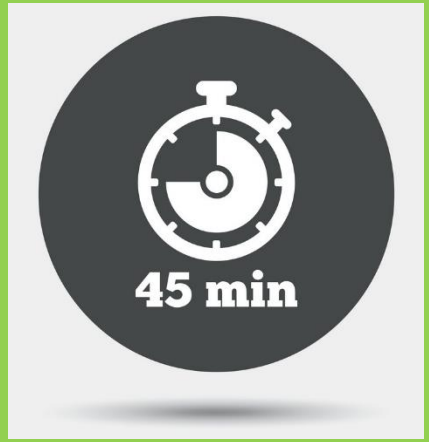
45 FREE Software Tools in 45 Minutes



Presented by: Robert McWilliams

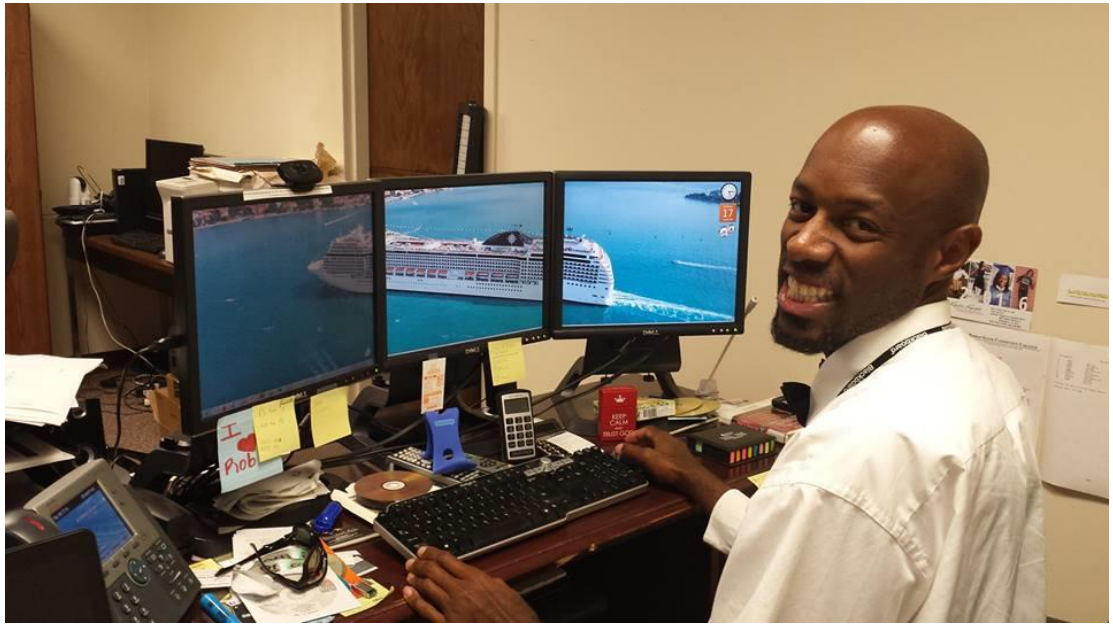
Overview

- Why is it free?
- What are the dangers of these free resources?
- Free Resources
  - Office Productivity
  - Grammar Tools
  - Plagiarism Checkers
  - Survey
  - Cloud Based Storage
  - Video & Presentation
  - Image Editors / Audio Editors
  - Apple Media Tools
  - File Conversation
  - Content Management Systems
  - Utility Programs
  - Communication Tools
  - File Transfer
  - Scholarships

FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE O FREE
FREE

Background

- Over 20 years' experience working in post-secondary
- Worked at seven institutions – both community college and university
- Over 12 years' experience in tech-related positions.
- Experience teaching 12 collegiate courses over five disciplines.
  - MTH
  - OAD
  - ORI
  - CIS
  - PSY



Why is it free?

- These applications are free because they fall under the following:
  - Open-Source
  - Designed by an Educational Institution/Non-Profit entity

What are the Dangers?

- Many “free” programs often contain malicious code – including spyware & viruses.

- The items presented are programs I have used and/or known about. They are likely to be safe.
- As always, be sure your Anti-Virus program is up to date when installing programs or operating online. ☺

My Goal

- That you walk out of this presentation with **at least one** tool that you can put to use.

Did I tell you?

Office Productivity

Open Office

- Office Productivity Suite
  - Word Processor
  - Presentation
  - Database
  - Spreadsheet
  - Draw
- This program is compatible with numerous vendor formats including Microsoft, Corel, dBase, Quattro Pro, Adobe, etc.
- Works on PC, MAC, Linux, & Solaris
- http://www.openoffice.org

Microsoft Office 365

Office 365 Education

Get started with Office 365 for free

Students and educators at eligible institutions can sign up for Office 365 Education for free, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, OneNote, and now Microsoft Teams, plus additional classroom tools. All you need is a valid school email address. It's not a trial – so get started today.

Enter your school email address

GET STARTED

NOT ELIGIBLE? SEE MORE OPTIONS >

LEARN HOW TO BUY FOR SCHOOLS >

- https://www.microsoft.com/en-us/education/products/office

WordWeb

Dictionary Program

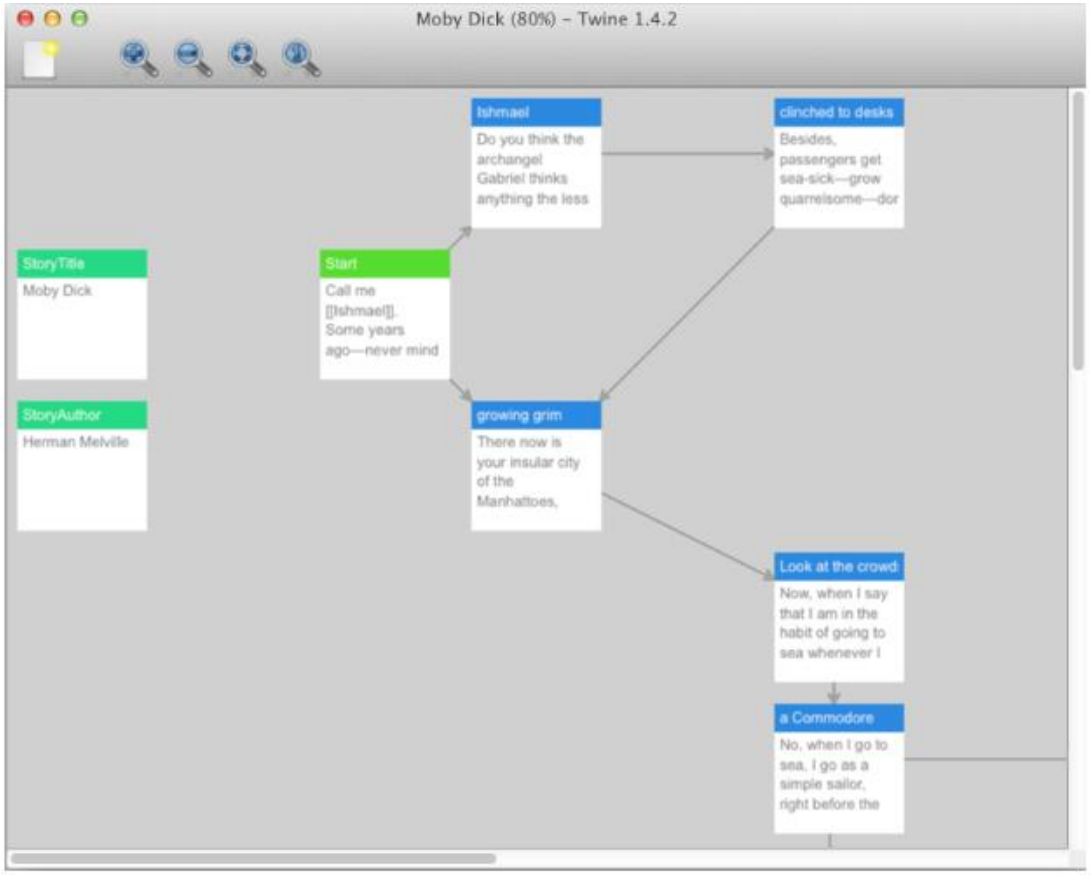
- Can be used as a stand alone program or inside of any other program to get definitions, synonyms, antonyms, and pronunciation of words.
- Available for PC, Android & iOS
- http://www.wordwebsoftware.com/

Merriam-Webster Apps

- America's most useful and respected dictionary.
- Available for Android, iPhone & iPad.
- www.m-w.com or search Google Play/iOS App Store.

Twine

- Twine is an open-source tool for telling interactive, nonlinear stories.
- https://www.twinery.org/



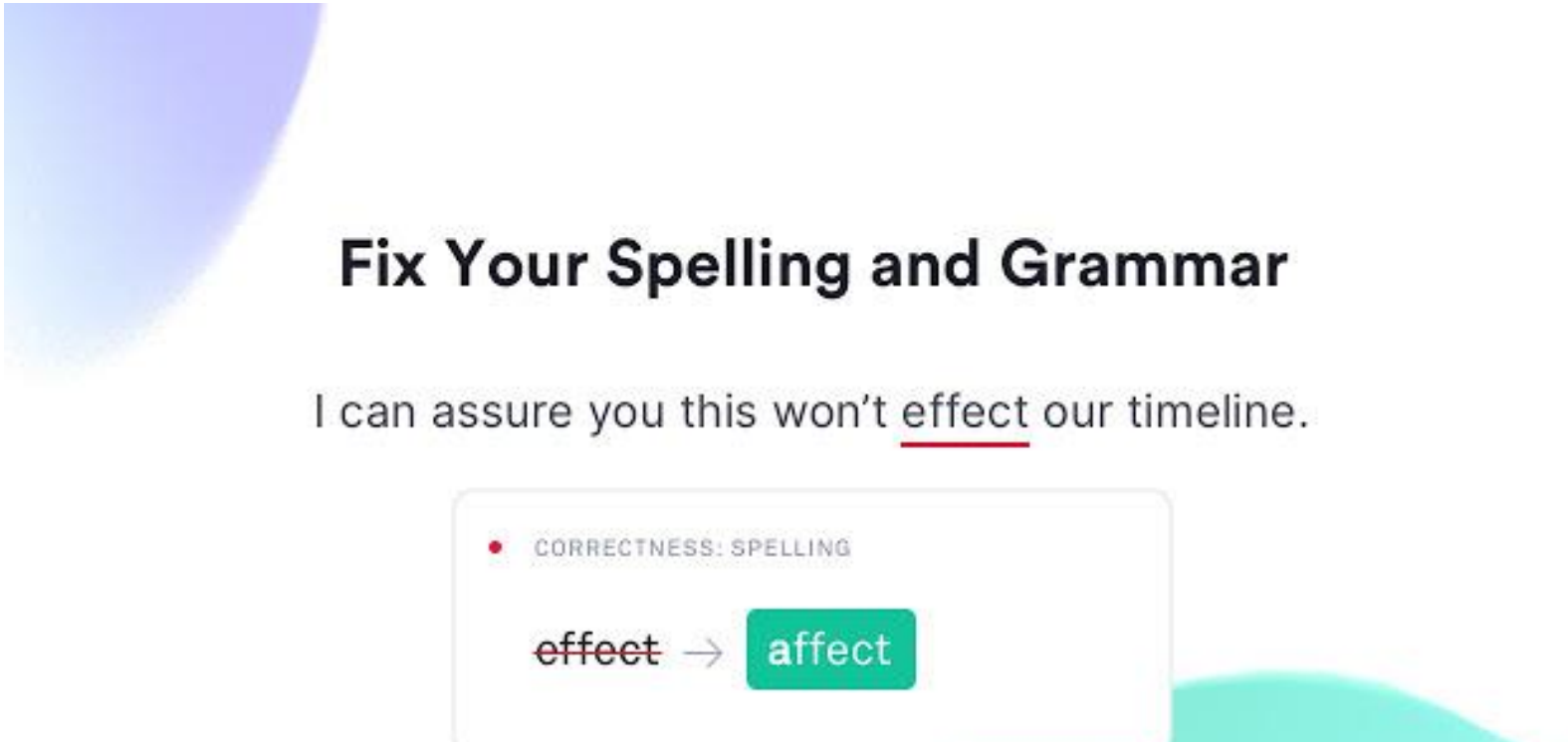
Class-Templates

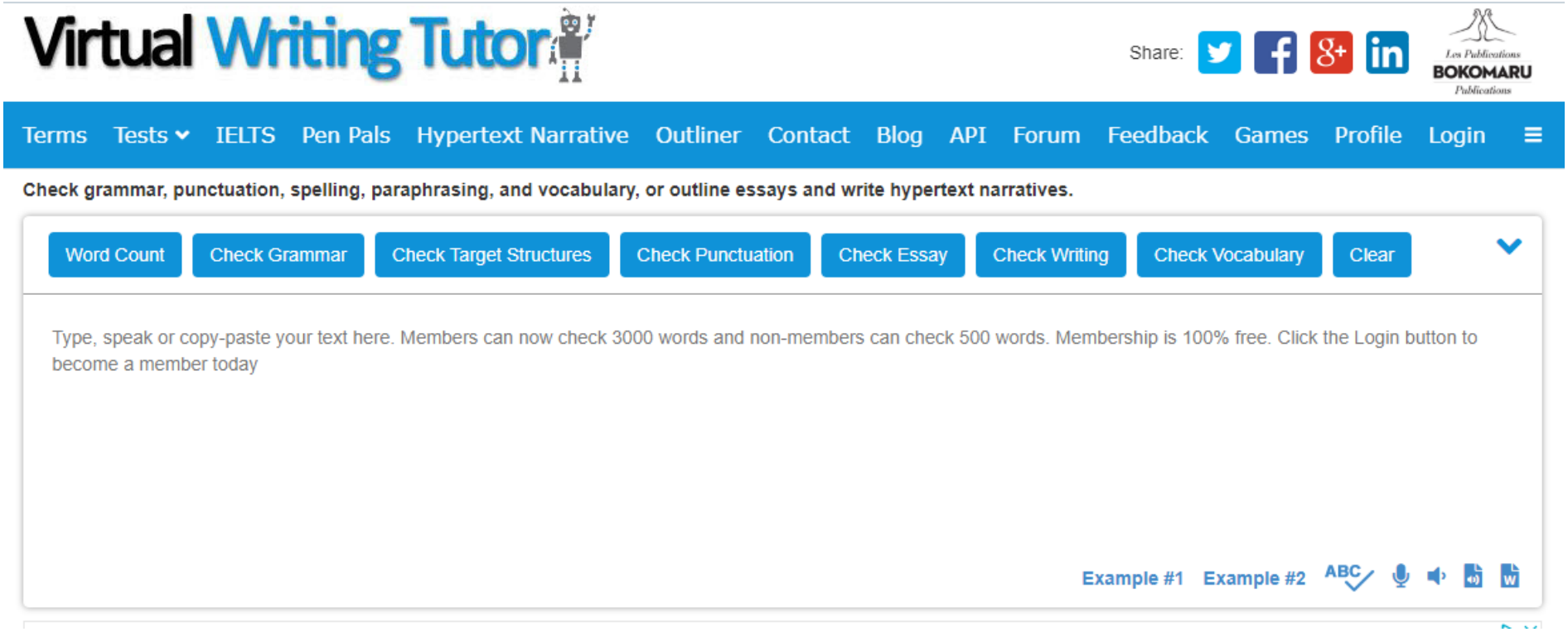
- Templates and Free Teacher Resources, Lesson Plans, Attendance Tracking and Class Administration Tools.
- https://www.class-templates.com/

Grammar Tools

Grammerly

- Grammarly makes sure everything you type is easy to read, effective, and mistake-free.
- Grammarly scans your text for proper use of more than 400 advanced grammar rules, spanning everything from subject-verb agreement to article use to modifier placement.
- https://www.grammarly.com





- https://virtualwritingtutor.com

Plagiarism Checkers

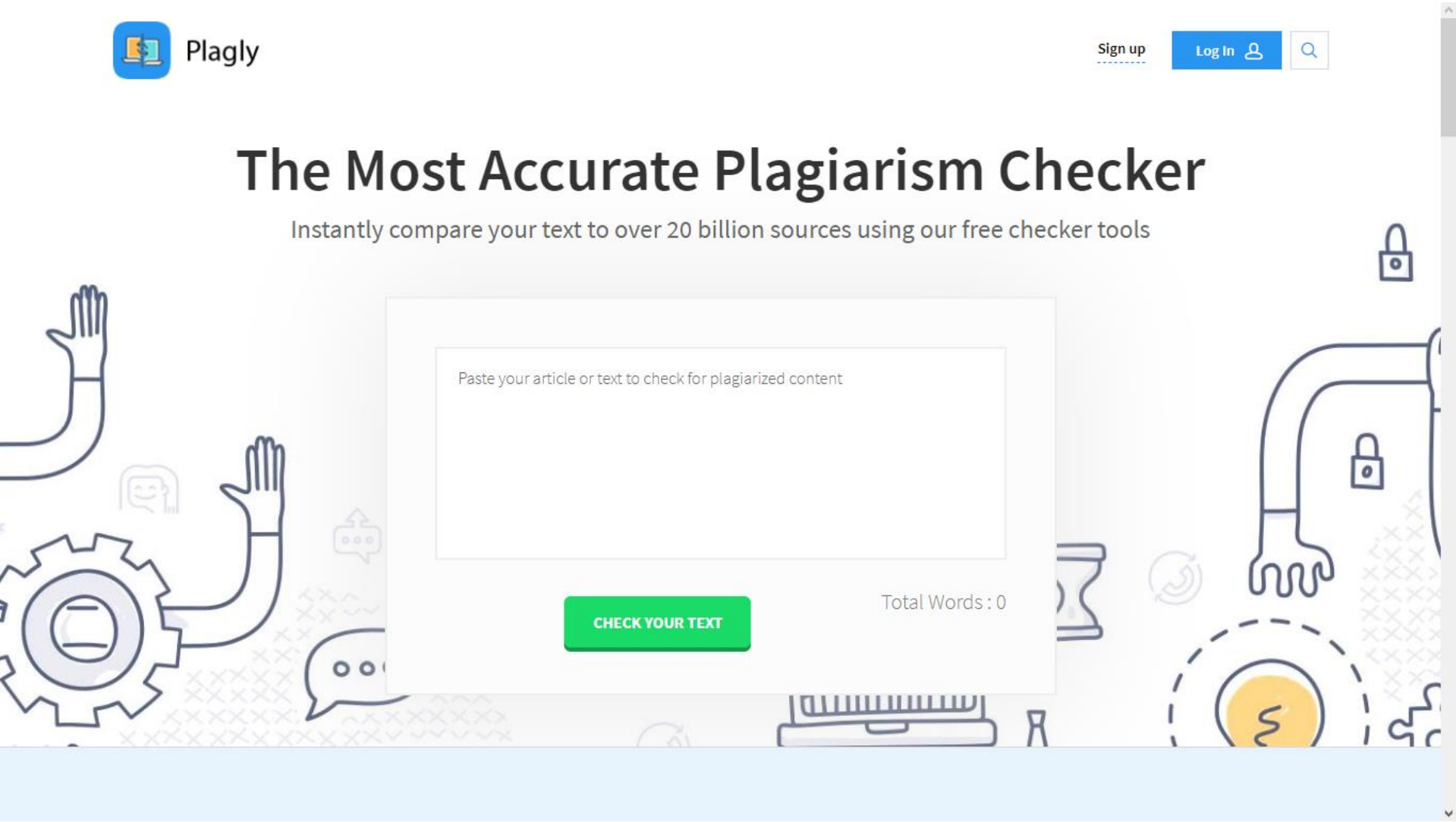
Plagiarism Check Websites

- The sites below provide instructors with tools to check for plagiarized assignments.
  - http://www.articlechecker.com/

  - http://www.plagiarismchecker.com/

  - http://www.duplichecker.com/

Plagly



- http://plagly.com

Survey

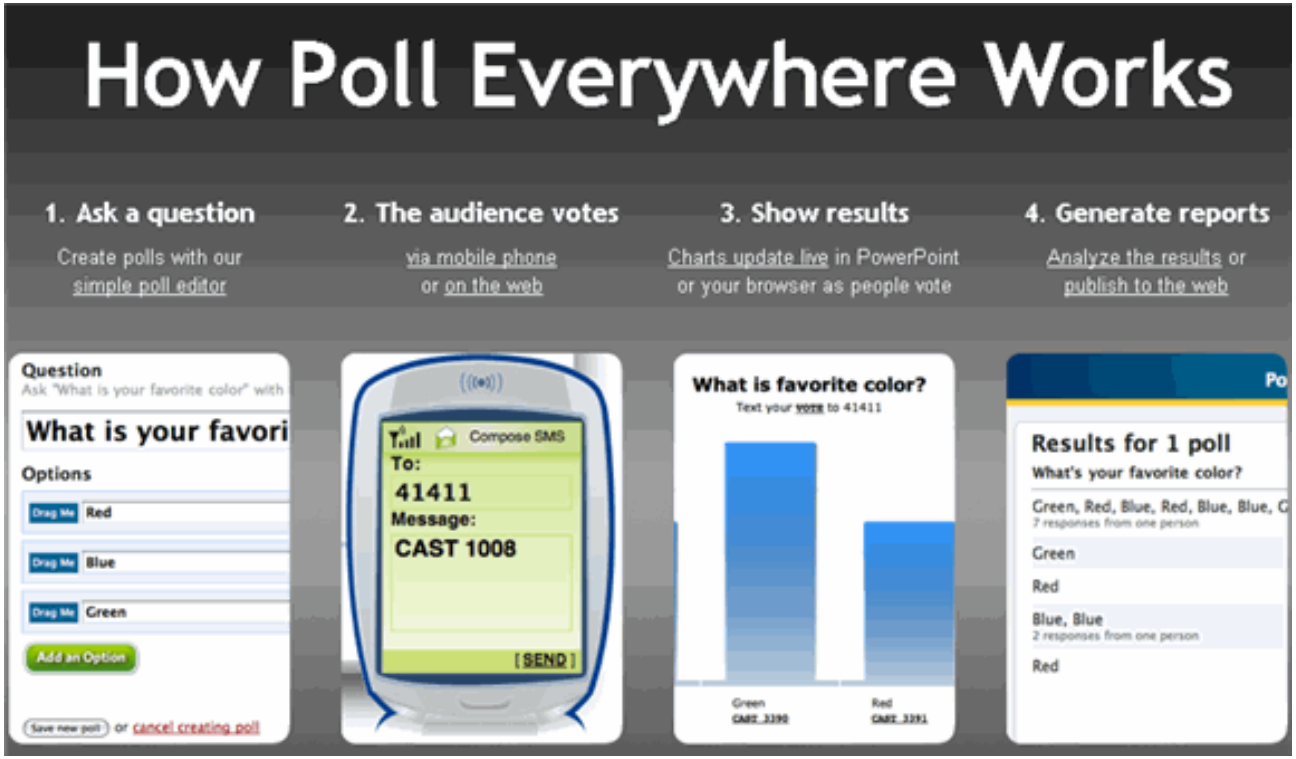
Zoomerang | Survey Monkey

- http://www.zoomerang.com

- http://www.surveymonkey.com

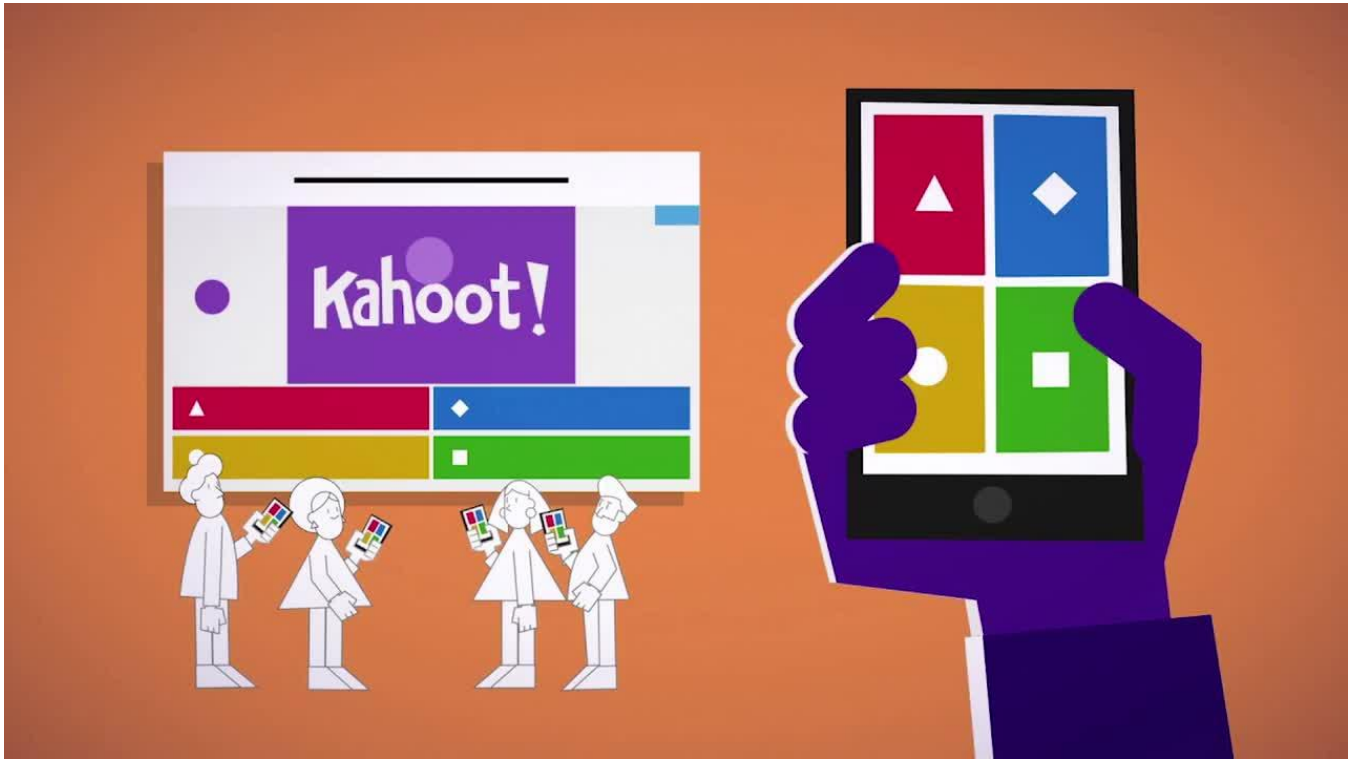
Poll Everywhere

- Audience response system that uses mobile phones, twitter, and the web. Responses are displayed in real-time.
- www.polleverywhere.com



Kahoot!

- Learning, Games, surveys and Mobile interaction made fun
- https://kahoot.com



Wufoo

- 5 Forms
- 100 Entries
- 10 Fields
- 1 User
- 100 API Requests
- Unlimited Reports
- www.wufoo.com

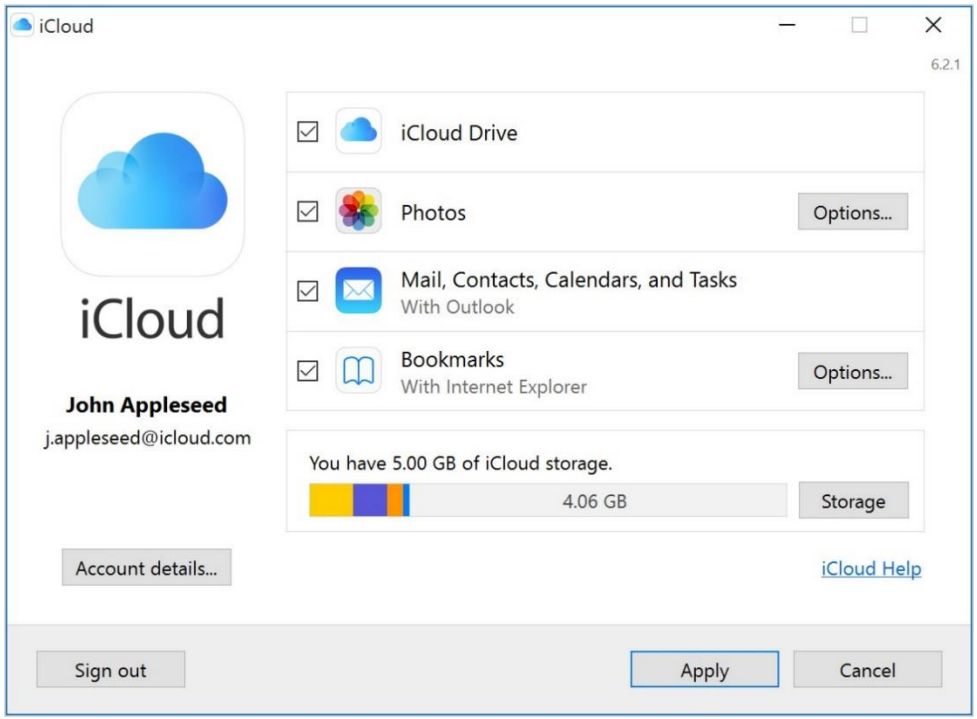
Cloud Based Storage

DropBox

- 2 GB of space
- Sync files across devices
- Shared folders and links
- Dropbox Paper
- https://www.dropbox.com

iCloud

- 5GB: free
- Accessible across multiple platforms:
  - iPhone, iPad, iPod touch, Mac, or Windows PC at any time
- https://www.icloud.com/



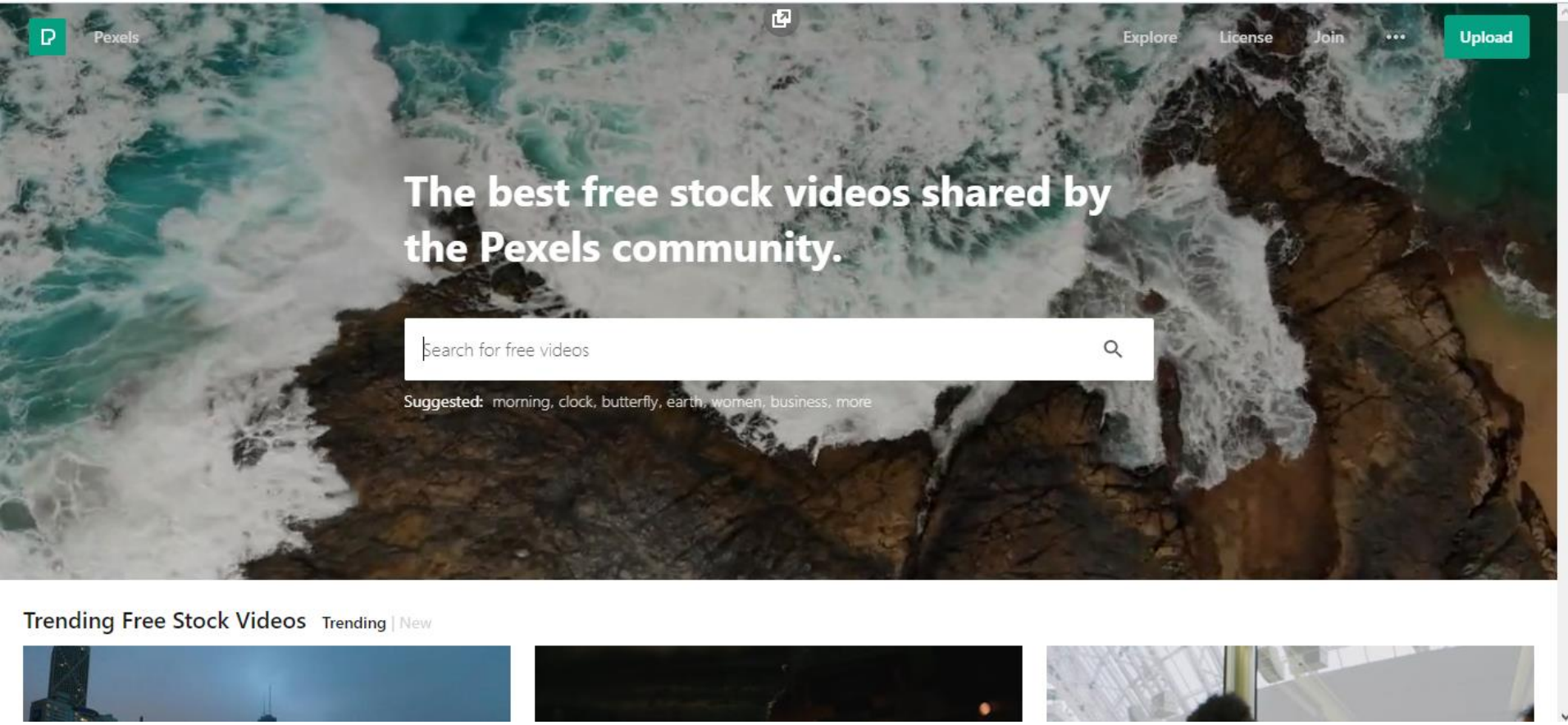
One Drive

- 5GB
- a simple way to store, sync and share various types of files, with other people and devices on the internet.
- https://onedrive.live.com

Video & Presentation

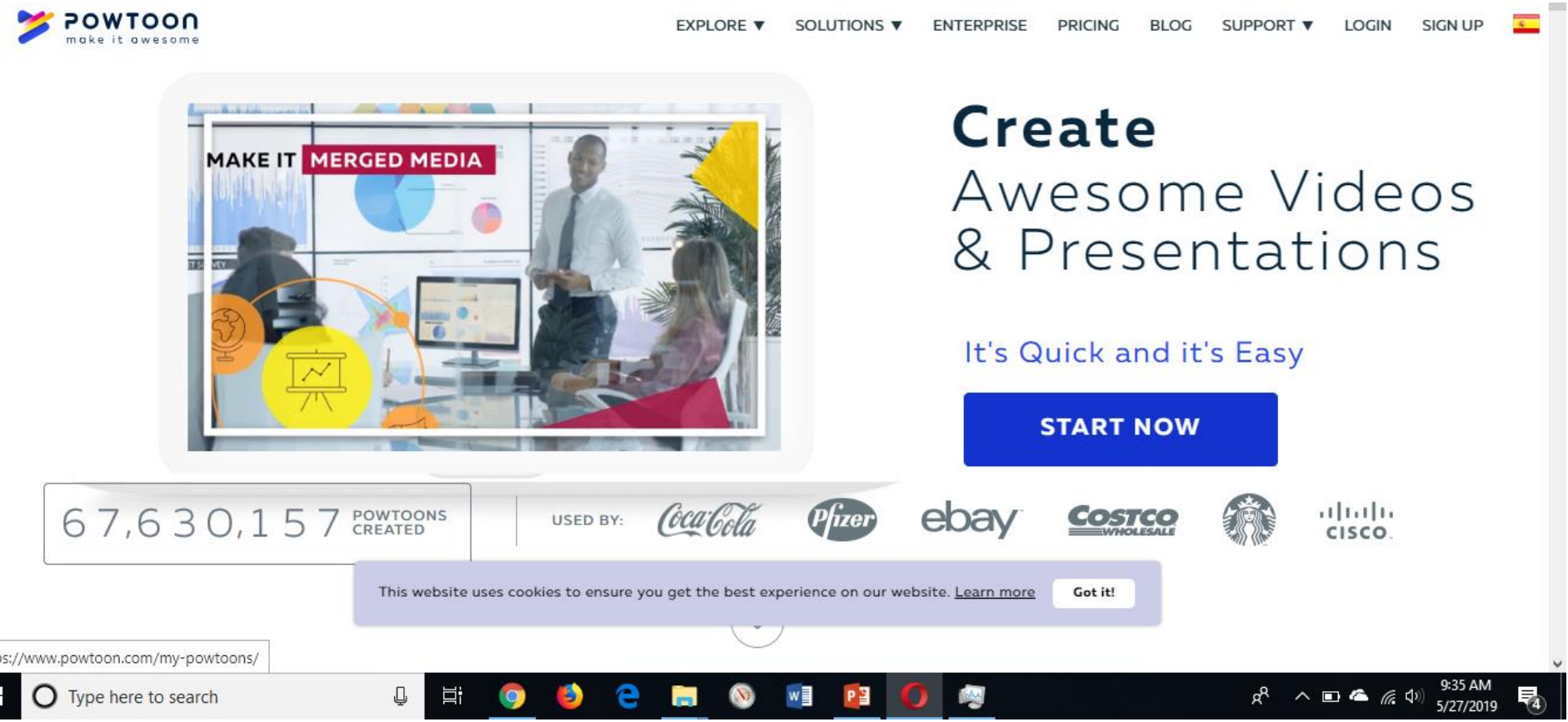
Pexels FREE Stock Videos

- https://www.pexels.com/videos/



Powtoon

- www.powtoon.com

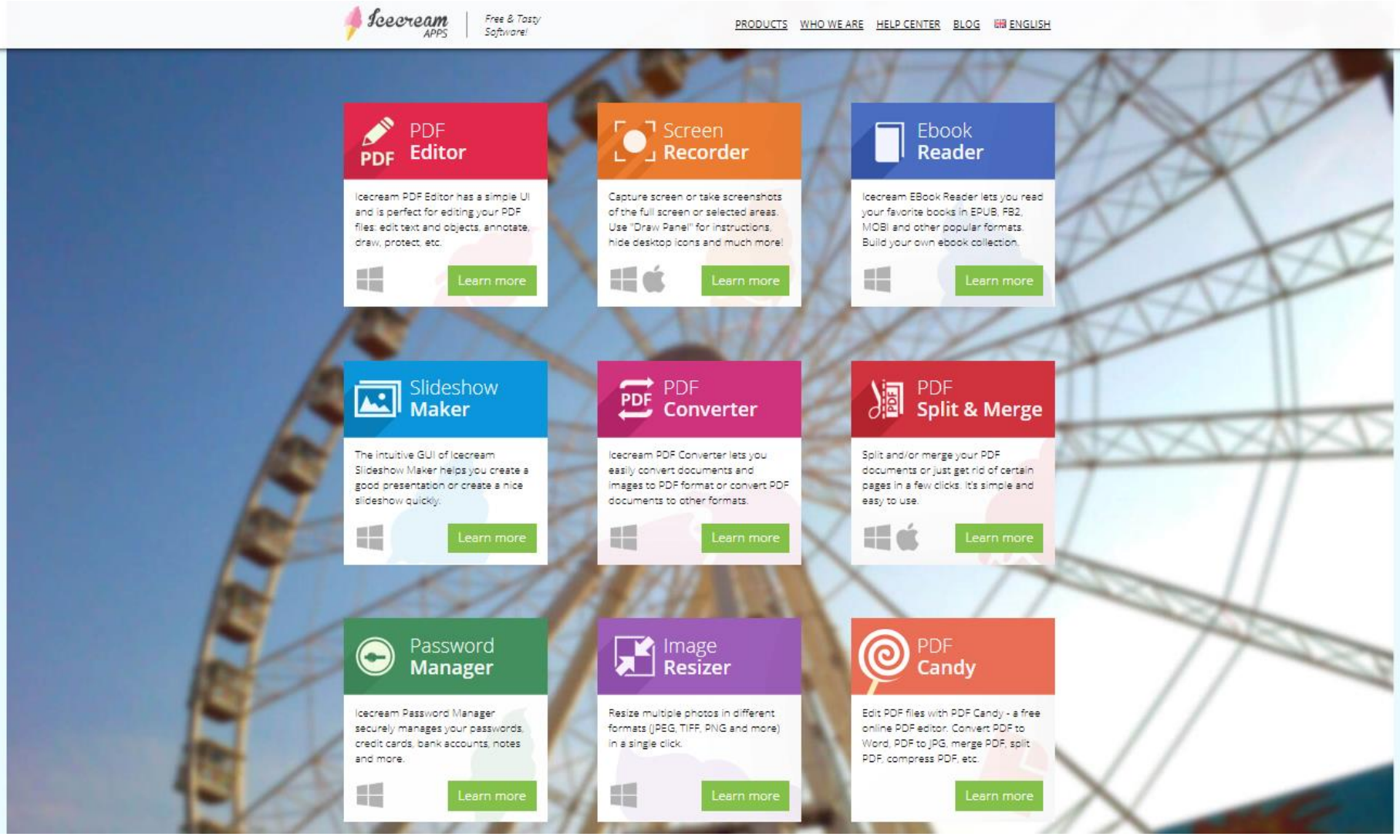


CamStudio

- CamStudio is able to record all screen and audio activity on your computer.
- Output: AVI video files and Streaming Flash videos (SWFs)
- Platform: Windows
- http://www.camstudio.org/

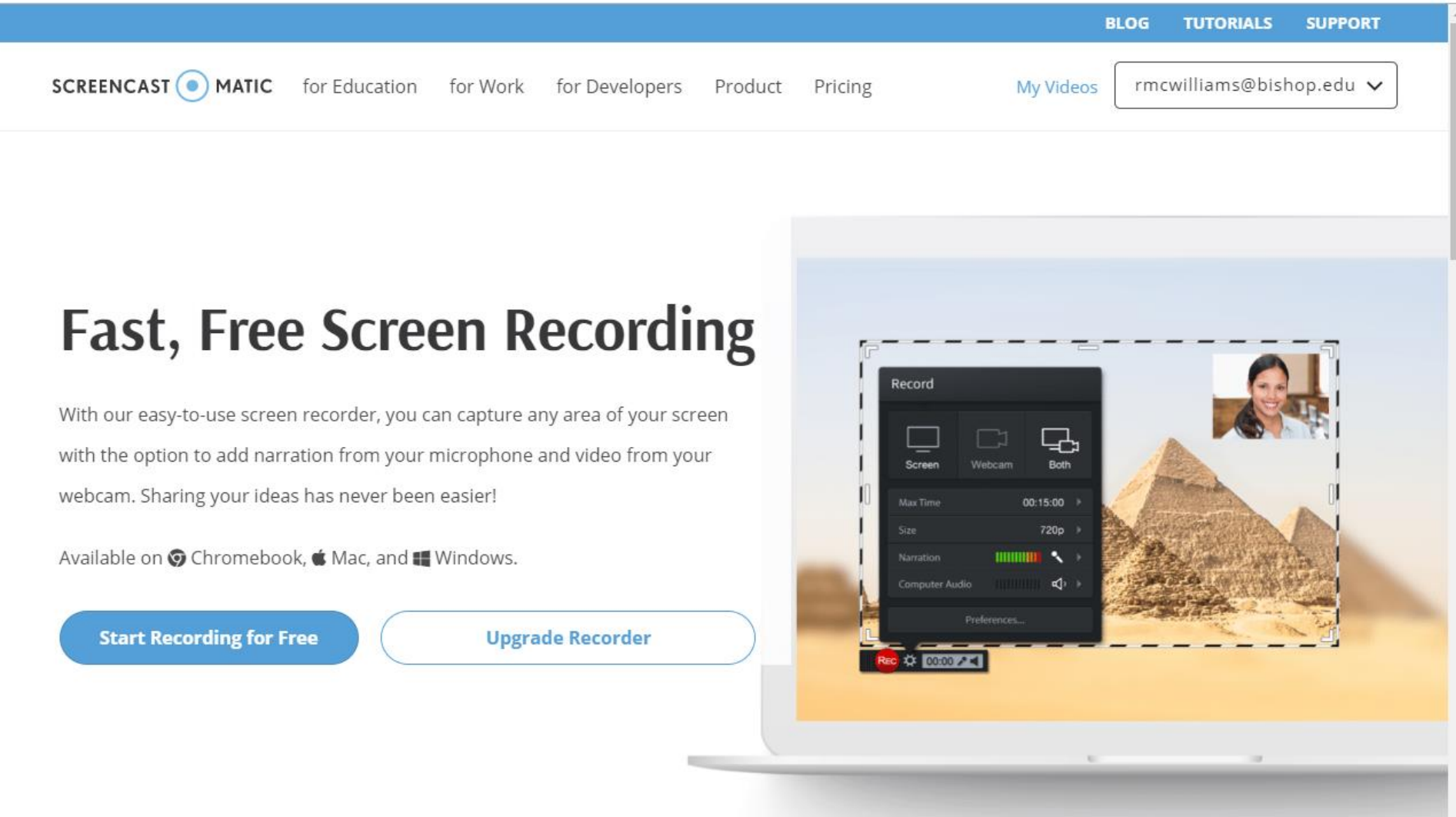
Ice Cream

- www.icecreamapps.com



Screencast-O-Matic

- https://screencast-o-matic.com/ (now ScreenPal https://screenpal.com/)
- Works on Windows, Mac and Chromebook

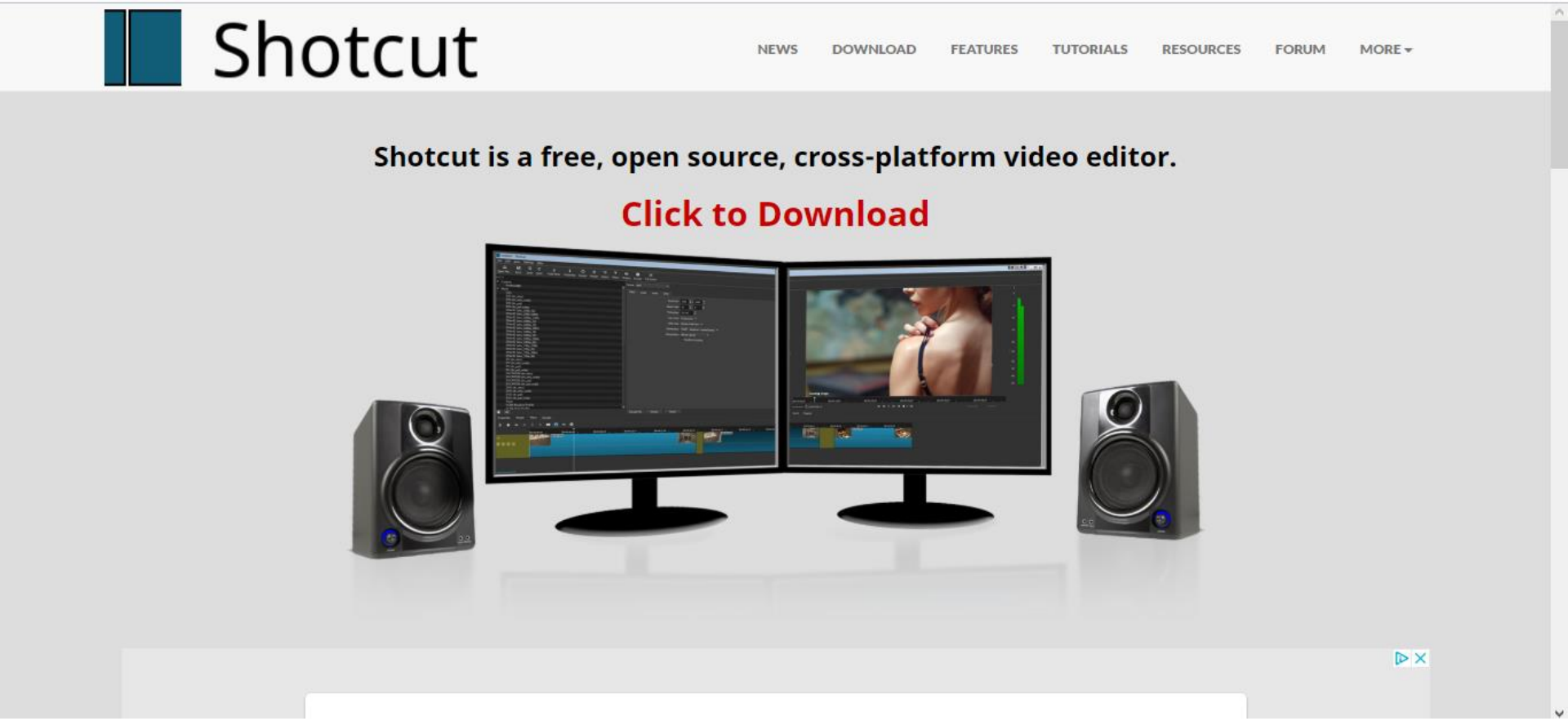


Animoto

- Drag and drop your photos, videos and music to create and share videos online. New Layouts & Templates. FB Marketing Partner. Make a Video in 5 Minutes. Pro-Quality Videos. Social Media Videos
- http://animoto.com/

Shot Cut

- www.shotcut.org
- Available on PC, Mac & Linux



Clip Champ

- Clipchamp is a free service that doesn't require you to upload your video to its website. The files stay on your computer unless you opt for one of the company's integrated options. There is no limit on file size. Services include:
- Flipping or mirroring the video
- Trimming unwanted parts from the video
- Rotating files clockwise or counterclockwise
- Cropping out unwanted sections of the video
- Adjusting color, brightness, and saturation
- http://clipchamp.com

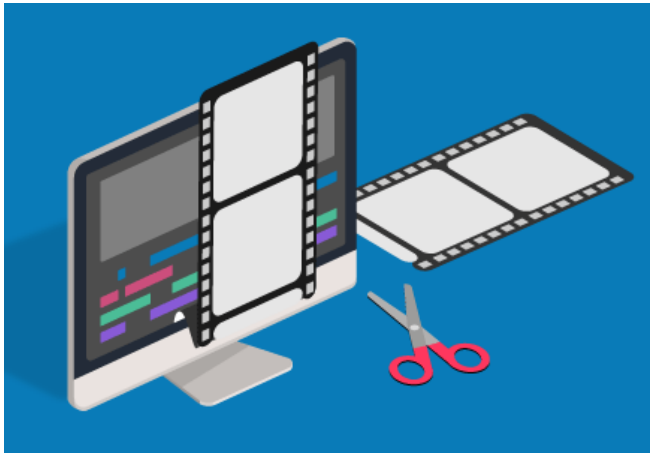
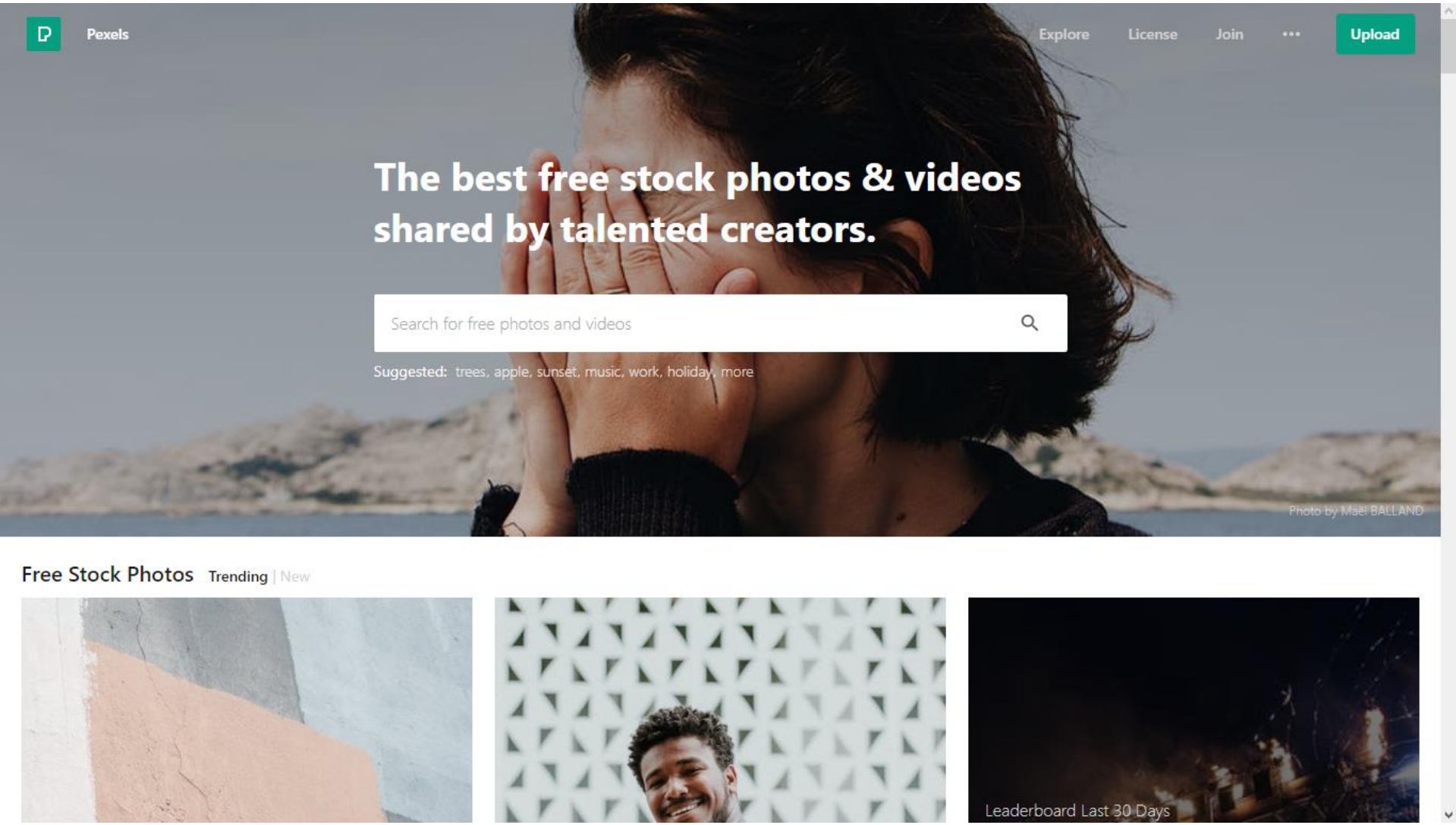


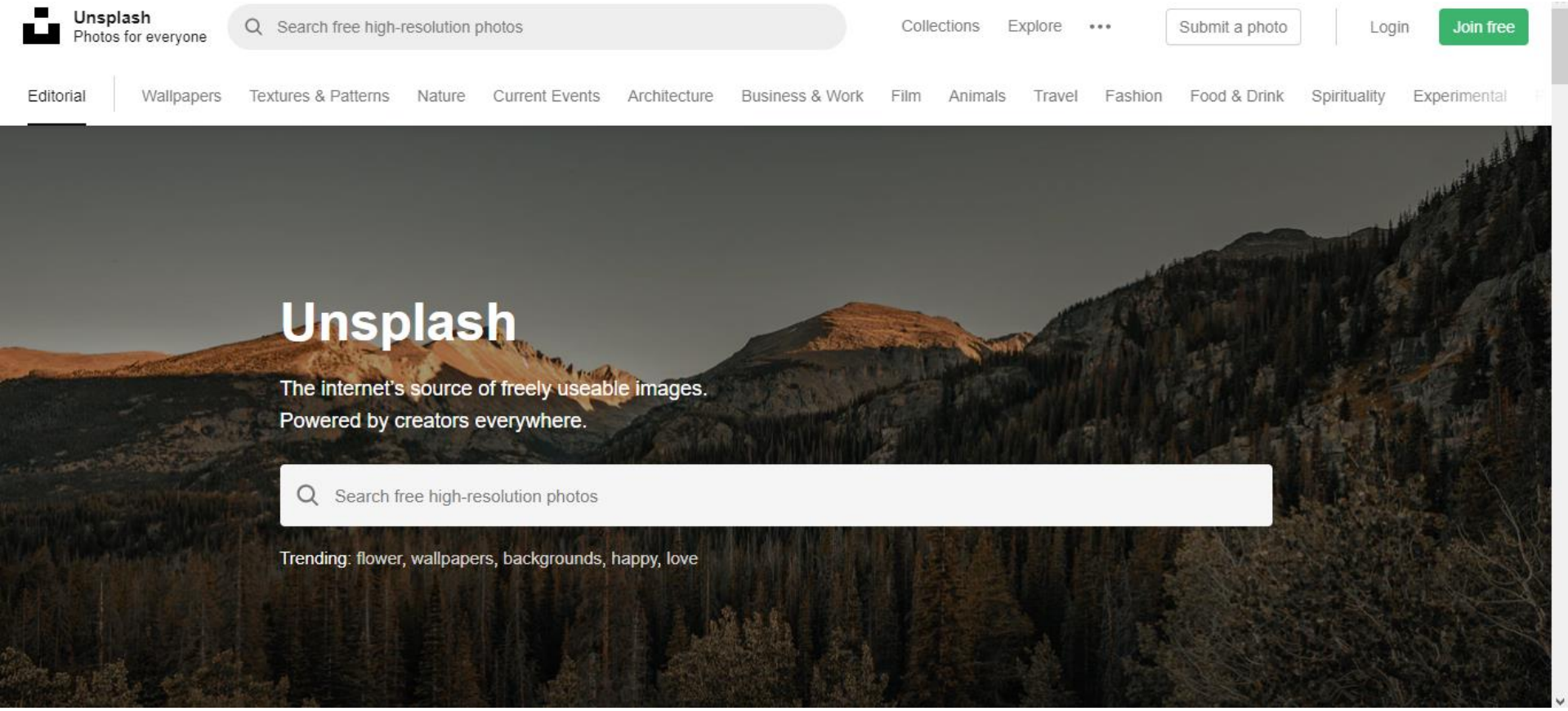
Image Editors

Pexels FREE Stock Images

- http://www.pexels.com



UnSplash



- https://www.unsplash.com

Gimp

- Image Manipulation Program similar to Paint or Photoshop
- Performs photo retouching, image composition and image authoring
- Works with Windows, Mac and Unix.
- http://www.gimp.org/

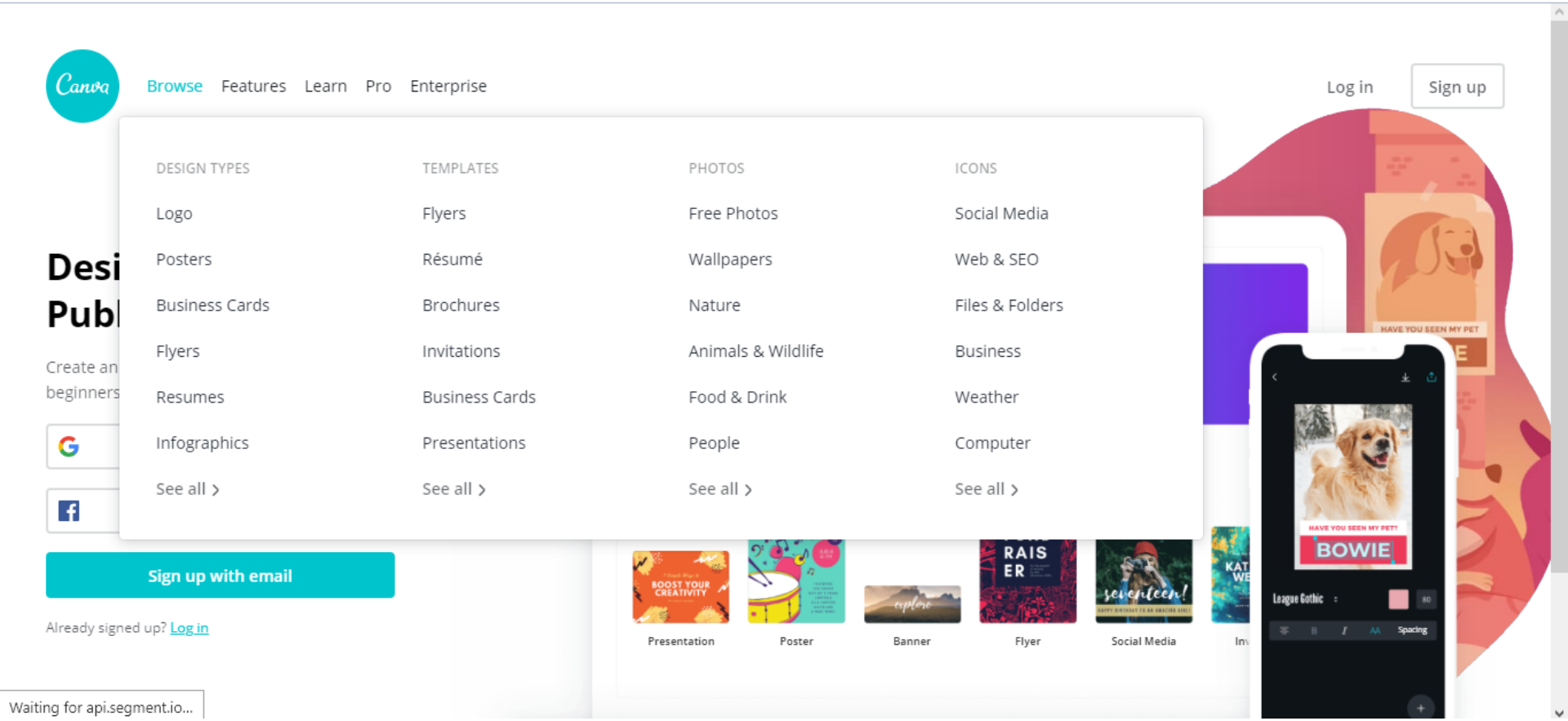
Pixlr –Online image editor

- Available on computer & mobile devices with online access.
- Also works with Android and iOS | https://pixlr.com/editor/

Cool Text

- Create neat logos and buttons – online.
- Download over 1,200 fonts
- Can be useful for creating handouts or developing online content
- http://www.cooltext.com

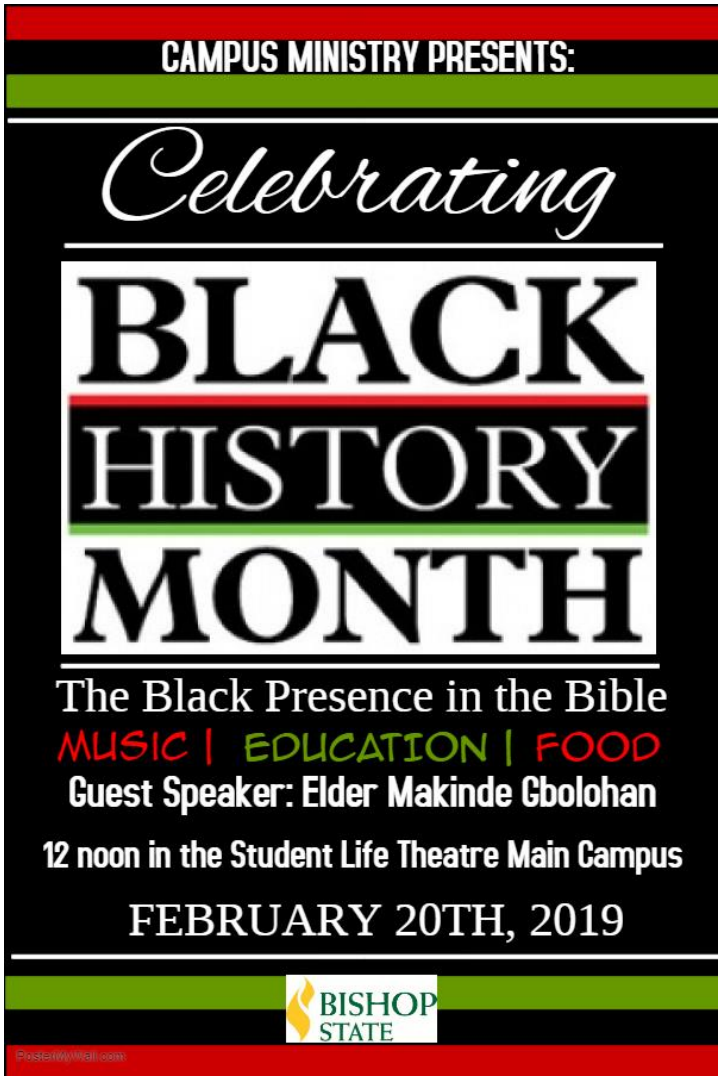
Canva



- https://www.canva.com/

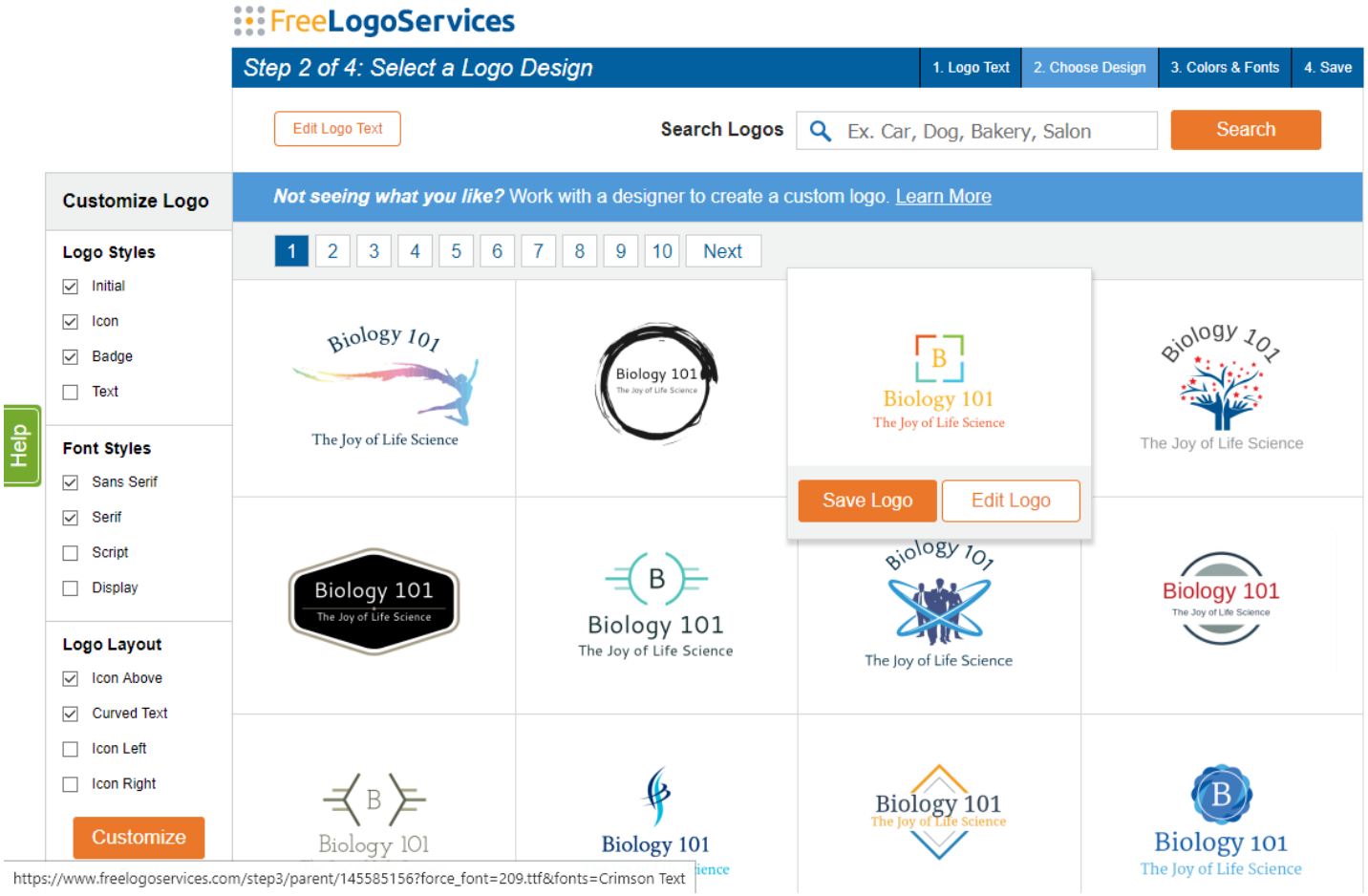
Poster My Wall

- www.postermywall.com
- Create amazing posters, videos & graphics

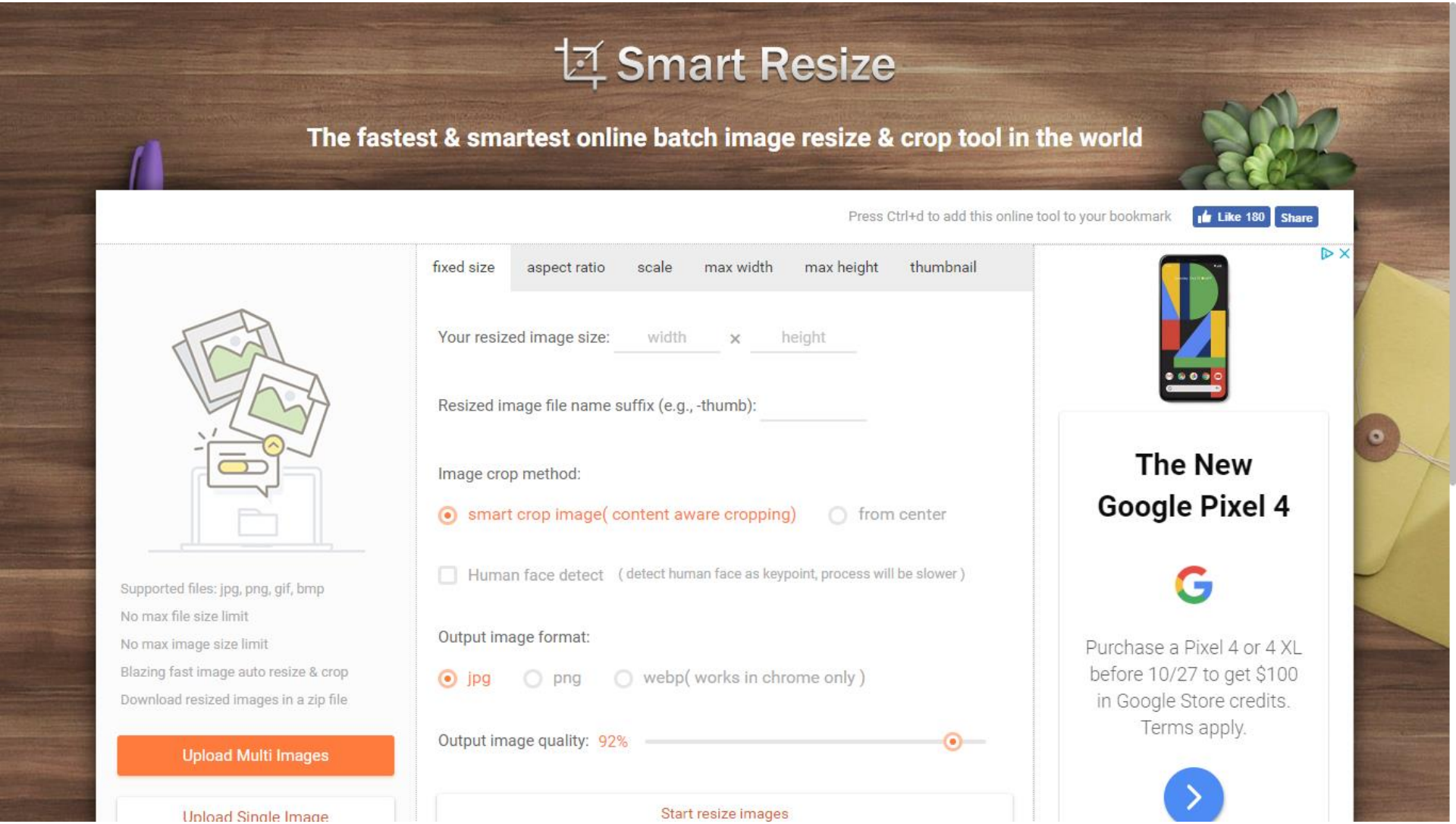


Free Logo Services

- www.FreeLogoServices.com



Smart Resize

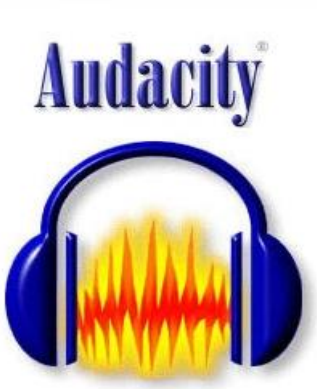


- https://www.smartresize.com/

Audio Editors

Audacity

- Audacity® is an open source program for recording, editing & exporting sounds
- Available for PC, Mac, Linux/Unix
- http://audacity.sourceforge.net/



Twisted Wave

TwistedWave Mac iPhone / iPad Online Developer Support FAQ

TwistedWave, an audio editor.

Easy to use, fast, powerful.

TwistedWave is available for Mac, iPhone / iPad and online.

Mac

TwistedWave for Mac a very powerful and yet very easy to use audio editor.

You try it now for free!

Learn more »

iPhone / iPad

With TwistedWave on your iPad or iPhone, you can record and edit anything, anywhere. This is just like a portable home studio.

Learn more »

Online

Run TwistedWave without having to download or install anything. Launch it directly from your web browser, and continue editing your files where you left them.

Learn more »

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- https://twistedwave.com
- Edit up to 5 minutes of audio

Bear Audio

- https://www.bearaudiotool.com/
- Allows you to edit, record and convert audio

Apple Media Tools

Apple iMovie

iMovie

Turn your videos into movie magic.

With iMovie for iOS and macOS, you can enjoy your videos like never before. It's easy to browse your clips and create Hollywood-style trailers and stunning 4K-resolution movies. You can even start editing on iPhone or iPad, then finish on your Mac.

Download iMovie for iOS

Download iMovie for macOS

- Allows you to edit videos
- Works on any iOS
- https://www.apple.com/in/imovie/

Apple Clips

Say it, see it.

Live Titles let you easily create animated captions and titles — just by talking. Simply speak while recording, and text automatically appears onscreen, synced with your voice. Tap the clip to easily edit text, add punctuation, or change the style of your title.

- Allows you to create videos with captioning
- Clips is an iOS app for making and sharing fun videos with text, effects, graphics, and more.
- Compatible with iPhone, iPad, and iPod touch.
- Clips requires iOS 11.1 or later.
- https://support.apple.com/guide/clips/welcome/ios

Apple GarageBand

https://www.apple.com/mac/garageband/

GarageBand for Mac

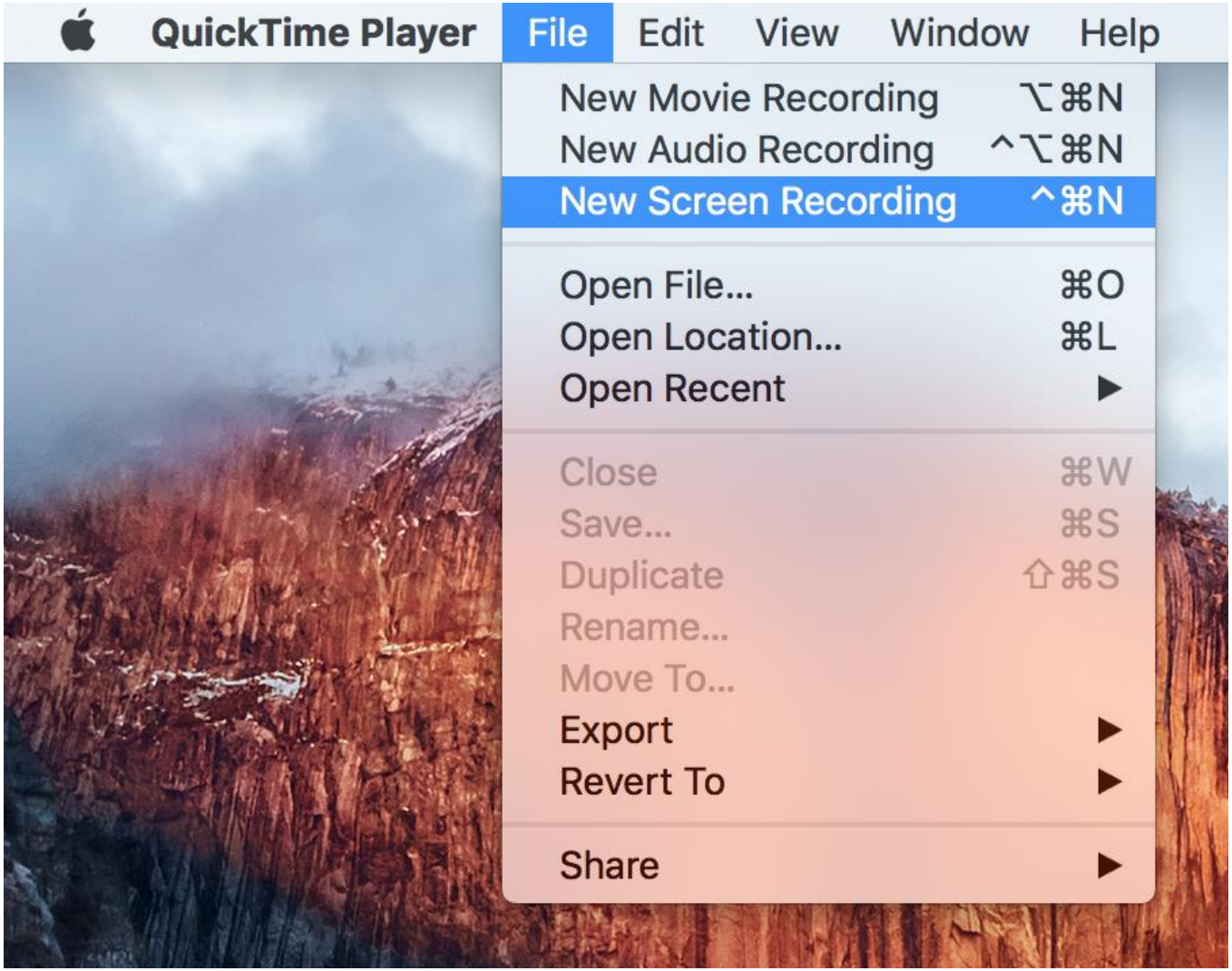
Incredible music.
In the key of easy.

GarageBand is a fully equipped music creation studio right inside your Mac — with a complete sound library that includes instruments, presets for guitar and voice, and an incredible selection of session drummers and percussionists. With Touch Bar features for MacBook Pro and an intuitive, modern design, it's easy to learn, play, record, create, and share your hits worldwide. Now you're ready to make music like a pro.

Download GarageBand for Mac

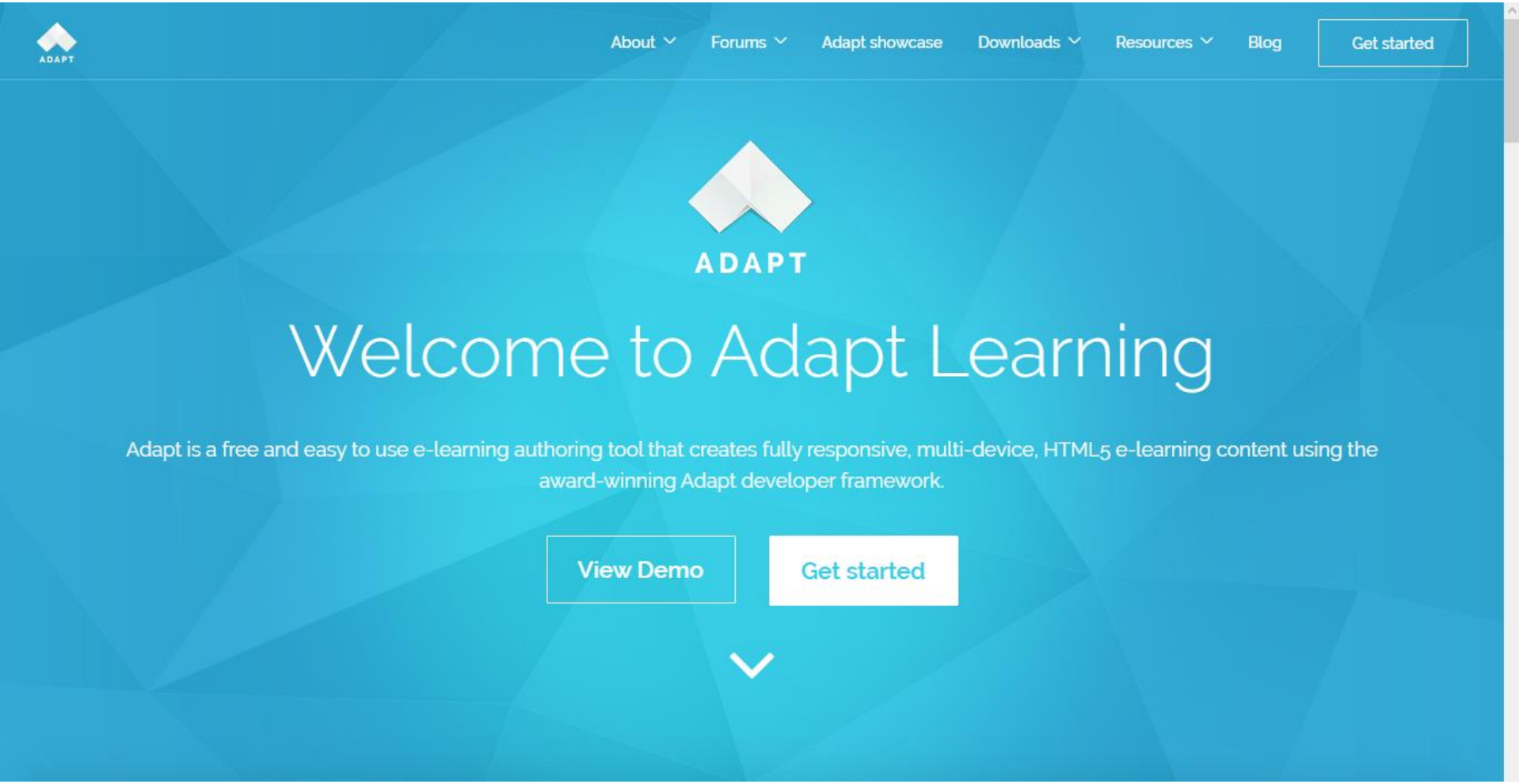
QuickTime screen recording on Mac

- Download the Free QuickTime Player



Authoring Tools

Adapt Learning



- Adapt is a free and easy to use e-learning authoring tool that creates fully responsive, multi-device, HTML5 e-learning content using the award-winning Adapt developer framework.
- https://www.adaptlearning.org/

File Conversation

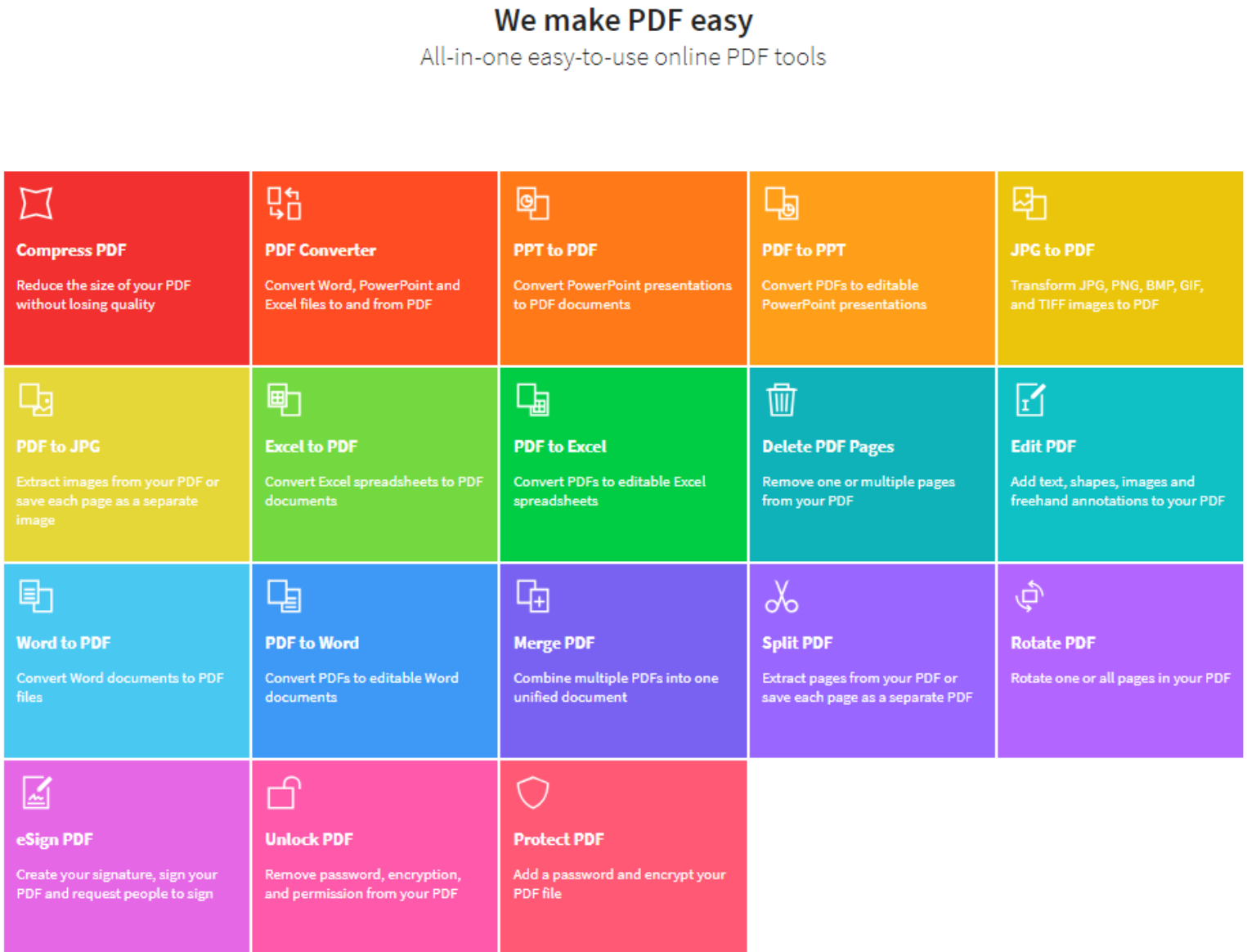
Cute PDF

- Create professional quality PDF files from almost any printable document.
- Available for PC.
- http://www.cutepdf.com

CutePDF™ ideas for PDF

SmallPDF

- www.smallpdf.com



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FREE
Bonus!

100%
FREE

ZamZar

- Convert files from your desktop or from a URL online without installing any software.
- Converts many types of formats for images, documents, music and videos.
- http://www.zamzar.com

Content Management Systems

Content Management Systems

- Allows publishing, editing, and modifying content as well as site maintenance from a central page.
- Moodle
  - www.moodle.org
- Joomla
  - www.joomla.org
- WordPress
  - www.wordpress.org

Other CMS

- Weebly
  - www.weebly.com
- Wix
  - www.wix.com
- B12
  - www.b12.io

Utility Programs

Wayback Machine – Internet Archive

- http://web.archive.org
- The Wayback Machine is a digital archive of the World Wide Web and other information on the Internet. It was launched in 2001 by the Internet Archive
- Use it to find older website designs, files, date, etc.

7-Zip

- Allows you to compress files & folders into “zip files” as well as open zip files.
- Works on Windows, Mac & Unix
- http://www.7-zip.org/

SimpleOCR

- SimpleOCR (Optical Character Recognition)
- If you have a scanner and want to avoid retyping your documents, SimpleOCR is the fast, free way to do it.
- Works with Windows PC.
- http://www.simpleocr.com/

SimpleSoftware
Simple solutions for document management

Speakonia

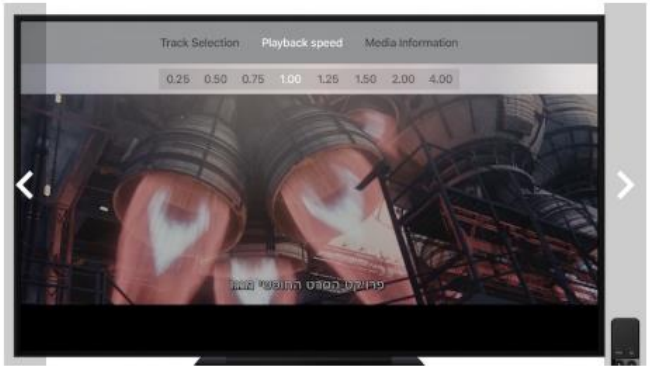
- Text to Speech Software
- Plan and simple, this program takes your text and reads it aloud.
- Can export spoken text as a WAV file.
- https://download.cnet.com/Speakonia/3000-7239_4-10125328.html

VLC Media Player

VideoLAN ORGANIZATION | VideoLAN | VLC | Projects | Contribute | Support | €4.00 donate | $5.00 donate

Partners: Video Unified

VideoLAN, a project and a non-profit organization.



VLC media player

VLC is a free and open source cross-platform multimedia player and framework that plays most multimedia files as well as DVDs, Audio CDs, VCDs, and various streaming protocols.

Download VLC

Version 3.0.8 • Windows 64bit • 40 MB
50,670,181 downloads so far

Other projects from VideoLAN

FOR EVERYONE

VLC media player
VLC is a powerful media player playing most of the media codecs and video formats out there.

VLMC
VideoLAN Movie Creator is a non-linear editing software for video creation

FOR PROFESSIONALS

DVBlast
DVBlast is a simple and powerful MPEG-2/TS demux and streaming application.

multicat
multicat is a set of tools designed to easily and efficiently manipulate multicast streams and TS.

FOR DEVELOPERS

libdvdcss
libdvdnav
libdvdpsi
libVLC

- https://www.videolan.org

Bit.ly

- Allows users to shorten long URL addresses, share URLs with others and track the number of views of a particular link
- http://www.bit.ly

Norton Safe Web

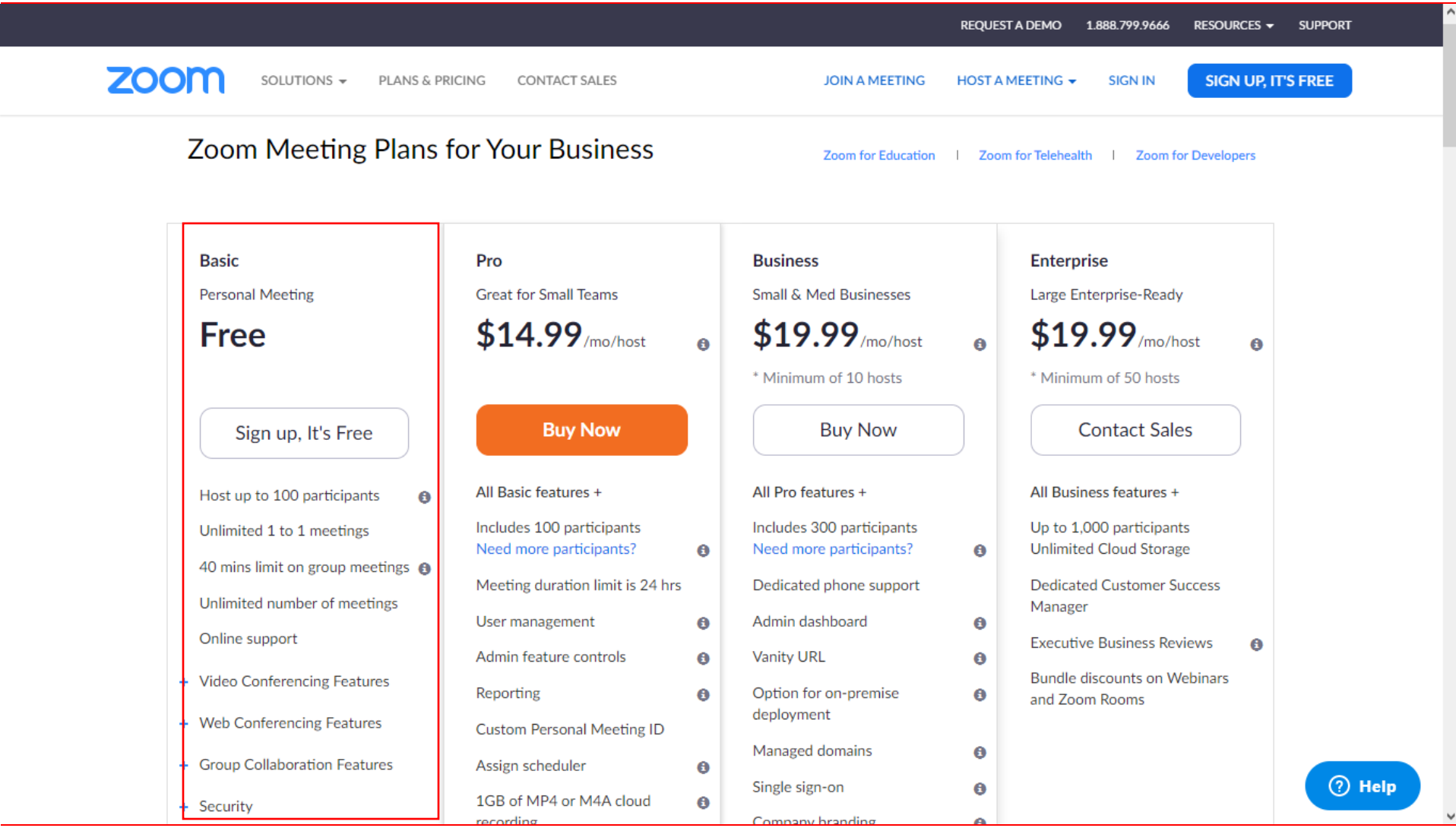
- Allows users to verify if a website is safe or not.
- Analyze sites for
  - Computer Threats
  - Identity Threats
  - Annoyance factors
- http://safeweb.norton.com/

Communication Tools

Free Conference Call

- Offers conference calls that are simple and easy to use, requiring only a name and an e-mail address to receive an instant account.
- Features:
  - Up to 6 hours in length
  - Up to 96 callers
  - Offers options for logs & recording
- www.freeconferencecall.com

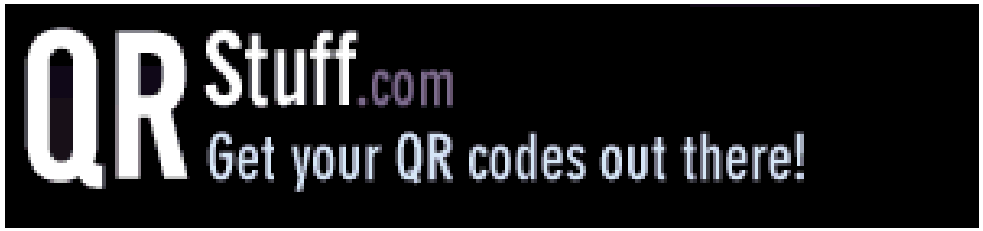
Zoom



- www.zoom.us

QR Generator

- Allows you to generate a QR-code for a URL, text, phone number, SMS, etc.
- http://www.qrstuff.com/

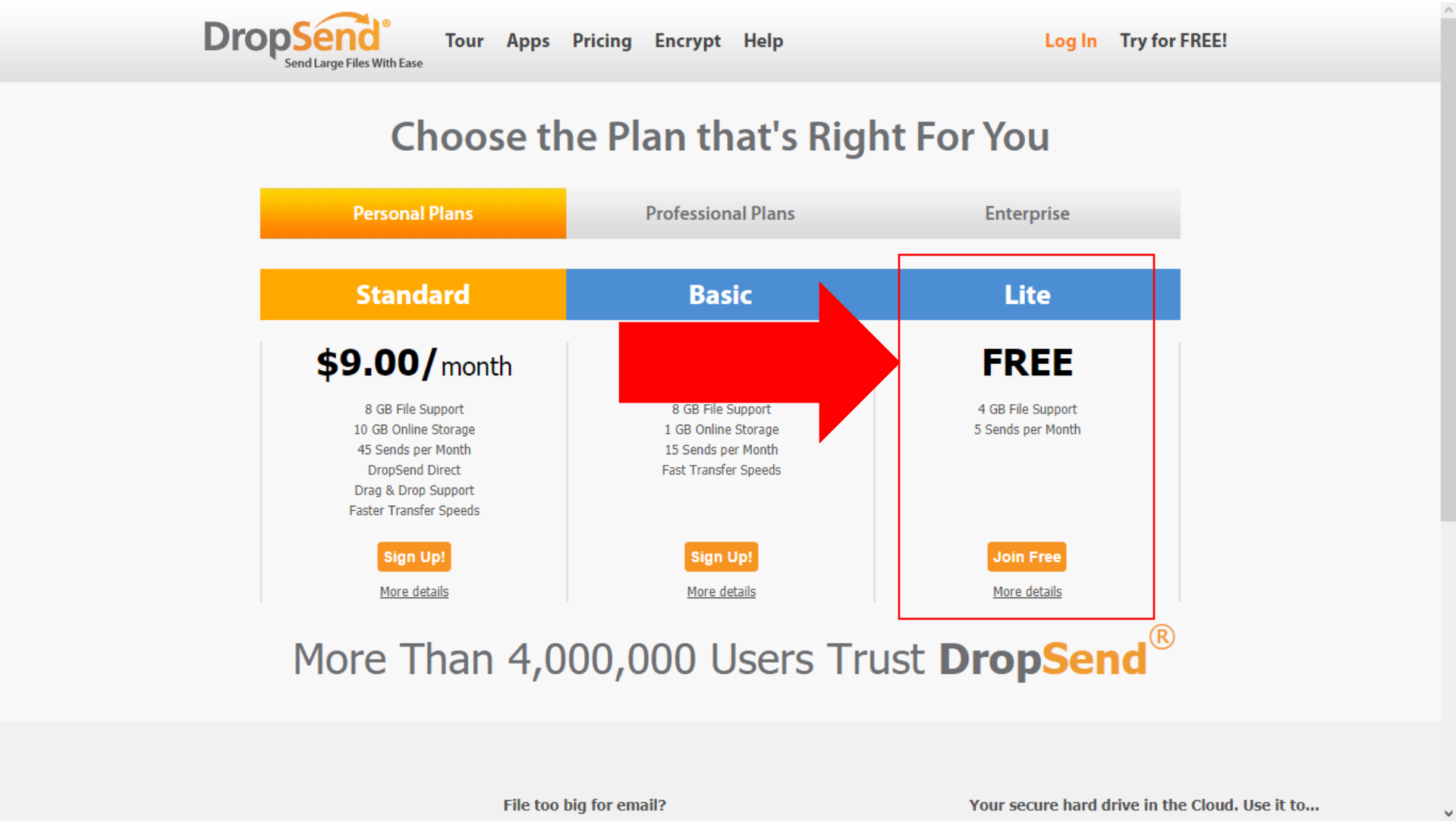


File Transfer

We Transfer

- http://www.wetransfer.com
- Send up to 2GB
- No registration
- It’s free

Drop Send



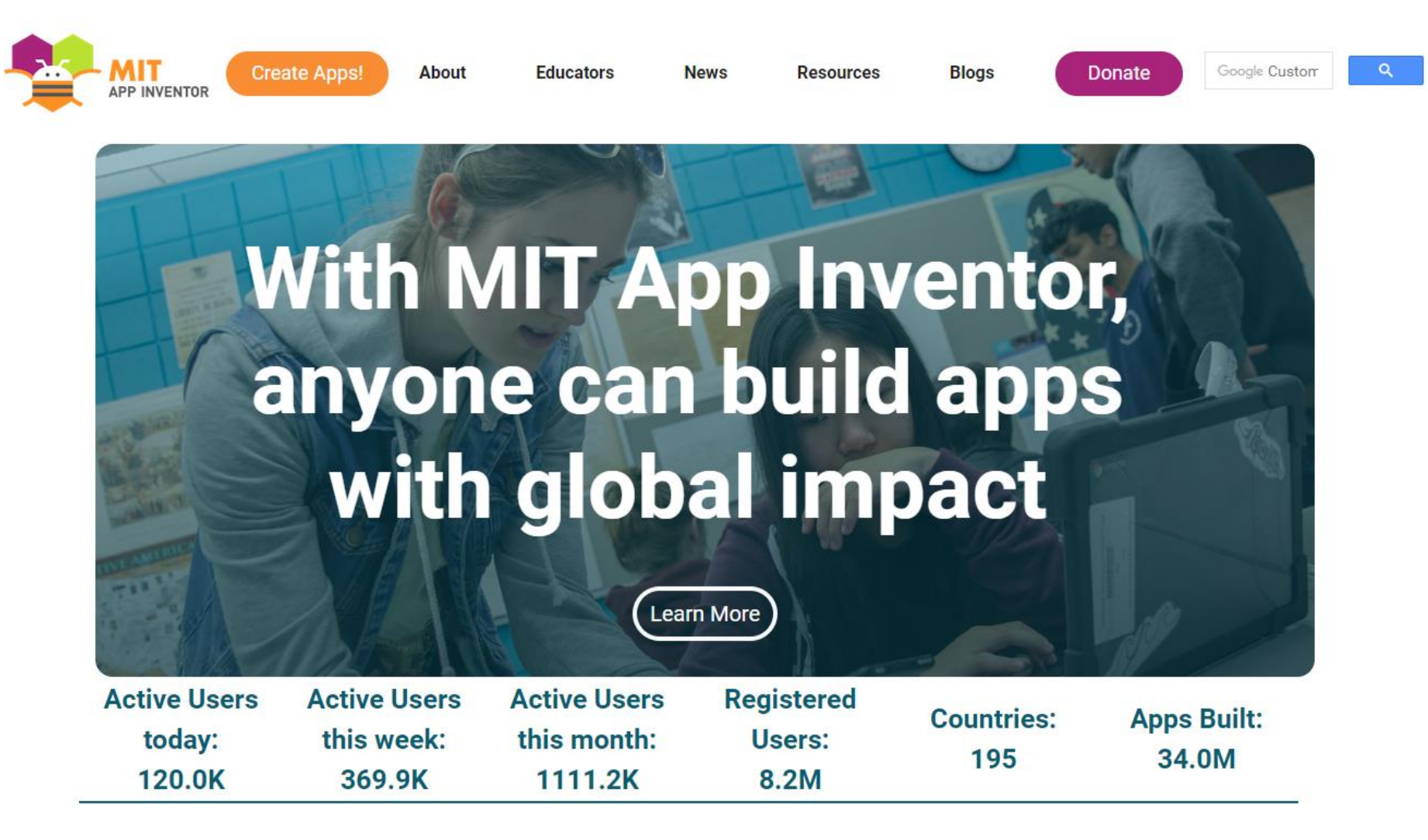
- http://www.dropsend.com

File Mail

- https://www.filemail.com/
- 50 GB max size
- Files available for 7 days
- Unlimited Downloads
- Available on PC, Mac, iOS and Android

App Development

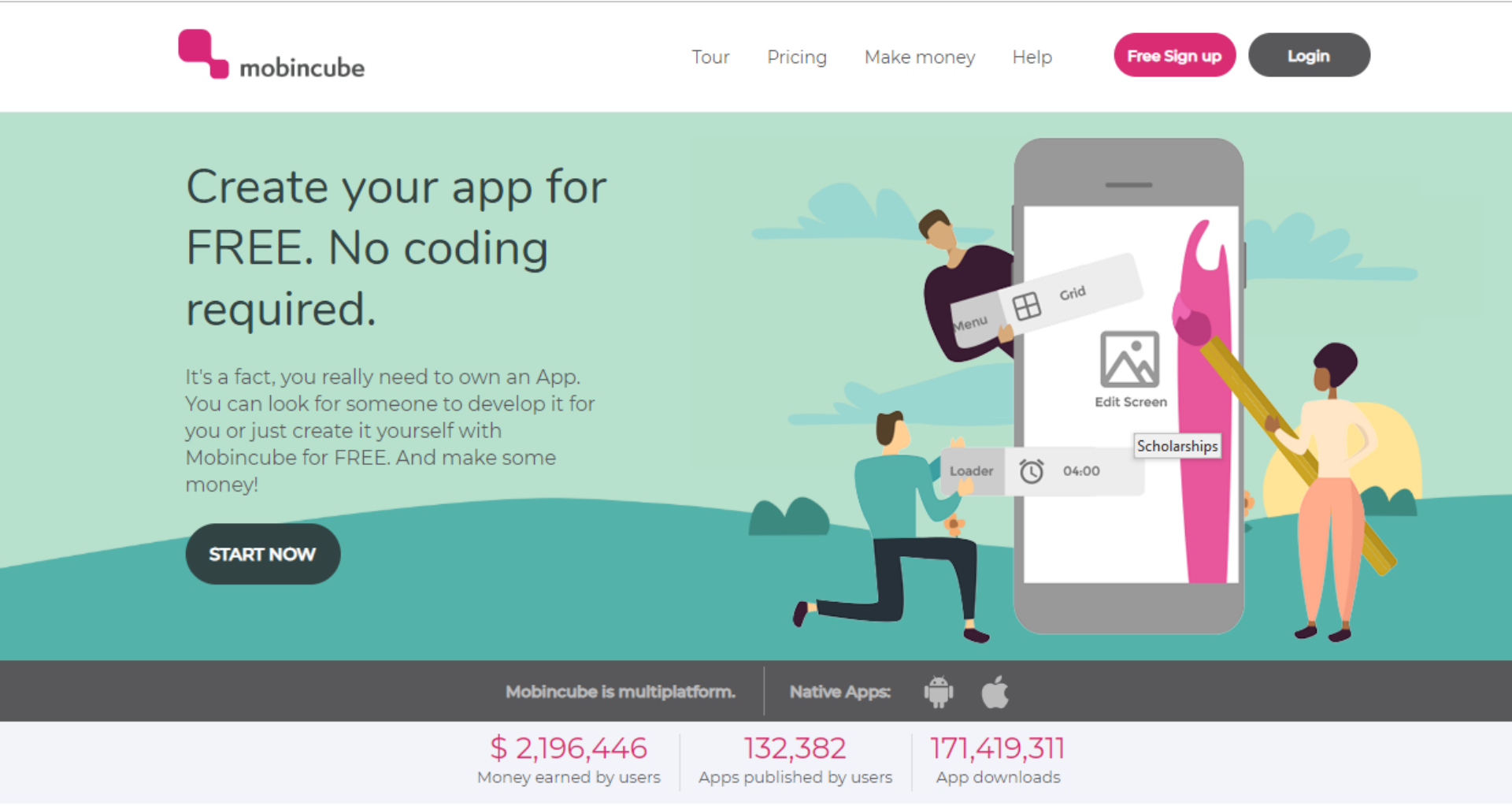
MIT App Inventor



- http://appinventor.mit.edu
- Currently create apps for Android only

Mobincube

- http://www.mobincube.com
- Available for Android, iOS, Windows and Blackberry



Scholarships

FastWeb

- https://www.fastweb.com/

What is Fastweb?

We're the leading online resource in finding scholarships to help you pay for school

Targeted Scholarships

Scholarships just for you based on your strengths, interests, and skills.

Financial Aid

Resources to help you with tough financial aid decisions.

College Search

Discover the perfect school for your interests and budget.

Part-time Jobs

Nearly 10,000 part-jobs available in top industries.

Honorable Mention

The Google Tools

- Over 40 Online Tools Organized by:
  - Search
  - Explorer & Innovate
  - Communicate, show & share
  - Go Mobile
  - Make your computer work better
- www.google.com/intl/en/options/

Google Voice

- http://voice.google.com/
- With Google Voice, you get a phone number for calls, text messages, and voicemail. You can use this number to dial domestically and internationally using your web browser and mobile devices.
- What you can do with Voice
  - Easily call people in your contacts and organization directly
  - Text using your new number from any device
  - Save time by reading your voicemail in your email inbox
  - Get protected from spam calls, block unwanted callers, and screen calls before answering

CNET

- CNET is the premier destination for tech product reviews, news, price comparisons, free software downloads, daily videos, and podcasts.
- www.cnet.com
  - Click on DOWNLOAD
    - FREE APPS

Summary

- There are numerous software resources available to educators that are…

AHA!

For More Information

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