## Blogs for Educators

Karen Work Richardson
April 4, 2004
<a href="http://www.ivyrun.com">http://www.ivyrun.com</a>
karen@ivyrun.com

# Defining Weblogs

- "Weblogs are often-updated sites that point to articles elsewhere on the web, often with comments, and to on-site articles. A weblog is kind of a continual tour, with a human guide who you get to know." Dave Winer, <u>The Scripting News</u>
- Personal Web Publishing Communities

### Examples

- Libraries:
  <a href="http://www.rcpl.info/services/liblog.html">http://www.rcpl.info/services/liblog.html</a>
- Candidates: <a href="http://www.blogforamerica.com/">http://www.blogforamerica.com/</a>
- Andy Carvin: <a href="http://edwebproject.org/andy/blog/">http://edwebproject.org/andy/blog/</a>
- Iceblog: <a href="http://iceblog.puddingbowl.org/">http://iceblog.puddingbowl.org/</a>
- Education: <a href="http://www.weblogg-ed.com/">http://www.weblogg-ed.com/</a>
- Need more? Check out Yahoo's directory

# Why Weblogs?

- Solve a variety of web publishing problems
- No need to learn html, ftp, etc.
- Ability to publish anywhere, anytime
- Offer potential for collaboration
- Free tools are available
- Different from a regular webpage or a discussion forum

## Three Ways to Blog

#### On the Web:

- Live Journal: <a href="http://www.livejournal.com/">http://www.livejournal.com/</a>
- Blogger: <a href="http://www.blogger.com">http://www.blogger.com</a>
- SchoolBlogs: <a href="http://www.schoolblogs.com/">http://www.schoolblogs.com/</a>
- On your own Computer:
- UserLand: <a href="http://radio.userland.com">http://radio.userland.com</a>
- On your own Server:
- Manila: <a href="http://manila.userland.com/">http://manila.userland.com/</a>
- Movable Type: <a href="http://www.movabletype.org/">http://www.movabletype.org/</a>
  Need more?
- Weblogs Compendium
- Blogroots

### Using Blogs in Education

- General Information
  - Webtools Newsletter
  - Weblogs: Personal eLearning Space (pdf)
- School Websites
  - Portland Public Schools
  - Goochland County
- Teacher Websites
  - Ms. Jackson at Goochland HS
  - Music Site at De Anza College
- Student Websites
  - British School of Amsterdam
  - The Secret Life of Bees

# Setting Up a Blog

- Which service are you going to use?
- Where will you host it?
  - Most online sites offer hosting space
    - http://vcol.blogspot.com
  - You can use your own hosting space, too.
    - http://www.ivyrun.com/simplyk/blog/simplyk.html
- What are you going to do with it?

### Reading Blogs

- Blogrolling
- RSS, Atom, Newsfeeds, Aggregators, Syndication, XML
  - Here's a good introduction
- Online:
  - Bloglines: <a href="http://www.bloglines.com">http://www.bloglines.com</a>
- Yahoo Directory
- Open Directory Listing