

Pixton

PIXTON


<https://www.pixton.com/>


 **CATEGORY:** Action

 **GRADE AND SUBJECT:** For all grades and all subjects, best for Humanities.


 **SHORT DESCRIPTION:** Pixton is a comic creation site that allows teachers and students to create graphic novels, storyboards, or comic strips.

READING TIME: 4 minutes
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 **LEARNING GOALS:** Teachers constantly try to find ways to engage students and keep their attention high through attractive content. Pixton is a writing tool that engages and involves students by providing them an interactive way to create stories through digital comics. It also helps students with learning difficulties to develop self-confidence.

 **MOMENTS OF NEED OF THE TOOL:** Pixton helps teachers to introduce new concepts to students in a structured and entertaining way. It is a useful tool for students to deepen and elaborate on topics already studied while developing their writing skills, creativity and critical thinking.

 **LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY (RATING) AND AGE LEVEL:** Easy, 6+

 **WHY USE THIS TOOL:** Pixton is an educational, creative, and entertaining tool that can better engage students by allowing them to learn more interactively and express their creativity. Students can create their avatars and use them in their projects to form deeper connections to the content. Pixton is a useful tool for developing students' literacy and art skills, language property, critical thinking, and creative writing through customized stories. It is helpful for teachers because it offers a vast library of content to draw from for building interesting and attractive lessons. Moreover, comics use a language with which students can identify and empathize. For this reason, teachers can use comic strips to raise students' awareness of sensitive topics such as racism, bullying, etc.

TOOL DESCRIPTION: Pixton is a writing web platform for creating digital comic panels, graphic novels, or storyboards, with an easy-to-use interface and many options for customizing graphics that can be easily shared. The platform is dedicated to teachers, students and parents (and businesses) and it is available in English, French and Spanish. This tool is designed for classroom use and supports multiple student users grouped into multiple class groups. Pixton offers plenty of packs to support specific types of topics and assignments (Science, Social Science, Math, Literature, etc.) and it can be used both in-class or remote learning.

PREPARATION AND HOW TO USE THE TOOL: To start using Pixton, teachers have to sign in, create an avatar, and establish a classroom, entering the names of their students. Students can then access it by signing in with a Google, Facebook, or Microsoft account, or without an account only through a unique code generated by teachers. Then they can create their own avatar and start graphic stories: for each panel, they can choose background and characters, tweaking various details such as hair, skin colour, facial expressions, body poses, clothing, etc., and write speech bubbles or thoughts. In the paid version, Pixton offers a huge variety of content packs. Teachers can give students a specific assignment, or they can allow students to create freely. They also have a dashboard to manage students and their work.

THE EXAMPLE: This is an example of a history and science lesson created by using Pixton: <https://ideas.pixton.com/famous-women-scientists>

RESOURCES NEEDED: Computer/ Notebook/Mobile phone – Email address – Interactive whiteboard – Internet connection



ADDITIONAL REFERENCES:

- How to Teach with Comics <https://ideas.pixton.com/>
- Teach with Comics <https://youtu.be/Ezn5t9Mdtwx>
- Pixton Lesson Ideas <https://youtu.be/jmYAPCjOfks>
- Pixton Comic Builder <https://youtu.be/lAb0EbgSjJg>

PROS AND CONS OF USING THE TOOL:

PROS Easy-to-use interface; customization; interactivity; a vast library of content; available in different languages; no email/account required for students (they can log in using a code).

CONS Internet connection required; limited content in the free version; not DYS friendly because font type and size cannot be changed; some features do not work well or not available for iOS.

TEACHERS' RECOMMENDATION RATE (SCORE): 4/5