

eLearning Tool Buffet:

The purpose of the eLearning Tool Buffet is to learn about tools, apps, and sites that can give you a livelier way to present materials on Blackboard.

We looked at the following apps and strategies:

- Dropbox: Create a personal clip art library in the cloud
- Adobe Spark Video: Develop Digital Stories for your students in a simple app with an engaging interface.
- Adobe Spark Page: An engaging way to create lecture notes as interactive webpages

Dropbox Personal Clip Art Gallery in the Cloud

In order to make the most out of eLearning Tool Buffet Apps, you should create a personal clip art gallery using a cloud based storage system such as Dropbox.

Thus, whether you chose to develop a project on a computer, your iPad, (or even an iPhone), you will have the same set of images available to you, which you will be able to add to and continuously update on all of your devices.

Adobe Spark Video, and Adobe Spark page only support Dropbox or Google Drive. Free accounts on either of these services should provide you with more than enough storage to assemble images for use in your eLearning Tool Buffet iPad apps.

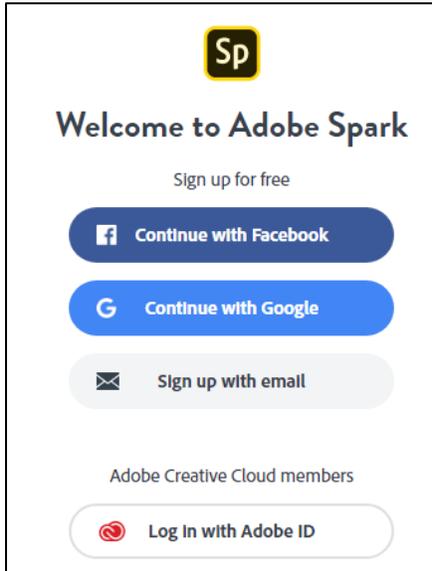
- Tour Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/tour/0>
- Download Dropbox: <https://www.dropbox.com/install>

Where to get images:

You should be gathering images from the creative commons. Creative commons images are licensed by creative commons for public use, which greatly reduces the likelihood of accidental copyright infringement. <http://photosforclass.com/>

As you gather images from photos from <http://photosforclass.com/>, you can organize these in the cloud technology of your choice so that you can pull these photos up in other apps on your computer, iPad, or other mobile device. Keep in mind as you create your online photo gallery if you want to use Adobe Products, at the current time, the only cloud accounts that Adobe supports are Dropbox and Google Drive.

Adobe Spark Video

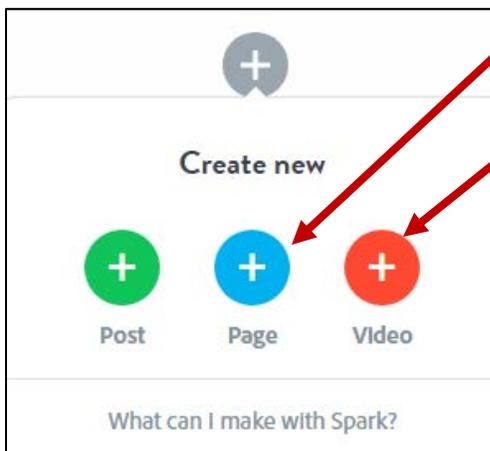
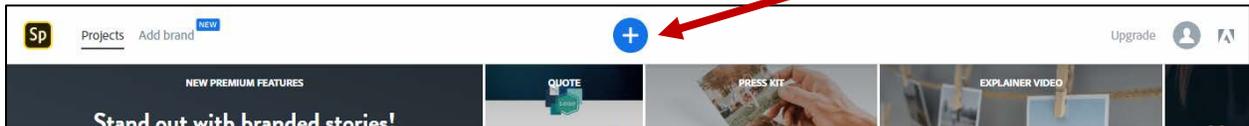


Adobe Spark Video is a free App that can be accessed either through your Web Browser at <https://spark.adobe.com/>, Or, you can download the Spark Apps via your iPad in the App Store (search for Adobe Spark Video, and Adobe Spark Page).

Whether you choose to use spark video via a Web Browser, or a mobile App, you will need to sign up for an account to use Adobe Spark video.

The first time you use Adobe Spark, you will be prompted to create an account. You can authenticate with a Facebook, or Google Account, use your regular email, or an existing adobe ID if you have one.

Once you create the account, and you sign in, you will be directed to the Adobe Spark Projects Page. To create a new project, click the Plus sign in the banner on the top of the page:



To create a Page, click the Page Icon.

To create a video, click the video icon.

Whether you create a page or a video, Adobe Prompts will help guide you through project creation.

Pages and videos are automatically saved as you work on your creations.

See this creative Adobe Spark page for a tutorial in how to use Adobe Spark Video:
<https://spark.adobe.com/page/JJcZ3JQWIJPlc/>

Publishing your Spark Video

Once you have created your adobe Spark Video you can publish your video to obtain a sharable link to add to your Blackboard course as a weblink, or you can embed the video as an item page.

To get a link to share in your Blackboard Course, Click the Share button.

The first time you share a video, you need to fill out the following fields:

- **Title (which automatically comes from your video)**
- **Category**
- **Get Noticed (where you decide whether you want the video published on the public spark website. OFF keeps your video private. ON will publish to the spark website.**

1. Publish - 2. Share

Story details

Title
You Plus Me...

Category
Lifestyle

Subtitle

Author
Michele Knight

Get noticed
Your project may be featured on the Adobe Spark website. OFF

Create link

Sharing your video to Blackboard



After you fill out all the required fields the create link button will become active

Click this button for your publishing options.

For a simple link to add to your Blackboard Course, click copy on the Sharable Link field that appears after you publish the video.

1. Publish - 2. Share

Shareable Link

<https://spark.adobe.com/video/dOlfeDkQFpuFw> Copy

Facebook Twitter Email Embed

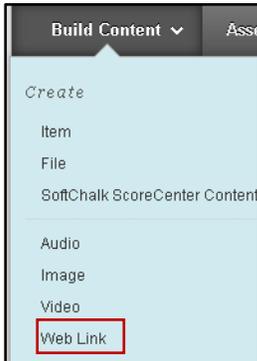
This puts the link to the spark video on your Computer Clipboard.

Adding as a Link

To add this link to your Blackboard Course, follow the steps to create a Weblink, as shown below. In step #5, where you are adding the URL for the Website to link to, paste the link you copied for the Adobe Spark Video.

[Create Web Links \(watch the video\)](#)

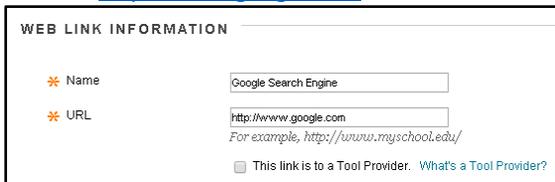
1. Click the **link** to enter the **Learning Module** where you want to add the **Web Link**.
2. On the Action Bar, Select **Build Content | Web Link**.



3. The **Create Web Link** Page appears.



4. Give your **Web Link** a Name in the Name field.
5. Paste or **type the URL** for the website you want to link to. Note, it must start with `http://`, for example <http://www.google.com>

A screenshot of the 'WEB LINK INFORMATION' form. It has two input fields: 'Name' with the text 'Google Search Engine' and 'URL' with the text 'http://www.google.com'. Below the URL field is a note: 'For example, http://www.myschool.edu/'. At the bottom, there is a checkbox labeled 'This link is to a Tool Provider. What's a Tool Provider?' which is currently unchecked.

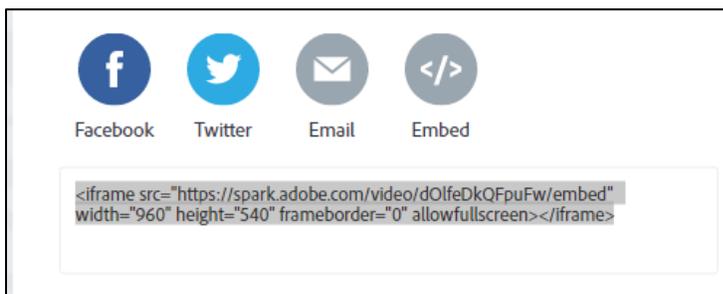
6. Type a description if desired.
7. Click **Submit** to create your **Web link**.
8. Your **Web Link** is added to the **Learning Module**.

Embedding a Video on a Blackboard page.

From the Share Page, click the Embed Option



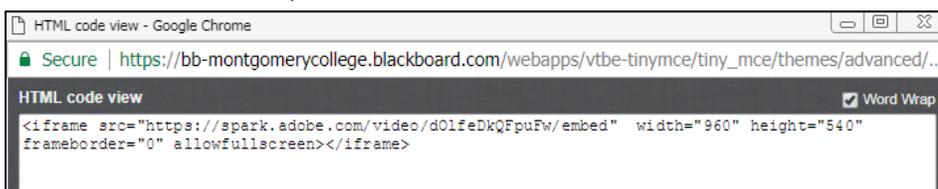
A snippet of code will appear. Right click on this snippet and copy the code:



1. In Blackboard, enter the course where you would like to embed the video.
2. Enter the Learning Module where you want to embed the video
3. Click Build Content Item to Create a New Page
4. Give the Item Page a Title
5. On the text formatting tool bar, click the HTML Option:



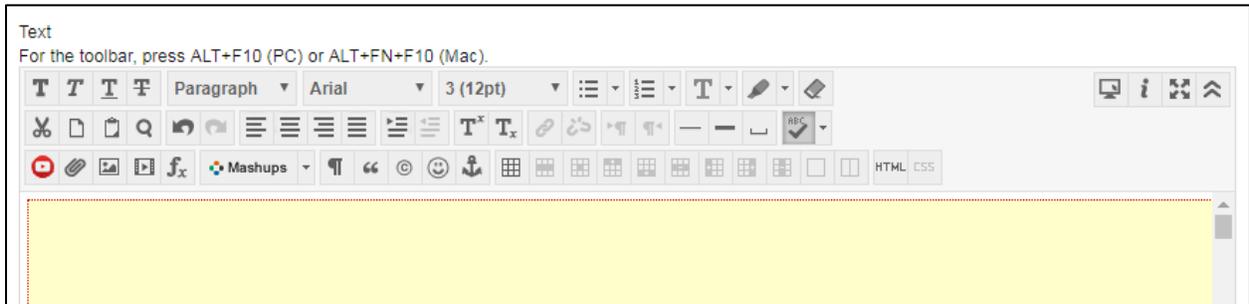
6. Paste the code Adobe Spark Embed Code into HTML code view



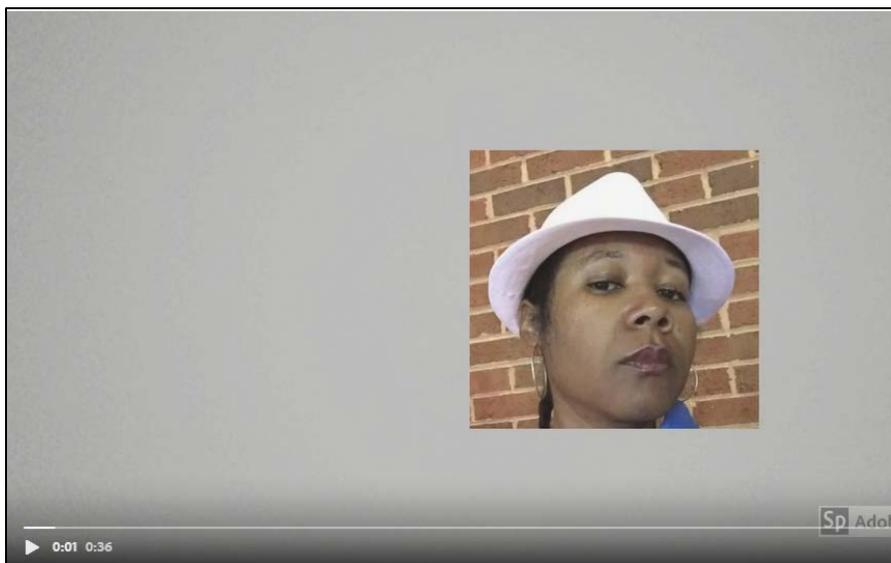
7. Click update at the bottom of the code view window



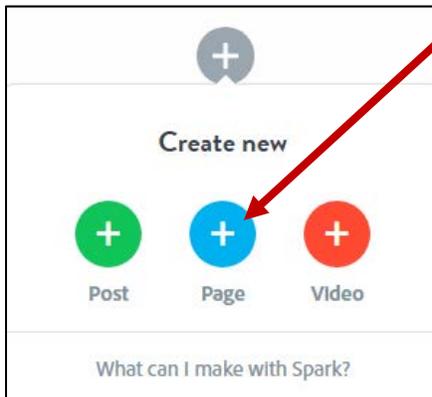
8. The Item page will update with a yellow plug in icon on the text editor page.



9. Click  to Upload the page to Blackboard.
10. You will return to the Learning Module where you create the video and it should appear as a playable video on the page you created.



Adobe Spark Page

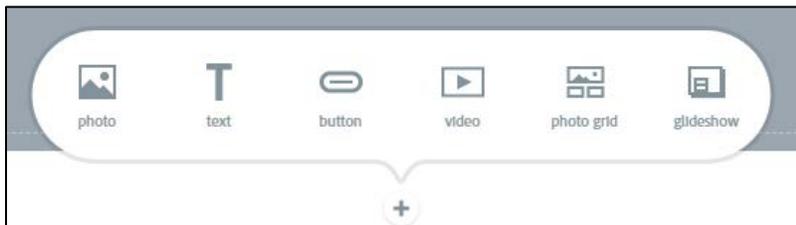


To create a Page, click the Page Icon.

You will be prompted to Create a Title for your Page.

After you add a title to your page, you can choose to add different

elements to the page by clicking the plus sign on the page. There you can add photos, text, buttons, videos, a photo grid or a glide show.



To add any of these elements to your page, select the element you wish to add, and follow the prompts generated on the page after your selection.

When you are ready to publish your page, click the share button. Follow the steps for [Publishing Your Spark Video to Publish the Spark Page.](#)

Note: *It is recommended that you link to Adobe Spark Webpages as a Weblink, rather than embedding the Code on a page. Embedding the code will create a page that is too large for blackboard, resulting in scrollbars.*

Follow the instructions for [copying an Adobe Spark Link](#), and [creating a weblink](#).

Contact me if you are interested in talking to me about Spark video and how you are using this tool with your students! 😊

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