

# Digital Citizenship in Schools Update



## Presentation Tactics

Now that we have been talking about the shape of your Proposal, it's time to consider a few presentation tactics. I know a few have asked about images and the like, so I've promised a bit of a run-down for those who need a helping hand. Here we go!

### The problem with Powerpoint

Our understanding of how to promote thinking, engage audiences, and use a *powerpoint* medium for visual communication has matured. Likewise our understanding of how we can teach kids to engage with knowledge, and provide a visual synthesis of their 'take on a topic' via a *powerpoint* and an actual talk about a topic has 'come of age'.

The presentation [Dodging Bullets in Presentations](http://www.slideshare.net/RowanManahan/dodging-bullets-in-presentations) explains the design and function developments beautifully. <http://www.slideshare.net/RowanManahan/dodging-bullets-in-presentations>



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This Assessment task is an opportunity for you to apply that reasoning ~ and perhaps also to the next 'powerpoint project' that you give your students. Your students just may be a little surprised at how much work and how much understanding is required to produce an assessment without all those bullet points. Their supporting 'talk' just may need them to know and understand their topic for their talk – especially if no notes are allowed i.e. you ask them to talk as if they 'know' the topic, rather than reading from a script!

Please, remember to work hard on both the content AND presentation of your powerpoint. If your presentation looks dull, unimaginative, old-fashioned to me, then it would definitely look the same to your staff if you were presenting it at your school. The best talk in the world cannot recover the situation.

A presentation needs to engage the audience visually and support the content of your talk - not distract from it.

Powerpoint or other screen based tools for sharing information should help:

- Visualize ideas
- Create key points
- Impress
- Act as a prompt

So here's some key things to consider to polish your presentations, once you have crafted that actual content of your talk.

Remember:

- Create the content - your story!
- Map out the visual presentation to support your story
- Create the presentation
- Refine and rehearse
- Present

Here's some humour to keep you going! <http://youtu.be/FJ5dbUCu2Ug>

**Please note** that Slideshare does not import animations, swinging objects or whatever. It does let you import the separate builds of a slide if you wish - but please not do this for this assessment. The focus here is on the talk and in learning how to create visuals to match. You will also need to reduce use small image file sizes to ensure that you have a presentation that works effectively and fits within the upload size allowed for a free account. All good learning – too often teachers use full-sized images from cameras or other sources creating huge slides in the process!

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## Google images or bust!

Of course, the next big challenge is what images to use and where to find them! I'm constantly amazed at the lack of direction provided to students about the use, value, purpose and function of images in their work. Doing a Google search for images, and dropping it into a powerpoint, an essay, an animoto, a machinima or anything, without some purpose behind it all teaches very little to our students!

*So think Digital Citizenship, and then you have a different perspective on finding and using images.*

**There are places to find images.....**and just for that purpose I keep a link on my blog as up-to-date as I can with places to [Find Free Images Online](#).

No excuses! Please remember - any images that you use in your presentation must be attributed appropriately.

## For the adventurous!

If you are ready to discover more about the use of images to craft a great visual presentation, read on.

I'd like to think that all teachers and librarians are clever enough to know how to work well with images to promote creativity in learning. I'm often writing about this topic, so here are the links to a few of my posts.



[cc licensed \( BY NC \) flickr photo](#) shared by [Cayusa](#)

Stop turning a blind eye: Media literacy in action

<http://heyjude.wordpress.com/2011/05/15/stop-turning-a-blind-eye-media-literacy-in-action/>

Greasemonkey and Flickr for the adventurous

<http://heyjude.wordpress.com/2011/04/22/greasemonkey-and-flickr-for-the-adventurous/>

Personal digital preservation is important <http://heyjude.wordpress.com/2011/07/31/digital-preservation-is-important/>

Remember, the content of your presentation is the key driver in the overall activity. Each slide will have your notes – but of course when you are doing your presentation we do not expect that you will read those out word for word. I need that content to mark, but your fellow students want to hear your ideas expressed and supported via the Powerpoint in the best way you can.

Enjoy!