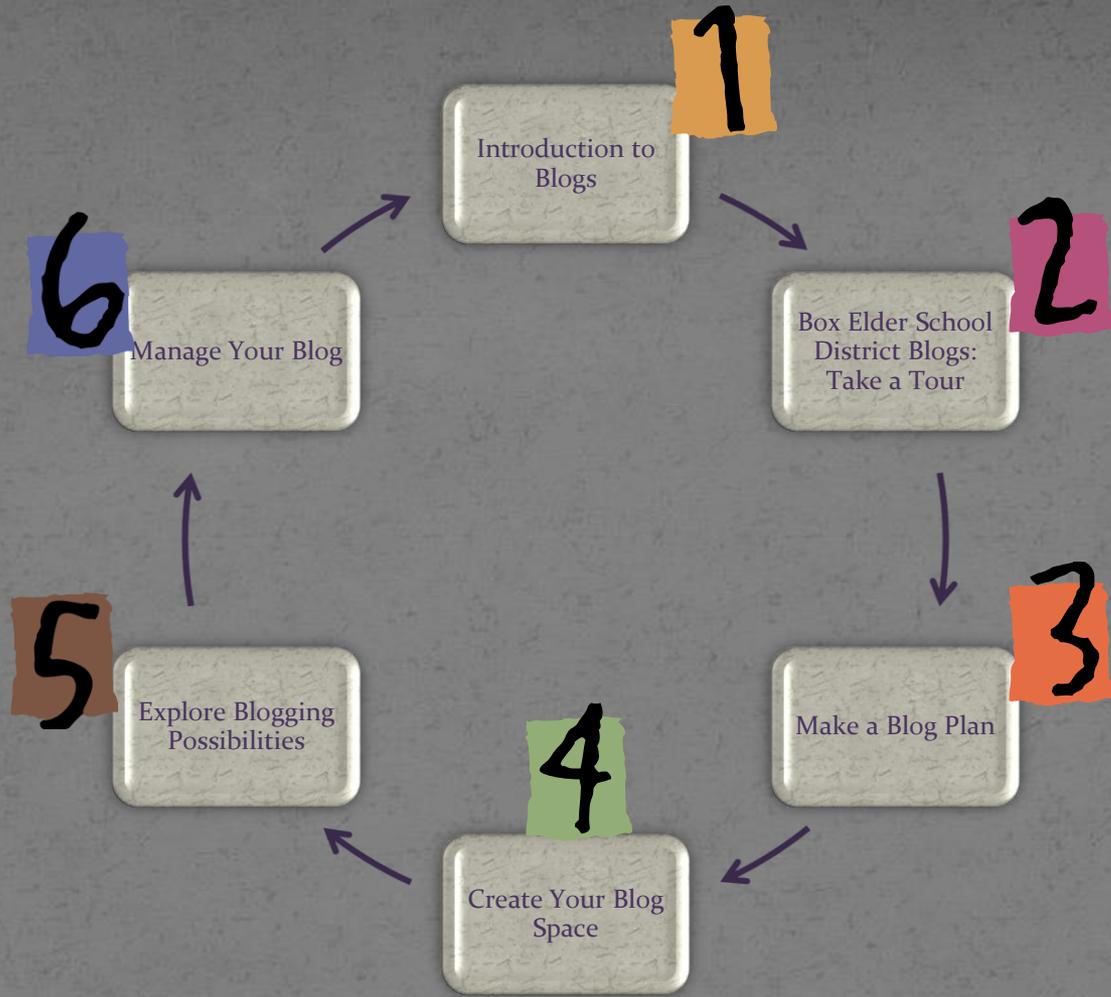


Box Elder School District

How to Create a Teacher Blog

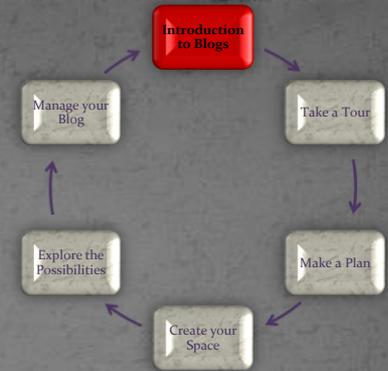






Why Now?

- Broad Interest
- Frequent Requests
- Appeal to Parents
- Great Public Relations

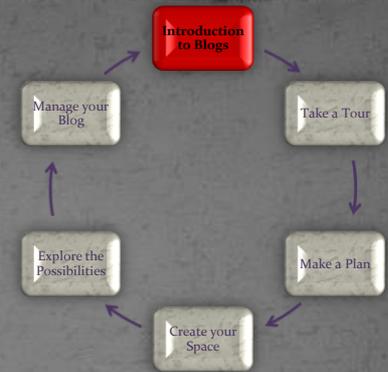


Let's rate our ability!



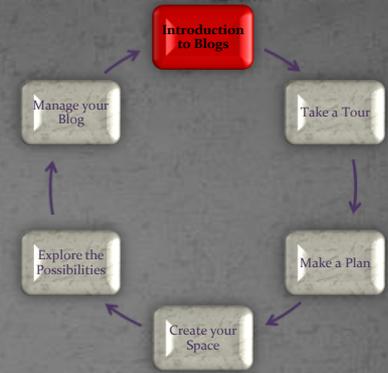
Introduction to Blogs

- What is a Blog
 - “Web and Log”
- Ongoing chronicle of information
- Frequently updated
- Key components
 - Main content area
 - Archive
 - Public comments
 - Links
 - RSS Feed



How to Apply for a Blog

- Complete On-line Blog Request
 - www.besd.net
- Submit to Richard Johnson
- Approval Notification



Box Elder School District
Blog Account Request



To request a Box Elder School District blog account, please complete the following information and return to Richard Johnson.

Name: _____ Email address: _____

School: _____ Assignment: _____

Purpose of blog:

Once you request a blog, the blog will be made as quickly as possible. You will be required to participate in a short training and familiarize yourself with district policy. You will then be able to go to your new blog and get started! Box Elder School District Blogs are all listed as [http://blogs.besd.net/\(name of your blog\)](http://blogs.besd.net/(name of your blog)).

After you have had the training and have created your blog, please send any requests or questions to Richard Johnson or Lynne Baty. This would include general questions or requests for new themes or changes for an existing theme. Happy blogging!

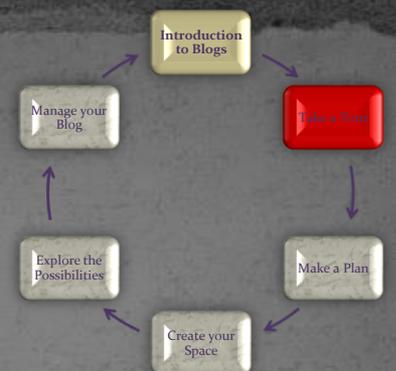




The Dashboard

Topic Menu

To see the actual site



BESD Testing Blog Visit Site

Dashboard

Dashboard

My Blogs

Posts

17 Posts 0 Comments

5 Pages 0 Approved

12 Categories 0 Pending

0 Tags 0 Spam

Theme Hanging with 9 Widgets

Storage Space »

100MB Space Allowed 1.74MB (2%) Space Used

Recent Comments

QuickPress

Recent Drafts

There are no drafts at the moment

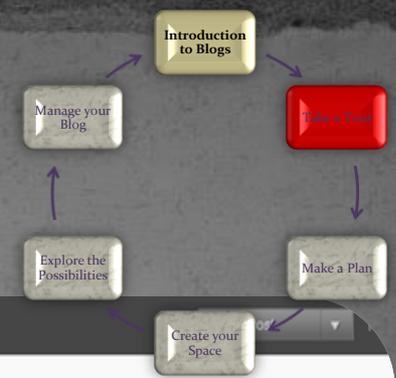
Recent Activity

Available Space

Screen Options Help

New Post Howdy, lynne-baty | Turbo | Log Out

Appearance: Themes



Choose the Theme that best meets your needs for style, look, and feel. Not all Themes have the same capabilities.

BESD Testing Blog Visit Site

Dashboard
Dashboard
My Blogs

Posts
Edit
Add New
Post Tags
Categories

Media
Library
Add New

Links

Pages
Edit
Add New
Comments

Appearance
Themes
Widgets

Users
Authors & Users
Your Profile

Tools
Tools
Import
Export

Settings
General

Manage Themes

Current Theme

Hanging 1.3 by [webdesignless.com](#)

In Greens and Browns this theme has a healthy balance of color with the main content area a very clear two column layout with a light background.

Tags: green, Black, two-columns, fixed-width

Available Themes

Choose from a variety of Themes.

42k 1.7 by [Factory42](#)

A theme with flexibility! All major components are user changeable, be that colors, sizes or layouts. The theme works perfectly out of the box, or you can change things around to suit your needs via the extremely easy to use huge admin control panel with its built in admin area inline previews. The theme comes loaded with 4 widget areas, dedicated Favicon, 4 different front page layouts, user defined error

Ahimsa 3.1.1 by [Ravi Sarma](#)

Ahimsa — customisable collapsible sidebars, skinnable colour schemes, custom CSS and footer, low graphics, minimal distractions, with rounded corners in Firefox, Safari, Chrome (some support in IE). New for version 3.1: PLEASE NOTE: You may need to run a custom plugin with this update. Please, please visit <http://ahren.org/code/bit/ahimsa-wp-3dot1> for details on that and other

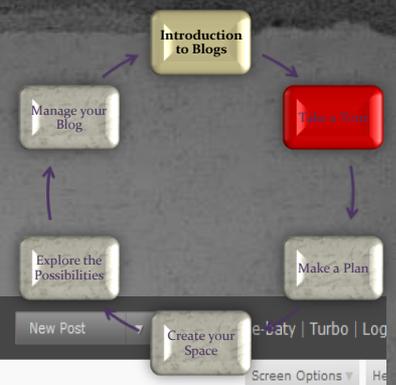
Ali Han Natural 2.2 by [Ali Han](#)

Spring flowers, bird, butterfly, clouds and animals Natural blog theme.

[Activate](#) | [Preview](#)

Tags: green, orange, silver, white, yellow, light, fixed-width, two-columns, right-sidebar, seasonal

Appearance: Widgets



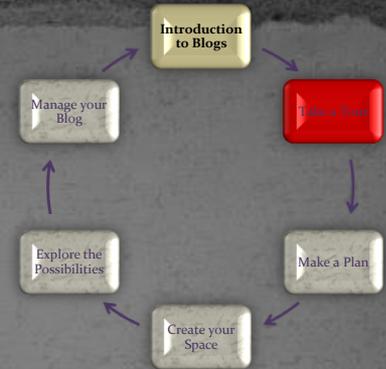
Available widgets are activated by dragging them into the sidebar

Widgets are specific to the chosen theme.

Deactivate widgets by dragging them from the sidebar to the Inactive Widgets section.

Site Management

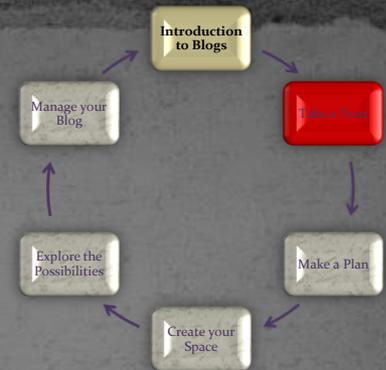
Manage all of your posts, pages, categories, etc.



Post	Author	Categories	Tags	Date
<input type="checkbox"/> 2010 Online Accommodations Worksheet	lynn-baty	Online CRT	No Tags	2010/03/11 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> 2010 Test Administration Training Powerpoint	lynn-baty	Online CRT	No Tags	2010/03/11 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher Responsibilities (online testing)	lynn-baty	Online CRT	No Tags	2010/03/11 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> 2010 Online CRT Load Test Instructions	lynn-baty	Online CRT	No Tags	2010/03/11 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> How to Create a UTIPS Account	lynn-baty	UTIPS	No Tags	2010/03/03 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> UTIPS	lynn-baty	UTIPS	No Tags	2010/02/26 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> DIBELS	lynn-baty	DIBELS	No Tags	2010/02/26 Published
<input type="checkbox"/> CRT	lynn-baty	CRT	No Tags	2010/02/26 Published



Moderate Comments



Comments must be approved before they are made public.

BESD Testing Blog Visit Site New Post ▾ Howdy, lynnne-baty | Turbo | Log

Dashboard ▾ Screen Options ▾ Help

Edit Comments

All | Pending (0) | Approved | Spam (0) | Trash (2)

Bulk Actions ▾ Apply Show all comment types ▾ Filter

<input type="checkbox"/>	Author	Comment	In Response To
<input type="checkbox"/>	 lynnne-baty Lynnne.Baty@besd.net 205.121.177.182	Submitted on 2010/03/18 at 6:34pm Is there someone at my school who can help me with the creation of a U-TIPS test?	How to Create a UTIPS Account #
<input type="checkbox"/>	Author	Comment	In Response To

Bulk Actions ▾ Apply



Home Page: Check Progress

BESD Testing Blog
Assessment Information 2009-2010

Home - [Subscribe to RSS](#)

Type your search here... **GO**

Welcome

Thanks for visiting the BESD Testing Blog! This is a forum for schools to have questions answered, share ideas, and make comments. The following pages are available. Each page contains specific assessment information:

- [Grade Level Tests](#)
- [Dates to Remember](#)
- [Accommodations Policy](#)
- [2009-2010 Test Schedule](#)

The following links are available for your convenience. Other valuable links are provided in the "blogroll" located in the right side-bar.

- [Box Elder School District: http://www.besd.net](http://www.besd.net)
- [USOE: http://www.schools.utah.gov](http://www.schools.utah.gov)

CURRENT NEWS!

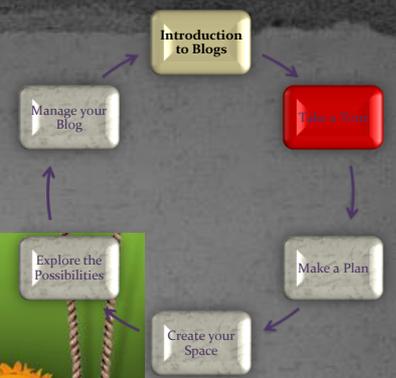
Welcome to Box Elder School District's Testing Blog! Thanks for your participation in the On-Line DWA. Everything seemed to go well. We are looking forward to our on-line CRT administration. We are planning to have our first "load-test" on March 16th. Please contact my office if you have questions!

Calendar

March 2010

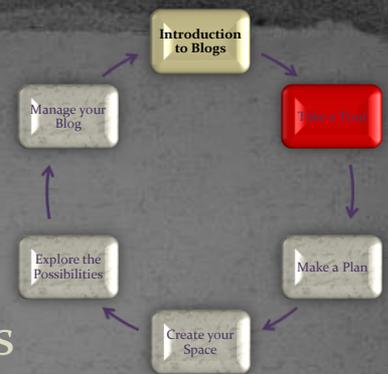
M	T	W	T	F	S	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

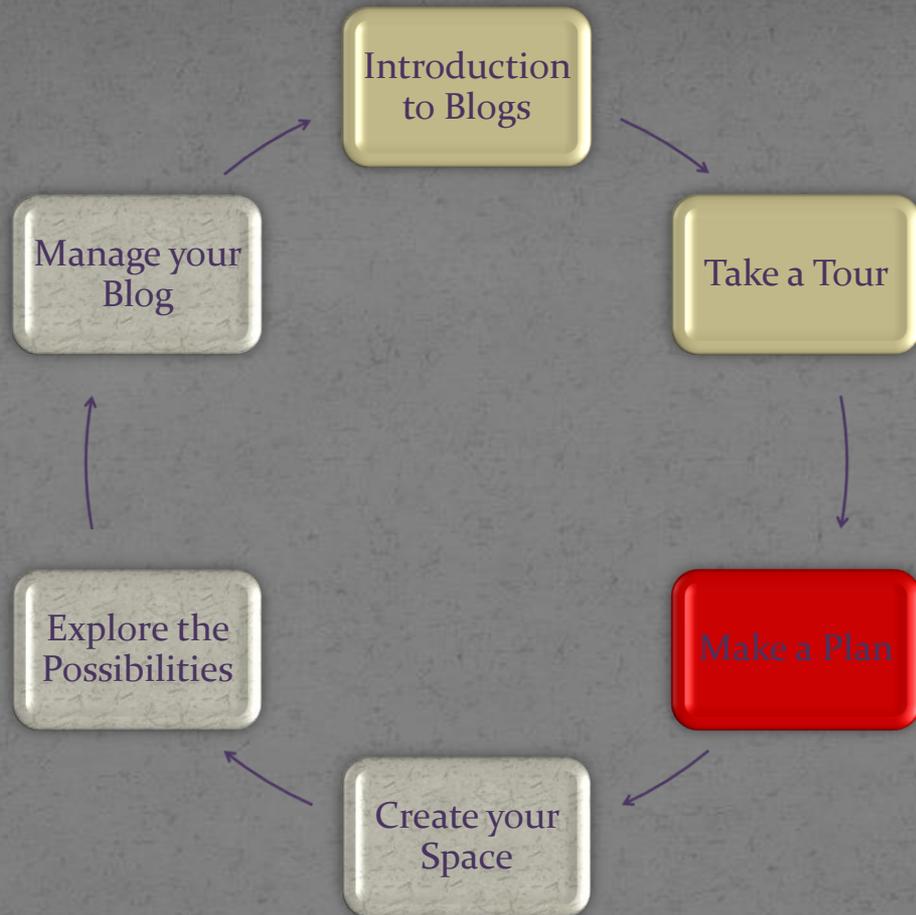
<< Feb



Terms

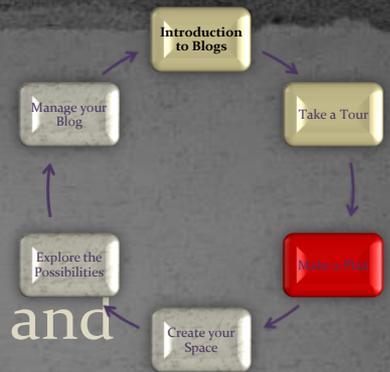
- View Site: See the actual site as you make modifications
- Sidebar: Contains widgets-pages, categories, links, calendar, etc.
- Posts: Title, comments stored in categories
- Home Page: Most recent post or link to static opening page
- Archives: Organizes previous posts
- Dashboard: “Stuff” available to you with your current theme
- Appearance: Themes and widgets
- Blogroll: Links to other websites
- Comments: Left by others visiting your blog and must be moderated





Plan Your Blog

- First step is to determine the purpose, content and audience of your blog.
- Think about the following:
 - What am I going to do with this?
 - Who is going to read this?
 - What kind of information will I be posting?
 - Why am I doing this?
 - Who am I doing this for?
 - How often am I going to be posting and adding information?

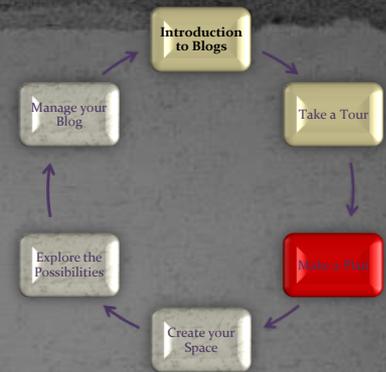


Look at your Blog Planning Template



Plan Your Blog

- Complete the “Planning Your Blog” form.
- Be creative...but keep it simple.
- Use the information to complete the following:



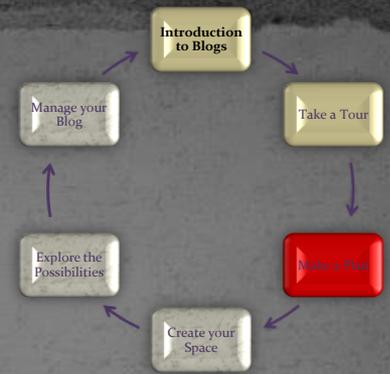
“This blog will be dedicated to _____, _____, and _____.

It will cover the following topics: _____, _____, and _____. The audience will be _____. I will be adding posts every _____ about _____. I am doing this because _____.”



Plan Your Blog

- Example:
- Lynne's Testing Blog:



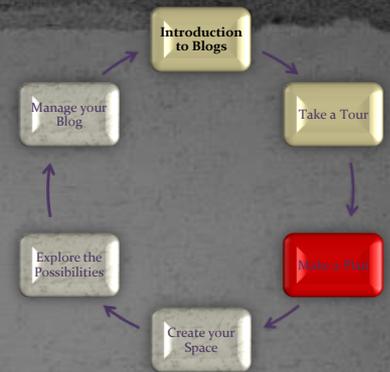
“This blog will be dedicated to information regarding assessment in Box Elder School District.

It will cover the following topics: ALL U-Pass Assessments, AYP, DIBELS, UTIPS, Testing Schedules, Accommodations and other information and data that pertains to testing and student achievement. The audience will be administrators, teachers and counselors. I will be adding posts as necessary about current testing issues. I am doing this to provide schools timely information in an efficient easy to access format”

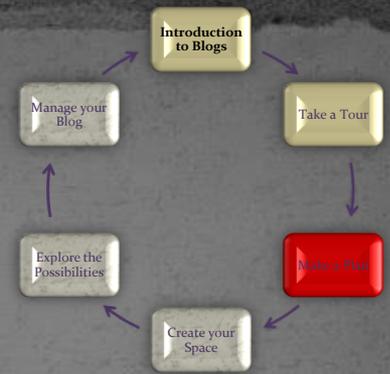


Title and Tagline

- What will be the title of your blog?
- After you have created a title you can create a “tagline”.
- A “tagline” is a short, creative phrase that describes your blog.



Title and Tagline: Example



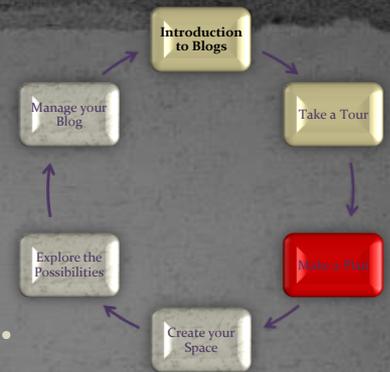
Title: Ramblings, Resources and Ruminations

Tagline: A New Teacher Blog

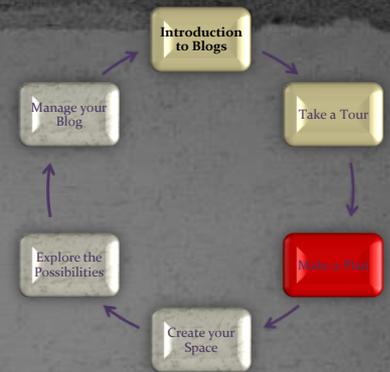


Sidebar

- Sidebars can be customized by determining the information you want to have accessible.
- Sidebars are created and organized through available widgets. Here are a few common widgets:
 - Calendar
 - Categories
 - Recent Posts
 - Archives
 - Blogroll
 - Search RSS Feed



Pages, Blogroll, Categories

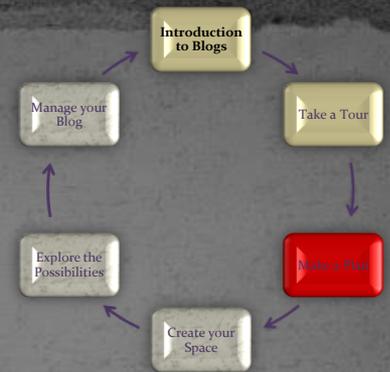


- On your planning template identify other pages, websites, and categories you want to create...



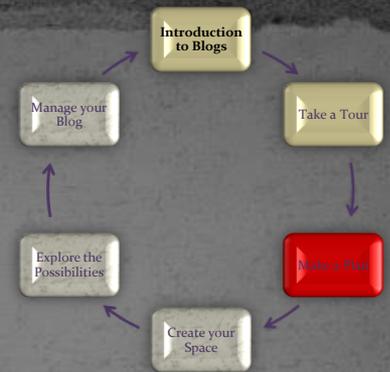
Biographical Statement

- You may want to include a biographical statement about yourself to be included on your home page.
- In could include the following:
 - A brief history of yourself
 - Include any professional/educational information
 - What you want viewers of your site to know about you

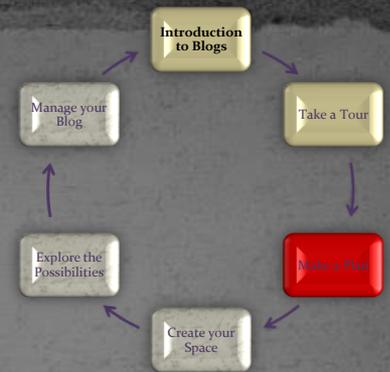


Welcome Message

- It is nice to have a Welcome Message somewhere on your home page.
- It is a brief message that welcomes viewers to your blog and helps with any information that may be necessary to navigate your blog site.



Welcome Message: Example



- **Rumination:** "Each child is living the only life he has-the only one he will ever have. The least we can do is not diminish it." -Bill Page

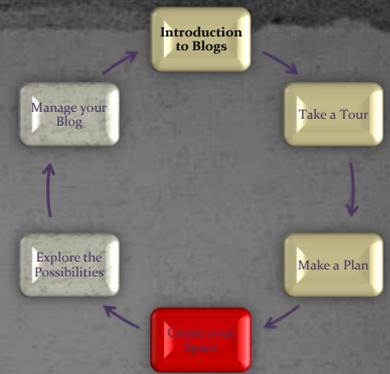
Your welcome could change as you desire or be linked to a static page





Create Your Space

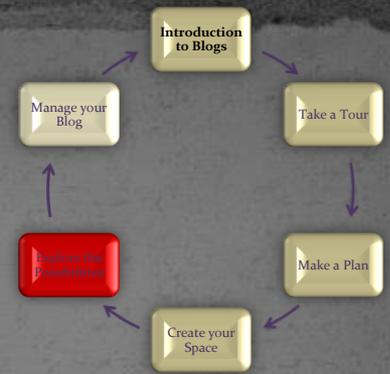
- Complete On-line Blog Application
 - www.besd.net
- Submit to Richard Johnson
- Wait for Approval Notification
- Put your “Plan” into action
 - Create Title
 - Choose Theme
 - Manage Widgets
 - Manage Categories
 - Manage Pages
 - Manage Posts
 - Manage Comments
 - Manage Blogroll

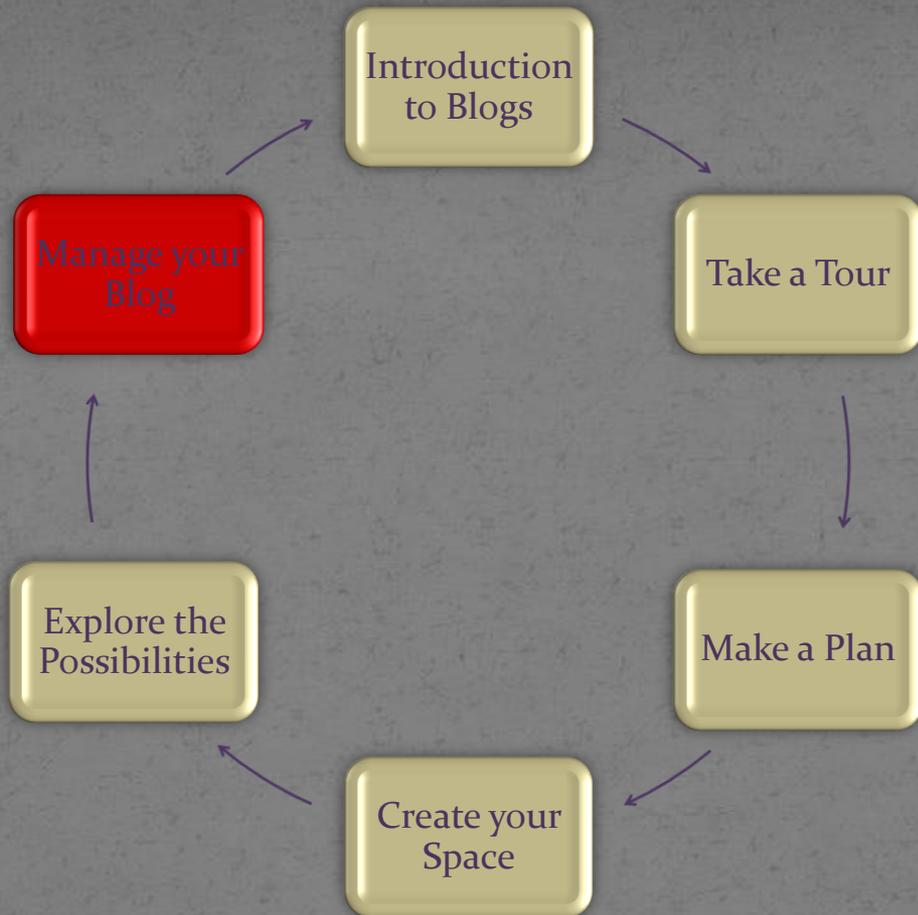




Explore

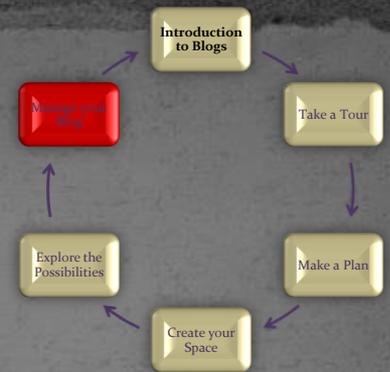
- Check out other blog sites for ideas
- Trade your address with someone in your building to experiment with your blog





Manage Your Blog

- Time to get started!
- Get in the habit of setting a specific time to edit/manage your blog each week.
- Share ideas with colleagues.
- Don't hesitate to contact us if you have questions.



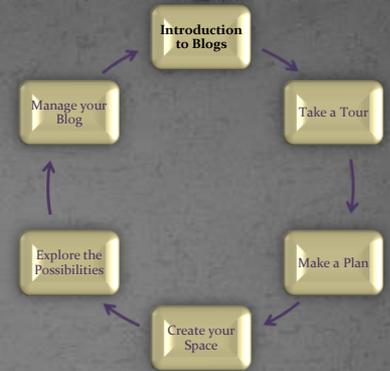
Questions?

- Please ask questions for additional:
 - Clarification
 - Help
 - Support
 - Concerns
 - Guidance
- Contacts:
 - Lynne Baty- lynne.baty@besd.net
 - Richard Johnson – richard.johnson@besd.net



FINALLY...

- Complete your Post Training Survey
- Complete your Blog Training Evaluation
- Get Started!



Thanks

