

Creating a Homepage



Project-Based Writing Connection: You can use the format of a website's homepage to showcase many different projects related to the same topic or theme.

When it comes to websites, there's no place like the *homepage*. A good homepage includes a variety of information and formats, and it invites and entices users to visit the rest of the other content on the site.

A homepage has many elements, and they should be laid out in a way that is informative and clear to read. Here are two elements usually found on homepages:

- ❖ **Banner** — The banner runs along the top of the homepage. It often includes a title, a slogan, and a visual that represents the company/person who runs the website.
- ❖ **Menu Bar** — Often located in the banner, the menu bar lists the main categories that make up the website. These are links that the user can click on to visit those pages/sections of the site (for example, "Home," "Blog," "About," "Resources").

Directions: In the space below, sketch a rough draft of a homepage for a website about your chosen topic. Include a banner and a menu bar. Below the banner, include text, pictures, and links that would entice visitors to want to read and see more of what is on the other pages of your website.

21st-Century Connection: With parents' or teacher's permission, you can go online and create a website using something like *www.wordpress.com* or *www.edublogs.org*.