

Creating WebQuests

Technologically, creating a WebQuest can be very simple. As long as you can create a document with hyperlinks, you can create a WebQuest. That means that a WebQuest can be created in Word, Powerpoint, and even Excel! If you're going to call it a WebQuest, though, be sure that it has all the critical attributes.

A real WebQuest....

- is wrapped around a doable and interesting task that is ideally a scaled down version of things that adults do as citizens or workers.
 - requires higher level thinking, not simply summarizing. This includes synthesis, analysis, problem-solving, creativity and judgment.
 - makes good use of the web. A WebQuest that isn't based on real resources from the web is probably just a traditional lesson in disguise. (Of course, books and other media can be used within a WebQuest, but if the web isn't at the heart of the lesson, it's not a WebQuest.)
 - isn't a research report or a step-by-step science or math procedure. Having learners simply distilling web sites and making a presentation about them isn't enough.
 - isn't just a series of web-based experiences. Having learners go look at this page, then go play this game, then go here and turn your name into hieroglyphs doesn't require higher level thinking skills and so, by definition, isn't a WebQuest.
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QuestGarden

To make it easier to create great WebQuests without having to master a web editor, [QuestGarden](#) was created by [Bernie Dodge](#). QuestGarden provides step-by-step direction and examples. Supporting documents in Inspiration, Word, PowerPoint, etc can be attached to your WebQuest. Hosting is provided, and you can also download a zipped archive of your lesson and move it to another server. Subscribers can also start with an existing WebQuest created by one of QuestGarden's 52000 members and modify it easily to meet their needs. You can find more information [here](#) and enter the site [here](#). Cost: \$20 for 2-year subscription. 30-day free trial.

Sample WebQuests created with QuestGarden:

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