

## Flickr – Tech Review

Flickr is an interesting resource, as it can have many functions. It can be a visual twitter, as individuals can capture moments with their cameraphones and send them to Flickr to share with the world. Flickr is also a social community where groups form to share pictures involving a location, theme, or issue. For instance, I can join a group that works to capture the pastoral beauty of Michigan's Thumb or I can join a group that seeks to find images that represent hope. Flickr is also not only a site of captures and communities, but a site of creation, where new pieces of art can be formed through mash-ups and editing tools or stories can be told through photo essays.

This site is a great tool for a class looking to integrate mobile technology into the curriculum. Photos can be taken anywhere. And for me, a photograph contains much more information than most text messages... as a said before, visual twitter.

While I could go on and on, we are talking about Flickr and a picture sometimes tells it best:

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### What is Flickr?

**Flickr is almost certainly the best online photo management and sharing application in the world. Let us show you why!**

Flickr is a way to get your photos and videos to the people who matter to you. And since **basic accounts are free**, there's no reason not to explore further...

#### Upload

Upload from your desktop, send by email, or use your cameraphone.

#### Edit

Get rid of red eye, crop a photo, or get creative with fonts and effects!

#### Organize

Use collections, sets, and tags to organize your photos and videos.

#### Share

Use groups and privacy controls to share your photos and videos.

#### Maps

Share *where* your photos and videos were taken, and see photos and videos taken near you.








#### Make Stuff

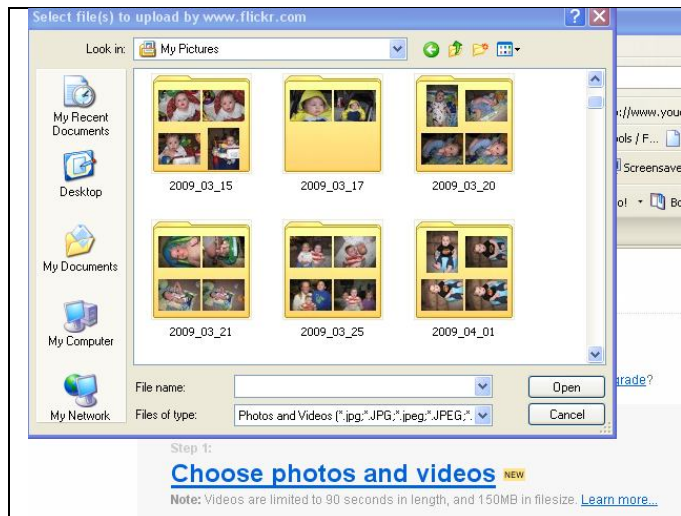
Sexy cards, photo books, framed prints, Target pick up, DVDs, etc.

#### Keep in Touch

Get updates from family and friends.

**Directions for Students:**

 <p><b>Hi there!</b></p>  <p>We'll get you set up on Yahoo! in three easy steps! Just answer a few simple questions, select an ID and password, and you'll be all set.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set up a yahoo account and then pick a screen name to join the Flickr community.</li> </ol>
<p>» <b>Explore / The Commons</b></p>  <p> <b>The Commons</b> on Flickr shows you hidden treasures in the world's public photography archives. You're invited to help describe the photographs you discover by adding tags or leaving comments.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Take a few moments to explore "The Commons." These are images freely shown to the general public by individuals.</li> </ol>
<p>Signed in as <b>JProf713</b>  <a href="#">Help</a> <a href="#">Sign Out</a></p> <p><input type="text" value="Hope"/> <a href="#">Search</a> ▾</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Type in your topic/place in the Search Engine.</li> </ol>
<p> We found 8,016 groups about <b>Hope</b>.</p> <p><small>View: <a href="#">Most relevant</a> • <a href="#">Most recent activity</a> • <a href="#">Group size</a> • <a href="#">Date created</a></small></p> <p> <b>New Flickr of Hope</b></p> <p><small>1,866 members   12 discussions   18,304 items   Created 11 months ago</small></p> <p>This group's aim is to promote global understanding &amp; expanding hope. Please try to invite your friends or pictures suitable to our theme to help us grow and give some... (<a href="#">more</a>)</p>  <p><small>See more photos and videos</small></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. Click on groups to find a community you want to join.</li> </ol>
<p><b>Upload</b></p> <p>There are 5 simple ways to upload your photos and videos to Flickr</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• via the Flickr Uploadr (available for both PC and Mac)</li> <li>• via iPhoto, Aperture, or Windows XP plugins</li> <li>• via our upload web page</li> <li>• via email</li> <li>• via various free third-party desktop programs</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>5. Decide how you want to upload your photos</li> </ol>

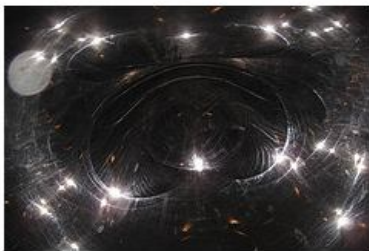


6. Begin uploading photos that can add to your chosen Flickr communities

**Add Tags [?]**

Chicago Bean Chaos Flash Reflections Light

**Titles, descriptions, tags**



Title:

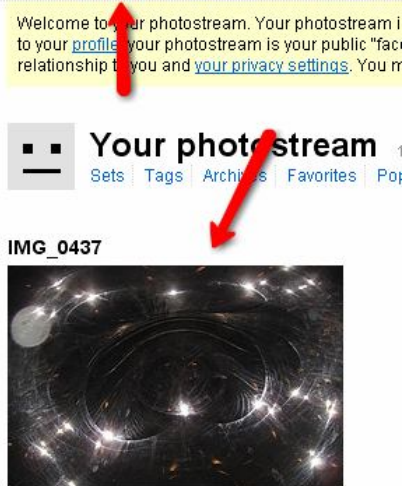
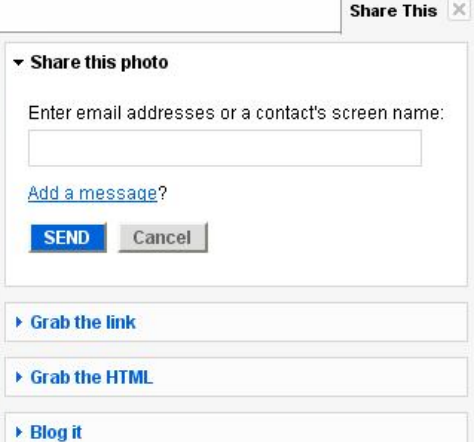
Description:

7. Add tags, a title, and a description. Tags are similar to keywords you use at the library when searching for materials. Think about the key information of the photo: location, subject matter, theme, etc. Add those terms into the text box, separating them only with a space.

 **New Flickr of Hope**  
[Group Pool](#) | [Discussion](#) | [1,867 Members](#) | [Map](#) | [Invite Friends](#)

**Group Pool** ([19,082 photos](#) | [Add photos](#))

8. Visit your chosen group's page and click "Add Photos."

	<p>9. To see the photographs you have uploaded, click “You” on the main navigation bar along the top of the website.</p> <p>To share your photo, click on the image.</p>
	<p>10. Click the “Share This” button and be aware of the other ways you may be asked to share your photos in this class – in particular “Blog It”</p>

**How I could use this in my English classes:**

There are several ways I can see integrating Flickr into my class. It is an extremely useful tool for a community-based assignment. I found groups for Saginaw, the area where I grew up in the Thumb of Michigan, etc. It is a great way to begin discussing the rhetoric of place. Another interesting lesson emerging from Flickr is how to move from the abstract to the concrete. What is hope? If you type it in, you can thousands of pictures of what hope means to individuals around the world.

**How Other Classes Can Use This Site:**

Well, it would be great for a photography class :D All kidding aside, any class that can benefit from lessons in visual literacy or report a topic through visuals could use Flickr. Any class that is focused around a theme, such as diversity, would highly benefit from have a site where the class could form a community and explore that concept through pictures.