



## Tools and applications that support development of media and creative competences

## TOPIC 2: TOOLS AND APPLICATIONS THAT SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF MEDIA AND CREATIVE COMPETENCES

The role of the teacher at an early school age is specific, however it does mean that most all of the features that such teacher must have should be also present at further stages of education. The teacher is a guide in the world of knowledge, but he/she is also a role model for students, especially at the beginning of the school journey. This is why the teacher must have most of competences that he/she tries to teach. Including media and creative competences. We start the presentation of some proposals with those, who are directed mostly to teachers.

### Power Point

Power point is a program that is part of Microsoft Office package. It is very popular to create multimedia presentations on a base of static slides with many contents. These contents doesn't have to be limited to texts and pictures. In Power Point presentations we can embed videos, audio, animations, graphs, even sparkling letters. There are a lot of templates that can make presentation more interesting, and also a lot of tutorials to help us to do so.

Templates:

<https://www.slidescarnival.com/category/free-templates>

Tutorials:

[https://youtu.be/u7Tku3\\_RGPs](https://youtu.be/u7Tku3_RGPs)

<https://youtu.be/q1CMxb90g7c>

#### **Advantages:**

Lessons can be more attractive not only at academic stage, but also in primary school

Very popular format – easy to share and collaborate

With many languages

Many templates

Many tutorials

#### **Disadvantages:**

Price.

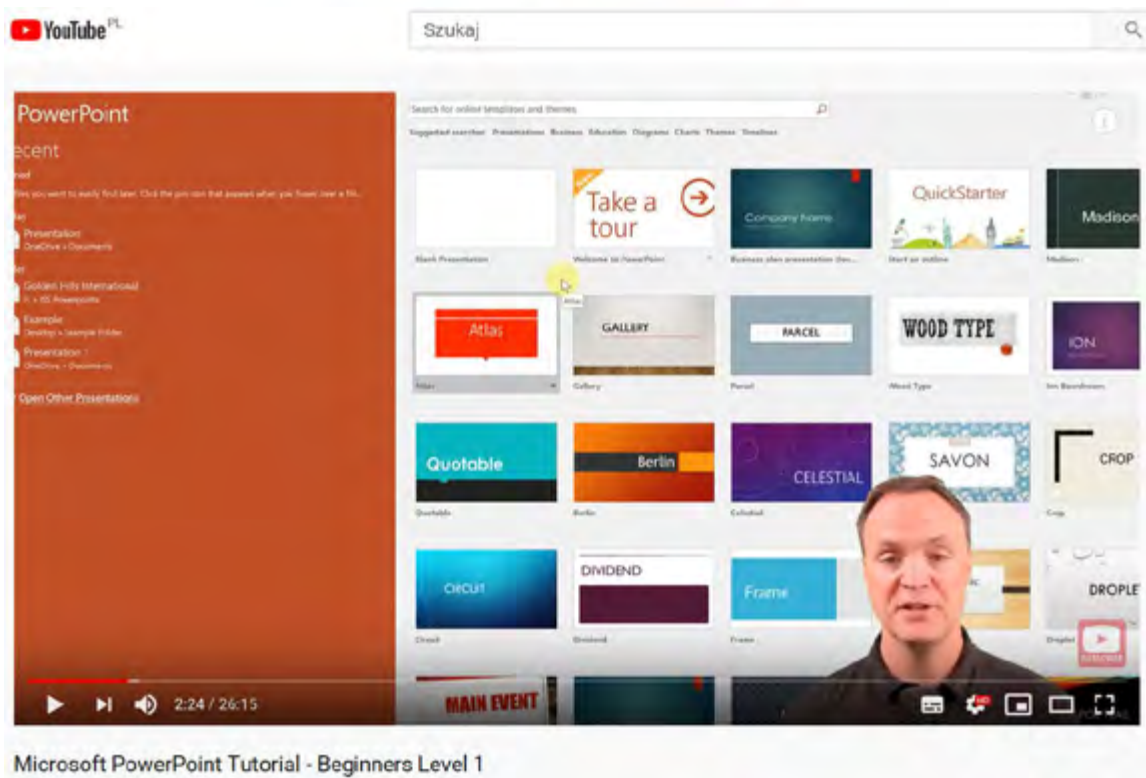


Fig 3 – examples of Power Point templates

## Prezi

[www.prezi.com](http://www.prezi.com)

Prezi is also a program to create presentations, but the way of processing the presentation is different. It is not based on consecutive slides, but it is more like thinking map, engaging more all those pupils who are really visual learners. By animations and “journey” through the topic, it is more persuasive than any other presentation. The free version allows to create and save presentations through the website. If you want to have standalone, offline version of the program, you must pay.

### Advantages:

Visual attractive, useful in presentations in which it is important to maintain a storyline.

### Disadvantages:

Requires access to the Internet or payable version.

See:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QadFvf3D8P8>



Fig 4 – prezi.com website

## GIMP

[www.gimp.org](http://www.gimp.org)

Almost all people who deal with computers have heard about Photoshop. It is said to be the best program for professional graphics, but it also can be used by non-professionals, however it requires basic knowledge about the program and about digital photography. And Photoshop is also very expensive. Gimp is very similar in capabilities, but free and less complicated. Teachers can create pictures or unjust those who are already done. There are tools to paste additional parts of the picture, add text, and many more. For teacher's work possibilities of working with pictures are already limitless.

### Advantages:

Free

Very powerful in capabilities

Accessible in national languages

### Disadvantages:

A bit complicated, especially for the first use.

Requires basic knowledge about digital photography.

See:

<https://youtu.be/Q8COLJPr64>



Fig 5 – gimp.com website

## Lightworks

If you need to create a video, lightworks can be a best solution. This software is quite intuitive in use, however if you need some additional effects, you can go deeper into this program. In Lightworks you can edit, cut, join videos made e.g. by a smartphone, add subtitles, make some interesting and catchy effects. Some more complicated features are payable.

### Advantages:

Intuitive for basic features.

### Disadvantages:

Requires time to prepare a good video

Requires a good computer

English version only

See:

<https://youtu.be/489O4snfHg8>



Fig 6 –lightworks.com website

## Easelly

[www.easel.ly](http://www.easel.ly)

Presenting the results of the work can also be an important part of educational process. It concerns both sides: teacher, who have to decide about the visual side of the work, as well as pupils, who should present the results of the project. Easelly can help by creating visual infographics full of pictures, flow-charts. The preparing of infographics is not very complicated so it can be done by even youngsters.

### Advantages:

Visual attractive

User friendly

Most features needed are free

### Disadvantages:

Printing needs payable version

Available in few language versions.

See:

<https://youtu.be/okFohYJX5xo>



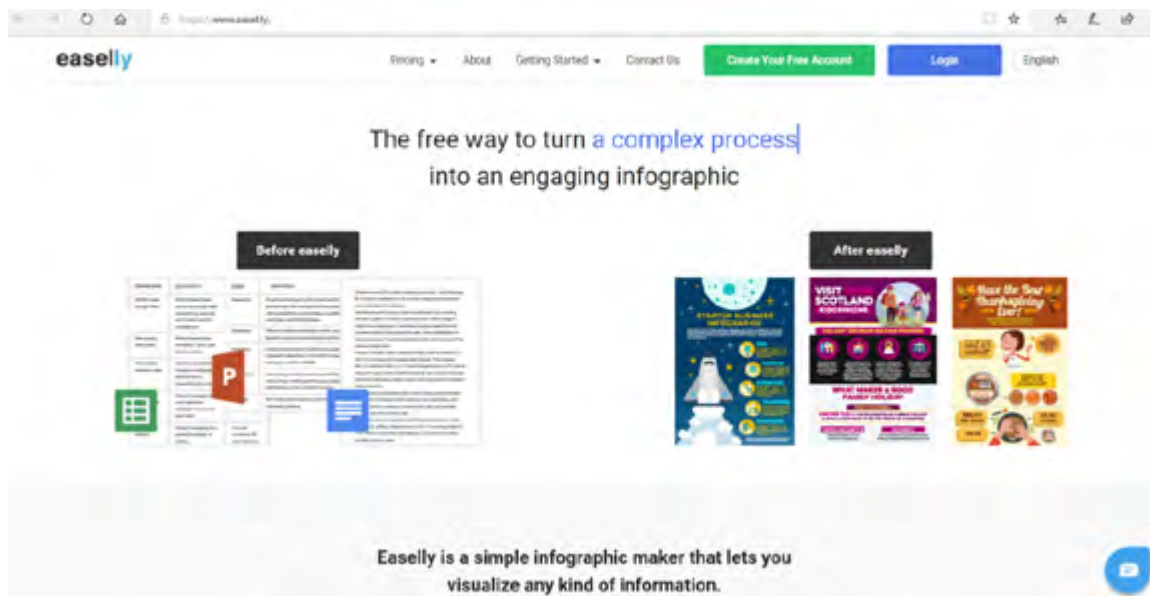


Fig 7 – [www.easel.ly](http://www.easel.ly) website

## Storybird [www.storybird.com](http://www.storybird.com)

Storytelling is a very important method for interpersonal, but also intrapersonal communication development. However storytelling in “classical” method at school that need to write a story is not very attractive, especially for children. Storybird can be a solution that changes storytelling into an adventure. There are also few ready courses about storytelling, e.g. how to become a comics writer. But Storybird can be also a tool for teachers who can create interesting and visually attractive stories for children to read.

### Advantages:

- Easy to use
- Graphically attractive
- Involving also parents

### Disadvantages:

- Some features are payable
- English only

See:

<https://youtu.be/9nHo5KO4EO8>

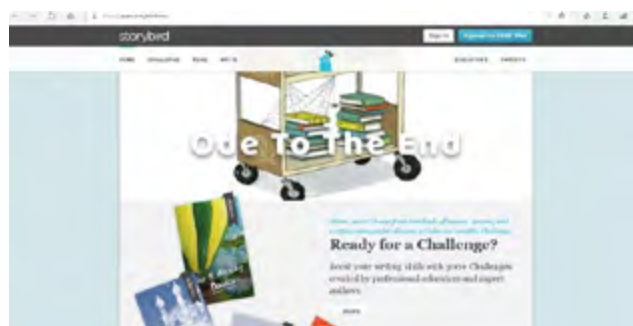


Fig 8 – [storybird.com](http://storybird.com) website