tool for creating infographics. Combining charts, graphs, text, and graphics. Users can easily assemble and present information using the drag-and-drop interface.

Users choose a template, or theme, and then fill it with their own information. Being able to use Piktochart's bank of icons, images, fonts, and other design tools, enables learning to become more interactive and engaging. Once completed, each template can be saved for future editing, and the finished product can be exported as a PNG, JPEG, or PDF file.

Ease of Access

Piktochart is very easy to access. Unpaid users can work on up to five themes at a time. The education pricing for an individual 35.33 euros for 12 months or 110 euros for 30 accounts for 4 months, the paid accounts offer a larger range of features and templates. Although it may initially require some time to learn about the software, Piktochart is fairly simple to apply when the user is familiar with the features.

Pedagogical Assessment

Piktochart introduces a method to teaching that is engaging and useful for condensing data. In terms of teaching it offers a visually aesthetic method of delivering large chunks of knowledge in a condensed manner. Piktochart appeals to the visual learner in particular, and helps to minimise student distraction as information is not presented in a text-heavy format.

When students are engaged in using Piktochart, they need to apply their thinking skills to communicate their understanding of a topic in a simplified manner. Piktochart also promotes the development of presentation skills as they need to decide how to display information in a visually appealing way which promotes student engagement.

Reviews

“Piktochart is very user friendly and having access through Google makes it easy for students to get to the website. Students can use the Piktochart tools, graphics, borders, or they can upload or drag and drop images into their infographic from outside sources. They are able to embed videos, maps, and charts to make their infographic more interactive. It might be a good idea to have students familiarise themselves with different tools available before having them create a project.” Franz K. (Educator)

“After looking at many info graphic creating websites Piktochart was the winner. This is an easy to use website that guides you step by step on how to create an infographic. This is a great teaching tool and offers an alternative to creating a slide show. It is important for students to show what they know and this is an awesome tool. The free version works well for students and has enough features that students did not feel limited. One feature that was helpful was that you could sign in with your Google account so students did not have to create an account in Piktochart. There is a bit of a learning curve on how to add images and move things around on the infographic so some practice is necessary, although students picked up the features very quickly. Some students will need initial support in order to get started, but with s practice all students were able to complete an infographic. You are able to drag or upload files to the site which helped students to add content. Due to the learning curve I would do a practice run first before creating a final product.” Linda W. (Technology coordinator)

Advantages

- Easy to use.
- Has Capabilities to create more than one type of document.
- Offers a free version with free templates that have a wide range of tools.
- The finished documents can be exported to images on computer or can be saved and accessed via log in to Piktochart.
- Does not require installation onto a device making setting up this tool very easy.

Disadvantages

- Requires internet in order to work.
- If connection to internet is low or poor this tool proves problematic to use.
- In order to avail of full features of this tool it requires purchasing.
- For users who are less tech savvy this tool can be prove to be time consuming and frustrating to use.

Conclusion

Overall this tool provides a platform to create documents to present in class or pass out to students that are unique and interesting. The tool can be used by both students and educators and will help develop an array of skills such as strategic thinking, presentation skills as well as communication skills. It is a very useful and widely liked tool for both recreational and educational use and is a very reliable way to introduce diversity into daily classroom activities.

<http://bit.ly/2dVLO7B>