Using Creative Commons images from FlickrCC and Wikimedia Commons in Blog Posts

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These instructions specifically refer to using Edublogs/Global2 blogs, however, the process is similar for most blogging platforms.

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Adding images to your blog posts makes them more interesting for your readers and helps to grab their attention.

It is important to know that you can't just use ANY image in your blog post.

You can use pictures that you make yourself BUT images on the internet that people have photographed or drawn etc. are protected by **copyright**. That means, you can't just take images that someone else has made and use them as your own. Using someone else's work without permission is called *"copyright infringement"*. You can get in trouble for this.

Luckily, some people are happy to share their work so there are some images that you can use in your blog posts without worrying about getting in trouble. **Creative Commons** is an organisation that gives out licenses for people to share their work (like the photos they've taken or pictures they've drawn). You can use images with a Creative Commons license in your blog posts as long as you **attribute** the image. Attributing the image means adding a caption under the image to say who made the image and where you got it from.

So where can you get images with a Creative Commons license from?

There are many places online where you can find images with a Creative Commons license. One of these websites is called **FlickrCC**. Flickr is a website where anyone can upload their own photos to store them and share them. FlickrCC is a site that searches Flickr for images with a Creative Commons license.

Another place to find Creative Commons images is **Wikimedia Commons.** The attribution needed for Wikimedia Commons images is a little more advanced than FlickrCC.
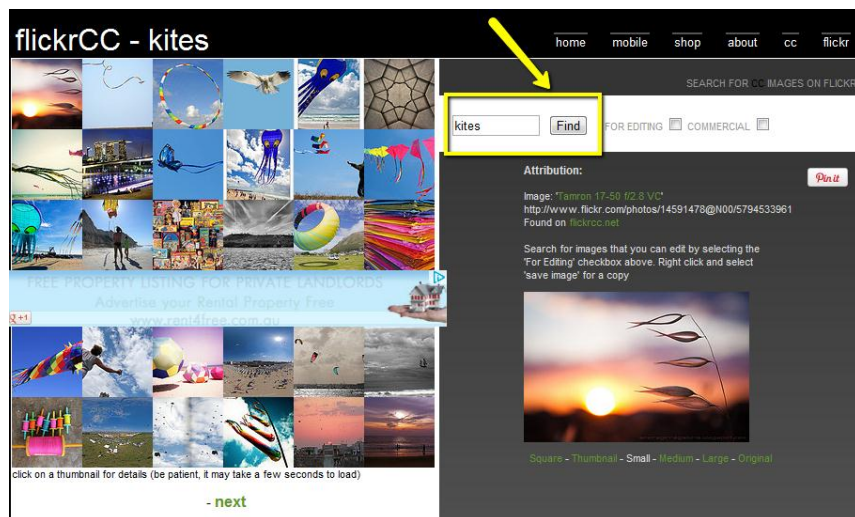
Read on to find out how to use FlickrCC and Wikimedia Commons.

Using FlickrCC

Go to

http://flickrcc.bluemountains.net/flickrCC/

In the search box, type in what you're looking for eg. *kites*. Click *Find*.
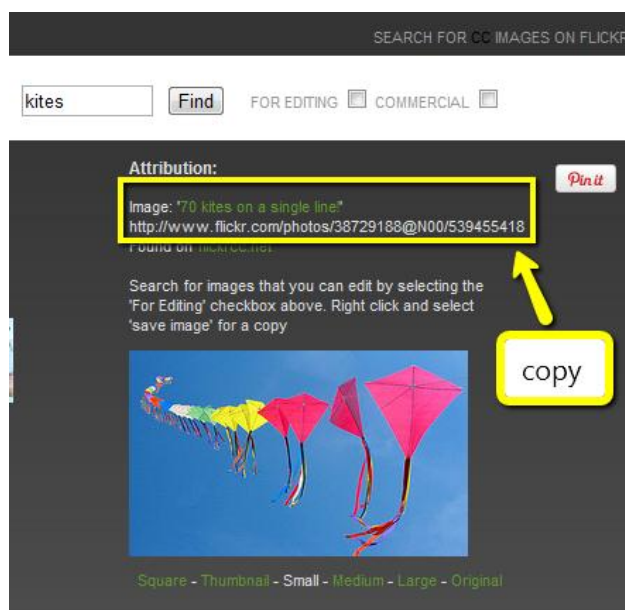

On the left, you will get a preview of the first 30 images.

If you don't like them, click *next* down the bottom to see more images.

When you see an image you want to use, click on it and it will appear larger on the right hand side.

Putting the image in your blog post

1. You will need to copy the attribution information (title and original link) so you can put this as a caption under the image in your blog post. Highlight the text and copy it by either pressing *Control C* or *right click – copy*.
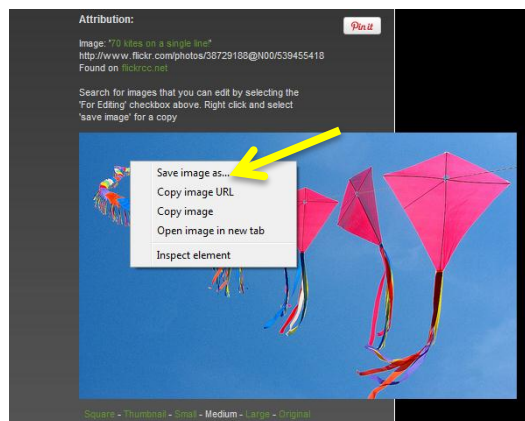
2. Choose what size image might be best for your blog post by clicking *square*, *thumbnail, small, medium, large* or *original* under the picture.
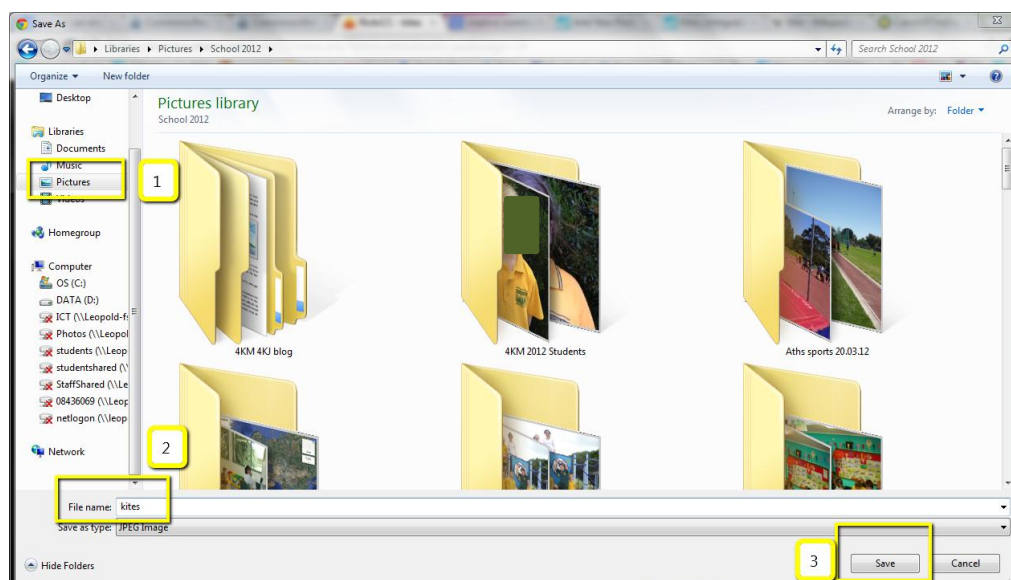

3. Your picture will open in the size you chose. Right click on the picture and choose "*save image as"* or "*save picture as*" (different browsers say different things).
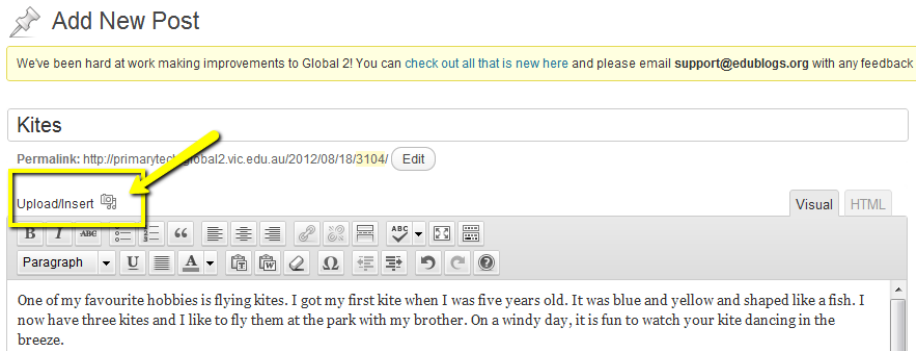   **Note:** *another option is to copy image URL and insert the image into your blog post from the URL rather than from your computer.*
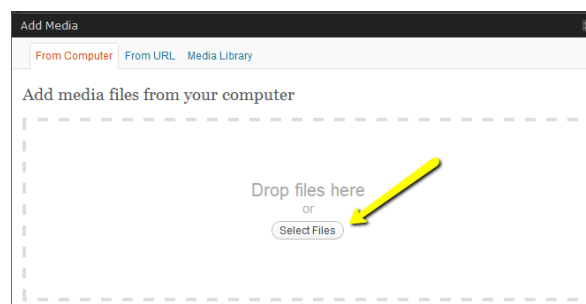

4. A box will pop up and you will have to choose where on your computer you want to save the image. *Pictures* is a good place to store images. Next to *File name* write a name that tells you what the picture is *eg. kites.* Press *Save.*
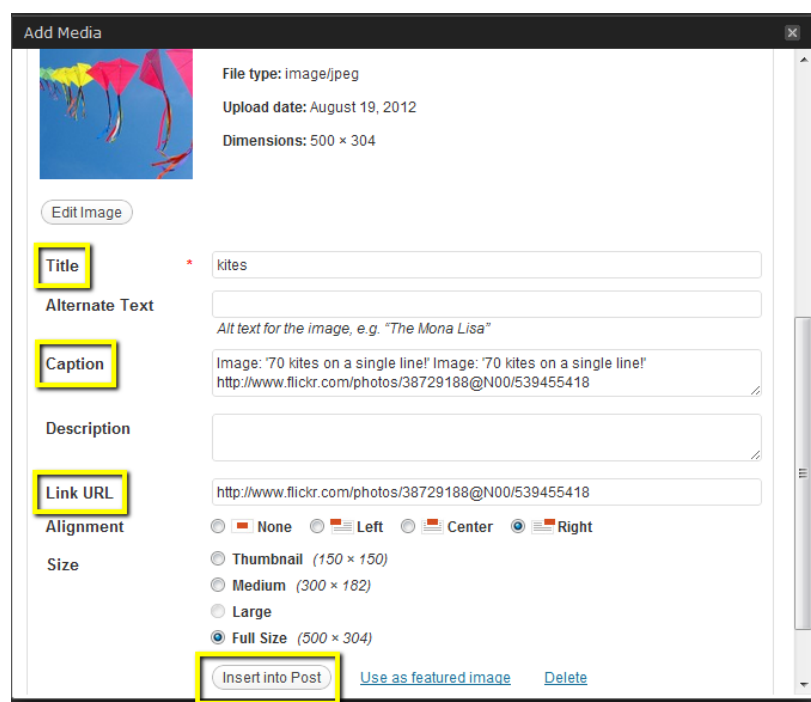
5. Next, go to your blog post in your dashboard and click on the *Upload/Insert Media* icon.

6. Click on *Select Files* to choose the file you saved to your computer (or select *from URL* if you copied the image URL rather than saved it on your computer).

7. Browse your computer for the file you saved. When you find it click *open*. When the file finishes loading, you can
   a. Add a **title.**
   b. Add the **caption** (don't forget this). This is the attribution you copied on the FlickrCC page. *Right click – paste* or press *Control V* to paste the attribution here.
   c. Link to the original image in FlickrCC (the web address in the attribution).
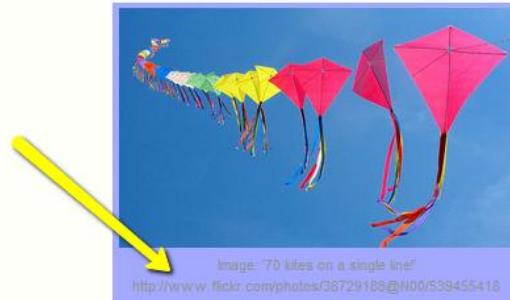   d. Choose the **size** of your picture.

8. Finally press *Insert into Post* and your image will be in your post with the attribution as a caption.

Using Wikimedia Commons

On Wikimedia Commons you can find millions of Creative Commons images, audio and videos.
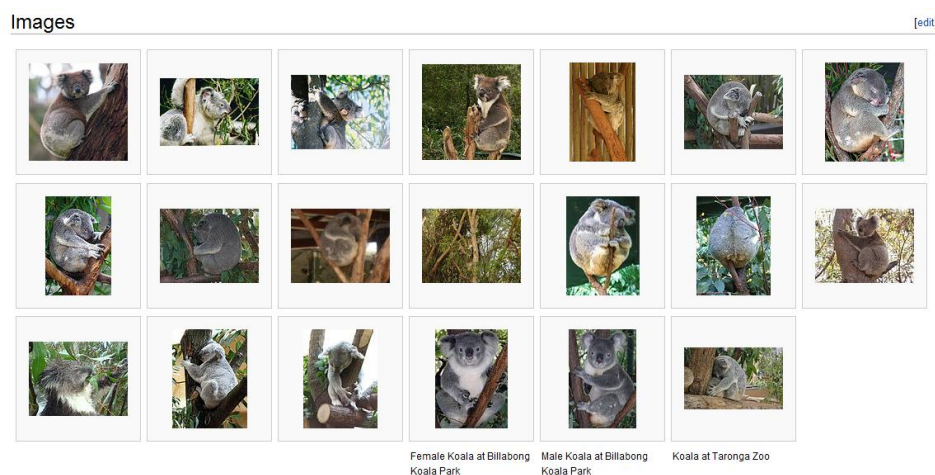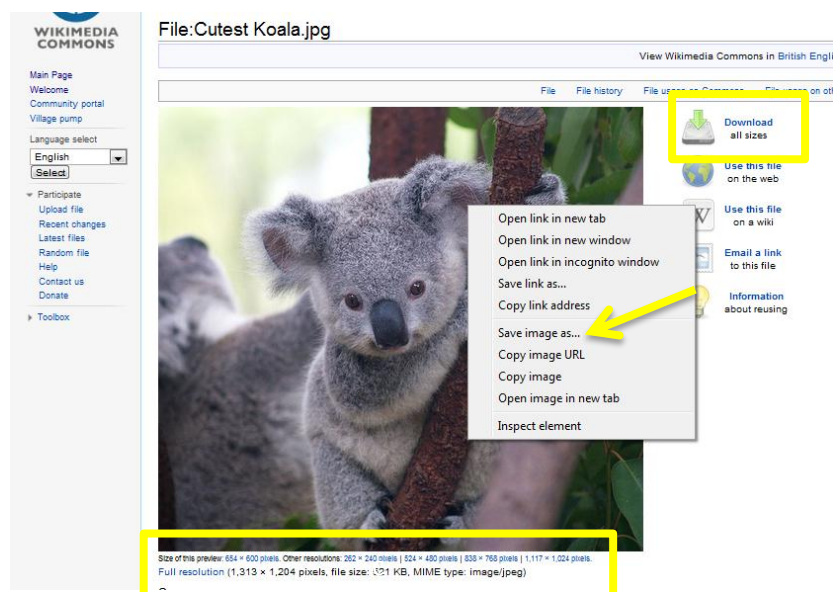
Go to

http://commons.wikimedia.org

1. In the search box, type in what you're looking for eg. *koala.* Press *enter*.

2. Scroll down to look at the thumbnails of the available images. Click on the image you're interested in.
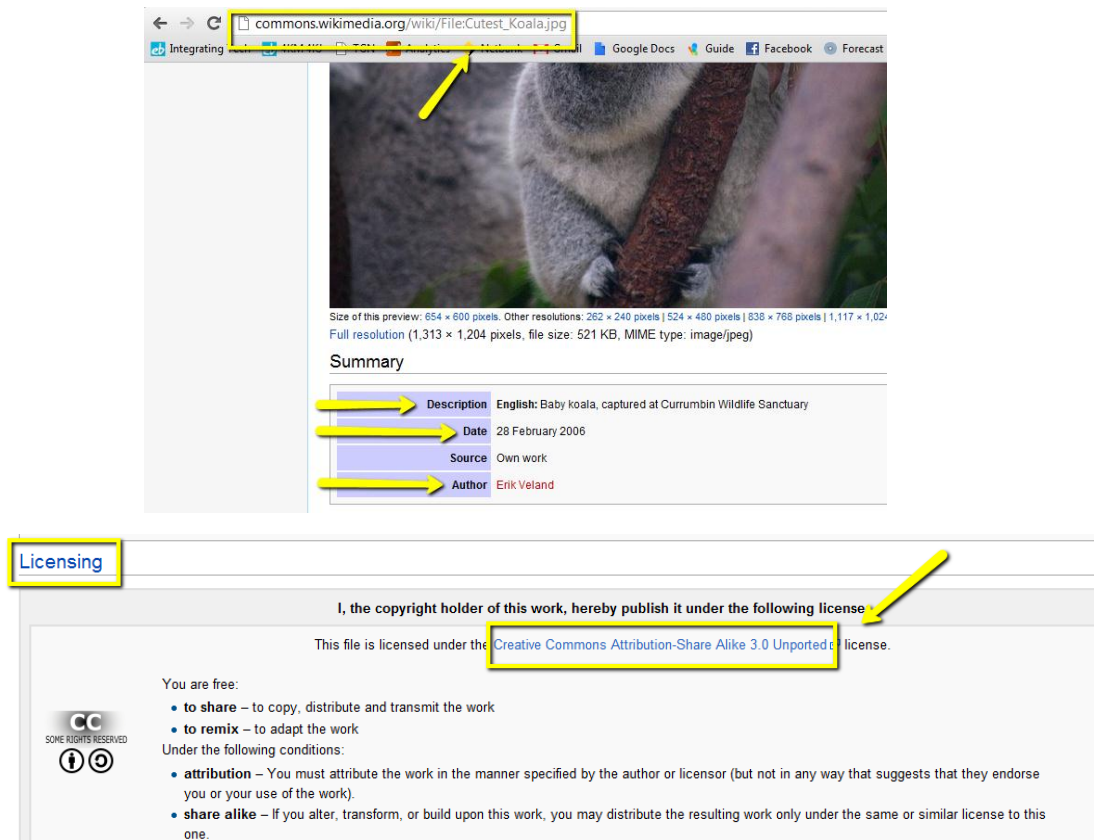
3. Save the image to your computer by right clicking on the picture and choosing S*ave image as*. Otherwise, click on the download button on the right hand side of the picture (if available). Underneath the image, you'll see alternative image sizes if you'd prefer to download a larger or smaller image.

4. To find the attribution information, look for the

- **Photo title**
- **Author's name**
- **Year** image was taken (optional)
- **The Creative Commons license** if you can find it. This should be under *Licensing* look like this "Creative Commons Attribution-Share Alike 3.0 Unported license."
- **URL** (address) of the Wikimedia Commons page

5. Write your attribution like this in your image caption box on your blog

Put the link to the Wikimedia Commons image in the link box.

Conclusion

Important points to remember

- You can use your own photos and images on your blog (with parent permission).
- You cannot just use *any* image off the internet in your blog posts as most are copyright.
- FlickrCC and Wikimedia Commons are great places to find Creative Commons images (there are others).
- You must provide the attribution for all Creative Commons images that you use.
- If you are using images from FlickrCC or Wikimedia Commons in a video or slideshow (including tools such as PhotoPeach), you must still provide the attribution for each image. This could be at the end of the video/slideshow, or at the bottom of your blog post.