STORYJUMPER

https://www.storyjumper.com/

CATEGORY: Tools to develop games to boost discussion and teamwork.

GRADE AND SUBJECT: Students of all ages and any school subject.

SHORT DESCRIPTION: StoryJumper is a tool that offers teachers and students the possibility to create their digital books.

READING TIME: 3 minutes

LEARNING GOALS: Teachers use StoryJumper to create a digital classroom, encourage student collaboration, and provide instant feedback. This tool is useful if a teacher wants to add creativity in the classroom and make learning more engaging. StoryJumper is a motivational tool for students who have difficulty engaging in traditional classroom reading and story writing. It allows students to use their creativity for illustrations and creation and to use writing skills if they are ready.

MOMENTS OF NEED OF THE TOOL: Learn a new way of doing something; learning for the first time.

LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY (RATING) AND AGE LEVEL: Easy/Medium, for all ages

WHY USE THIS TOOL: StoryJumper is an excellent, user-friendly creative tool that can easily be incorporated into any school subject teaching unit. It is appropriate for a wide range of ages, although the child-oriented design initially may discourage older students. The design is user-friendly and functional. Young students will enjoy playing with the preset props. In contrast, older students can build a more advanced story using the many customisation options and following the advice provided in the StoryStarter section of the site. Putting together illustrations can be as much fun as writing; the possibilities for props and scenes are extensive and fun to explore. StoryJumper also includes some little touches; for example, when turning pages, the book makes a paper sound reminiscent of an actual book, and children can comment on the published works. When they want to create a new book, students can start with a template, each of which allows beginners to enter their information and customise the text. Although it is easy for students to begin creation, younger students can count on practical support to help them in the creation process. Students can also share their books and explore a public library.

TOOL DESCRIPTION: StoryJumper is a website that allows students to create and publish their own illustrated stories. Whether students are beginning writers or are brushing up on their skills, StoryJumper gives them an opportunity to use their imagination and learn a real writing strategy if they are ready. The free teacher account includes a separate dashboard, several useful classroom features and many teaching tools, including lesson plan ideas. A collaborative function allows students to work together to create a story. The International Collaborative Writing Project connects interested teachers with a class from another part of the world for a story exchange. StoryJumper integrates with Google Classroom, and although it is web-based, it can also be used on iPads. Like many book creation programmes, StoryJumper's interface starts with two blank pages. If they want to add illustrations, students choose images from a panel and drag them onto the page, placing them on a background of their choice. There are different fonts and colours, and students can overlay text in various stylised banners. In addition to the basics, there are several customisation options that students could explore at length, such as including photos, inserting artwork and creating custom fonts. Students can also use the recording function to add their voice to the story reading or explore other audio options such as background music or sound effects. Authors can buy digital or hard copies of their books and make them available to everyone.

PREPARATION AND HOW TO USE THE TOOL: The user must create an account by signing up to access a step-by-step user guide to plan lessons, create a book and others. For more information, visit: https://www.storyjumper.com/main/classroom.

RESOURCES NEEDED: Computer – Tablets – Interactive dashboard

ADDITIONAL REFERENCES:
- https://www.storyjumper.com/book/create
- https://blogs.umass.edu/onlinetools/learner-centered-tools/storyjumper/
- StoryJumper, How to create a StoryJumper book
  https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QlqrpmFL55E

PROS AND CONS OF USING THE TOOL:
PROS Students can start with the integrated content or add their own; publication options for printing.
CONS The design may seem outdated; younger students may need help with some of the tools.

TEACHERS' RECOMMENDATION RATE (SCORE): 4.7/5