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### **Why Have a Teacher Website?**

- ✓ Communication 24/7
- ✓ Express expectations and information in a professional way
- ✓ Quick reference and resource
- ✓ Engage your parents and students
- ✓ Meets the ISTE standards
- ✓ Share professional information and network

#### To Do:

- Research what's out there. Look at other classroom websites and note what you like and don't like about them.
- Talk with school administrators. Find out what your school administrator wants on classroom websites. Examine classroom websites and/or website checklists for other teachers at your school.
- Decide on goals. Do you want the classroom website to be a resource for parents, students, other teachers, or a combination? Maybe you'll want to use a theme that matches one in your classroom. Decide how many pages you want to create.
- List your pages. Write down what pages you want to include on your classroom website checklist. You could include a homepage with announcements and schedules, classroom policies and rules, fun links for students, a discussion, forum, blog, contact form, teaching philosophy, resume, school information and class projects.
- List your page requirements. Under each page heading, write down the major things you'd like to include on that page. On a school information page, for example, you might list links to other classroom websites, the school's address and phone number and school policies.
- Think smart, stay simple. Plan out easy navigation. Test your website with others.
- Remember first impressions-no grammar or spelling errors, all information must be correct and current, links need to function.

Resources to get you started:

[www.yola.com](http://www.yola.com)

[http://www.teacherfiles.com/clip\\_art.htm](http://www.teacherfiles.com/clip_art.htm)

<http://www.educationworld.com/>