# Digital storytelling: simple forms for pupils

## wordles

<http://www.wordle.net> – needs java – editing not too easy

<http://www.abcya.com/word_clouds.html> - simple for kids, can’t be edited so much

Wordles are fun to create and edit. The links above are just a little selection of what there is in the internet. You can find many more just googling “wordle”, so you with your pupils you can use the one you like.

With wordles you can practice vocabulary, tell stories just with keywords etc.

## piclit

<http://www.piclits.com>

On piclit, you can write to pictures. This can be single words, phrases, poems – just anything you like. For the pupils, piclit is a good thing because to each picture, there is some “inspiration vocabulary” just below that changes with the picture. Furthermore, there is sort of an instruction what you can do on piclits (this is more for the teacher to make good tasks).

It’s a nice possibility to work creative with the English language. As the vocabulary changes to each picture, it can be increased.

**Rhyme It**

1. The Rap (or call it a rhyme if you have a strict teacher)

Rap music usually consists of rhymes, right? That's because rhymes sound good. Try it. [Drag-n-Drop](http://www.piclits.com/compose_dragdrop.aspx) some words onto the photograph that rhyme. Remember, words that rhyme don't always need to be spelled similarly.

1. Are you bold enough to feel?

Ever heard of a poem? Poems are stories that (sometimes) rhyme—they don't have to. Writing a poem is like painting a picture with words instead of paint (finger painting is fine). Try to [Drag-n-Drop](http://www.piclits.com/compose_dragdrop.aspx) some words onto the photograph that make you—or somebody else—feel something.

"Roses are red, violets are blue.  
Sugar is sweet, and so are you."

Remember that it doesn’t have to rhyme but it DOES have to make the reader understand what you are feeling. Got that tough guy?

1. College-bound (or just really smart-sounding)

Wanna sound really smart? Try a simile. You (yes, YOU) use these all the time. A simile can be just a simple comparison. When you use the words *like,* *than,* or *as,* you're probably using a simile.

"He stunk like an unwashed pig."

You can use these short gems to tell funny, descriptive, or sad stories.

Use [Drag-n-Drop](http://www.piclits.com/compose_dragdrop.aspx) or [Freestyle](http://www.piclits.com/compose_freestyle.aspx) to write a couple of similes that tell a story. Again, they can rhyme or not, it's up to you.

# Other options

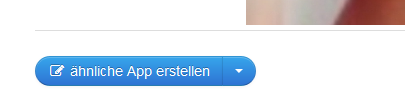
## website for L2 learnig

With <http://de.jimdo.com/> you can easily create your own website. So why not use that for language learning? My idea would be to put on it links to exercises, the possibility to blog (also as homework) and to comment, also to add videos and audios per unit etc.

<http://lacunes.jimdo.com>

## Learningaps.org

On <http://learningapps.org> you can find a wide range of different ways for example to practice vocabulary, irregular verbs, cultural background etc. My idea would be to give the pupils a topic or a keyword. They would have to find an app they like. Then, they should just simply adapt the app they like to the topic/keyword I gave them.

The link below guides to a crossword. It can simple be adapted to another topic. This would be fun for the kids and they have a lot to think about for example how to describe the word they want as solution, so they are highly activated.

<http://learningapps.org/278782>

## to all this stuff

In my opinion, many of the ideas I brought up should be done with a bit older pupils, except wordle which is easy enough also for the younger pupils. This just for the reason, that younger pupils usually don’t already have the competence they need to work with this media. Another important point is, that projects like these usually need time. Time is a precious thing in foreign language teaching as there are only two lessons per week. So I would only use media this way when it clearly follows my goals.