

Chapter 19: Synthesize



Technology Integration

This technology integration lesson features the following technology.

- SMART Board
- Google Share
- Microsoft Word
- Six-word stories
- Blogs
- Twitter
- Microsoft Word résumé template
- Microsoft Word poster template
- Morphological grid
- Digital stories

Digital Integration Task

If you or your students are novices with integrating technology into a lesson, this task is a good place to start. Adding digital prompts and writing tasks will lighten the challenges of synthesizing digital tools with thinking skills in your lessons. At the end of any task, students' synthesizing can begin with prompts such as "In this story, I learned . . .", "In this lab experiment, I discovered . . .", or "From this lesson on civil rights, my most important takeaway is . . ." posted on the SMART Board or shared to digital devices of your choice.

Expand prompts by writing *six-word stories* (see www.narrativemagazine.com/sixwords) on Twitter or other social media, creating email or blog summaries, or writing essays or character résumés using Microsoft Word's résumé template. Alternatively, invent a game with the story grid example (see figure 19.1), or tell an original digital story (see <https://elearningindustry.com/18-free-digital-storytelling-tools-for-teachers-and-students>) that synthesizes an idea students have learned. End by setting up displays so students, parents, and the principal can witness the students' creative thinking talents.

Grade-Level Digital Variations

The following sections provide grade-level variations for incorporating technology into lessons.

► Elementary Level

Create a table in Microsoft Word with five columns: *Drinks*, *Main Course*, *Vegetable 1*, *Vegetable 2*, and *Dessert*. Display the table on the SMART Board, and encourage all students to add to the table to create

a menu with several dishes. Using random numbers, have the class identify the menu for a meal you and parents will help them prepare. Make and print the menu, and invite the principal and parents.

►► Middle Level

Adapt the “Make A Hero” story grid (figure 19.1, page 188) to a hero in your subject area. Using Microsoft Word, construct a six-column, six-row table to display on the SMART Board and share with teams. Then, provide appropriate headers for each column and follow instructions for filling the blanks. In place of a written story, ask students to design a Microsoft Word poster ad and display it for all to view.

►►► Secondary Level

Change the hero story grid task (page 188) so student teams can invent a board or team game with a morphological grid. Using Microsoft Word, construct a six-column, six-row table to display on the SMART Board and share with teams. Brainstorm with the class and select appropriate headers for each column, then follow the instructions for filling in the blanks. In place of a written story, ask students to design and make a game and write instructions. Then, randomly distribute the games to other teams, along with a rubric that the class has collaboratively created, so the teams can play and assess each other’s games. Conclude by inviting each student to construct a six-word story to share on Twitter.