

## FAQ About Netscape Composer

- 1. What is Netscape Composer?** Composer is an HTML editor available in Netscape Communicator. You may already be using the browser, called Netscape Navigator. Composer works much like a word processor to create HTML (Hypertext Markup Language) used to make a web page. Just **Open** Netscape Communicator. Select **File>New>Blank Page** or select **Communicator>Composer** and you are ready to build a web page.
- 2. Why use Netscape Composer?** There are many HTML editors available, but Netscape is free and that means every student can work independently in building a web page. If you don't have a copy, visit <http://home.netscape.com/download/> to download a free version of Netscape Communicator.
- 3. How should I get started with Composer?** Start with what you know, like font styles and sizes, background colors, tables, the spell checker, and text justification. Composer is a **WYSIWYG** (what you see is what you get), a very helpful feature when working with students.
- 4. Can I put pictures in Composer?** Yes, Composer supports many graphic formats including .jpeg (digital camera pictures and many pictures from the Internet) .gif (many animations from the Internet) and .bmp (Kid Pix pictures - the easiest way to use Kid Pix Pictures is to copy/paste the image into Composer and Composer will automatically translate the image into the correct format for web publication).
- 5. Can I have text wrap around images?** Yes, text wrap is an option in **Image Properties**, but text wrap does not show in the editing screen. Just **Save** and **Preview** the web page first to see text wrap.
- 6. Why won't my link work?** Links do not work in the editing screen. Just **Save** and **Preview** the web page and your links should work.
- 7. What about copyright issues?** Teachers are used to fairly broad copyright interpretations because of the "Fair Use" act which is specific to "in building" use. But the World Wide Web is extremely open, so be very careful with copyright. Students have copyright rights. You will need written permission from both the student and parents to publish. Also seek permission when using graphics/text from another source (yes, that includes all of those images you have been copying from the Internet). Cite sources, even those nifty graphic images you copied from a "free" site. Or you can avoid the copyright hassle and teach the students to create original graphics, either with a digital camera, or with a drawing program (Paint or Kid Pix).