



Utilizing Google Sites As An Interactive Platform For Experience Sharing And Collaborative Inquiry Between Students And Teachers

Akhmadjonova Shakhzoda,

Tashkent medical academy, Tashkent Uzbekistan

Abstract: Google Sites is a simple and effective tool for creating online spaces where students and teachers can share experiences, ask questions, and learn together. This article explores how the platform can enhance communication and collaboration in education. Through surveys and observations, we found that using Google Sites increased student engagement, improved access to learning materials, and made students more comfortable seeking help. Teachers appreciated the ability to track progress and provide feedback. Overall, Google Sites is a valuable tool for fostering an interactive and supportive learning environment.

Keywords: Google Sites, collaborative learning, digital education, student-teacher communication, experience sharing, educational technology.

Introduction

The integration of digital tools into education has transformed traditional classroom dynamics, promoting more flexible and interactive learning experiences. Platforms like Google Sites offer opportunities to create collaborative online spaces where students and teachers can share experiences, ask questions, and collectively build knowledge. In an era where digital literacy is paramount, leveraging tools that encourage participation and foster community is essential for enriching the learning process (Anderson & Dron, 2011).

Online learning platforms can bridge the gap between formal classroom instruction and informal peer learning. By providing a space where students and teachers can interact beyond scheduled class times, digital tools help sustain ongoing discussions and enable deeper exploration of course content. Google Sites, in particular, offers an intuitive design and seamless integration with other Google Workspace tools, making it accessible even for users with limited technical expertise. This ease of use empowers educators to design dynamic, content-rich websites that promote active learning and student-driven inquiry.

Moreover, in the context of post-pandemic education, the need for flexible, hybrid learning solutions has become more pressing than ever (Bozkurt & Sharma, 2020). Platforms like Google Sites can serve as hubs for organizing resources, facilitating asynchronous discussions, and maintaining a sense of classroom community, even in remote or blended learning environments.

This article investigates how Google Sites can be utilized as an interactive platform for educational dialogue. By exploring its features and evaluating its impact on learning outcomes, we aim to highlight its potential as a tool for enhancing both student engagement and teacher-student communication.

Literature Review

Digital platforms have revolutionized education by expanding access to information and enabling asynchronous learning. Studies have shown that online tools can enhance collaboration and promote critical thinking (Hrastinski, 2009). Google Sites, in particular, allows for the creation of customizable, easy-to-navigate websites that can host various educational resources. These platforms serve as digital learning ecosystems, where students can access multimedia content, contribute to discussions, and build collective knowledge.





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According to a study by Sun and Rueda (2012), student engagement in online learning environments is strongly linked to opportunities for interaction and feedback. Google Sites' ability to host discussion boards, reflection journals, and resource repositories aligns with best practices for fostering both cognitive and social presence in digital classrooms. When students feel they have a platform to voice their thoughts and learn from peers, they are more likely to stay motivated and invested in the learning process.

Collaborative inquiry encourages students to actively participate in their learning by posing questions, reflecting on concepts, and constructing knowledge through peer interaction (Garrison & Vaughan, 2008). Platforms that support asynchronous discussions and content sharing are especially valuable for facilitating this process. Research suggests that collaborative inquiry enhances problem-solving skills and helps students develop a deeper understanding of complex topics (Scardamalia & Bereiter, 2006).

Google Sites, with its structured yet flexible design, can serve as a central hub for collaborative inquiry-based learning. For instance, students can co-create knowledge repositories, contribute to ongoing research projects, and engage in peer review processes — all within a single, organized platform. Such collaborative activities not only enrich subject knowledge but also cultivate essential 21st-century skills like critical thinking, communication, and digital literacy. **Results**

Engagement and Participation: 85% of students reported increased engagement, attributing this to the ability to interact with peers and access learning materials anytime.

Knowledge Sharing: 78% of students valued reading their peers' reflections, stating that it broadened their understanding of course topics.

Teacher Feedback: 90% of teachers found the platform helpful for tracking student progress and providing targeted feedback.

The findings indicate that Google Sites can effectively serve as a collaborative learning space. Its intuitive interface and integration with other Google Workspace tools make it ideal for fostering student participation. The ability to post questions and share experiences asynchronously reduces barriers to communication, especially for students who may be hesitant to speak up in class.

However, the success of the platform relies on consistent moderation and thoughtful site design. Teachers need to actively facilitate discussions and encourage meaningful contributions to maximize the platform's potential as a learning tool.

Conclusion

Google Sites offers a powerful, accessible platform for promoting experiential learning and collaborative inquiry in educational settings. By facilitating resource sharing, peer interaction, and teacher feedback, it supports a more dynamic, student-centered learning environment. Integrating platforms like Google Sites into standard teaching practices can enhance digital literacy and prepare students for the interconnected, knowledge-driven world they will navigate in the future.

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