

# Gathering Images

Susan Gibb

Using *BoardMaker* and its *Addendum* libraries gives you access to over 6000 symbols - why would you want or need to use other pictures? Well, those of us who are familiar with *BoardMaker* will know that the symbol called 'Person 82' has a passing resemblance to Harry Potter. But would this resemblance be easily understood by our clients? Maybe not. If we were to use a real photograph of Harry Potter then someone interested in Harry Potter would easily understand it and find it much more motivating to talk about.

The same can be said for any symbols to do with the family or home. Real pictures will help with understanding. The symbol of Mother will probably look nothing like the client's real mother. You can obtain pictures from many sources including the Internet, digital camera, scanning and clip art CDs. This paper will take you through some of the options to help you make more personal and meaningful resources.

## Pictures from the Internet

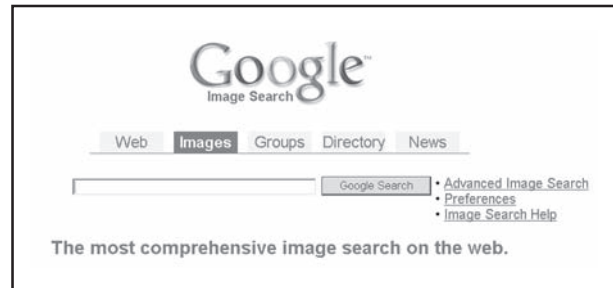
The Internet has a wonderful wealth of resources, including an incredible range of pictures. You can copy just about any picture you find on any site on the web unless there are clear copyright restrictions. Given that the Internet is so vast you could spend hours looking for that special and motivating picture. The quickest and easiest way is to use a search engine. Most internet users will be familiar with using a search engine to find text information, but they can also be used to find pictures. The best search engines for finding pictures include:

- <http://www.images.google.com>
- <http://www.alltheweb.com>
- <http://www.altavista.com>

It is worth doing a comparison of the number of pictures you get from the different search engines - they don't always produce the same results.

Using Google to find a picture, Just type the name of the subject that you are looking for in

the box and click on Google Search:



The result of a Google Search for Justin Timberlake pictures looks like this:



You need to be aware that the images may be subject to copyright. If you click on the image you want it will take you through to the actual web page and then you can check the actual web page for copyright issues.

Now you have to get the picture you want onto your computer (click to enlarge it first, and work from this larger image)

- **PC users:** right click over the image and hold for a moment. A little window will appear that will ask you to either **Copy** the image (once only) or **Save** it (keep for future use).
- **Mac users:** click and hold mouse on the image. Again, a little window (lower section) will offer you **Download image to disc** (same as save) or **Copy**.
- **To copy:** First make sure you have the document that you want to paste into already open underneath. To copy,

select 'copy image'. Then paste into another document as required.

- To Download / Save: select 'save picture / download to disc'. You will be required to name the image and place it in a specific folder. It would be useful to create a new folder in the 'My Pictures' folder in 'My Documents' called 'Internet', or something similarly meaningful and save the pictures in there.
- Pictures from some sites - especially for Mac users - can be dragged and dropped directly from the web page on to your other document (both have to be open side by side on your screen).

## Free Clip Art

There are a number of web sites that specialise in providing clip art. Some are completely free, others have a small charge to access the full range of pictures available. Try <http://www.freefoto.com>, which has 40,000 photos, split into categories including nature, food and drink. There are lots of pictures of places especially around the UK.

Another site that is worth a look is <http://www.symbols.net>. Here you can find some more unusual symbols including the Bliss symbol set.

All the sites listed below offer free pictures. Make sure you wade through all the ads to find the right place, so you don't need to pay or subscribe to anything.

- <http://clipart.disneysites.com>
- <http://www.awesomeclipartforkids.com>
- <http://www.clipart.co.uk>
- <http://www.kidsdomain.com/clip/>
- <http://web.uvic.ca/hcmc/clipart/>
- <http://www.sla.purdue.edu/fl/japanproj/FLClipart/>
- <http://www.clipart.com> (huge index of other sites offering clip art, photos, animated pictures etc)
- <http://office.microsoft.com/clipart/>
- <http://school.discovery.com/clipart>
- <http://pics.tech4learning.com/>

## Digital cameras

A digital camera can provide another endless source of images to use. This allows you to get photographs of the people and places that are familiar to your clients.

There are many makes of digital cameras and different ways of transferring the photos to the computer. One of the most common methods of transfer from the camera to the computer is by connecting a wire, usually to the USB port on the computer. *Fuji* and *Cannon* cameras are among those that function this way.

Some cameras use a *SmartMedia* card inside the camera to save photos. These cards come with different memory sizes: the more memory you have the more pictures you can take.



If you use a *SmartMedia* card, then you can buy a SmartMedia card reader for around £30. This connects easily to the computer and lets you transfer your photos from the card into your computer.



The *Sony Mavica* camera transfers photos to the computer via a floppy disc, which many people find the easiest system to use. *Kodak* cameras have a docking station that is connected to the computer to transfer your photos.

When pictures are transferred to the computer, they are usually given "standard" names (e.g. "Picture001") by the computer. It is worth taking the time to rename your pictures as it means you will more easily find the photographs again. Also set up a filing system within 'My Pictures' in 'My Documents'. Alternatively, on a Mac set up a folder called 'Photos' on the desktop or in the Hard Disc.

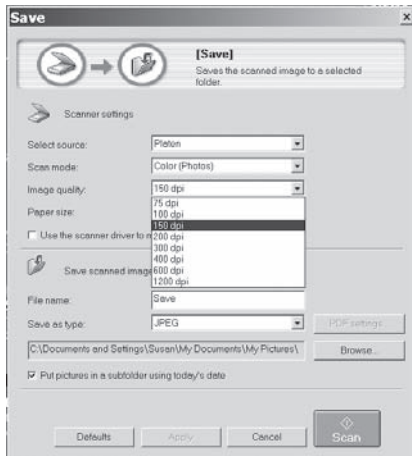
## Photo CD's

If you don't have a digital camera, there are still simple ways of getting photographs into the computer. The easiest and cheapest is to ask for a photo CD when you are handing a film in to be developed. All the major shops including Boot and Klick do photo CD's for around £2-3.

## Pictures from a scanner

Using a scanner is another way of getting photographs or other images into the computer. You can also scan pages from books or magazines.

If you are going to scan images there are a few 'set up' points to consider. You need to know whether you are going to print out the images or keep them on the computer.



Depending on the type of scanner you are using the control panel might look different. You will note that you can change the quality and mode of the image.

To get high quality output from a printer, you need to scan at a high resolution, generally 300 dots per inch. Note that this can result in very large files, so take care to 'crop' the image to get the part of the picture that you want. If you are just going to view your picture on screen, you can use a much lower resolution, e.g. 72 or 75 dots per inch.

Again, you will need to have a folder set up for the scans to go into. Use 'My Pictures' and set a folder up in there called 'Scans'.

## Clip Art

There are hundreds of different clip art CD's available. Two examples are:



Nova Art Explosion, which has 150,000 clips for £14.99 and IMSI MasterClips, which has 1.5 million for £29.99.

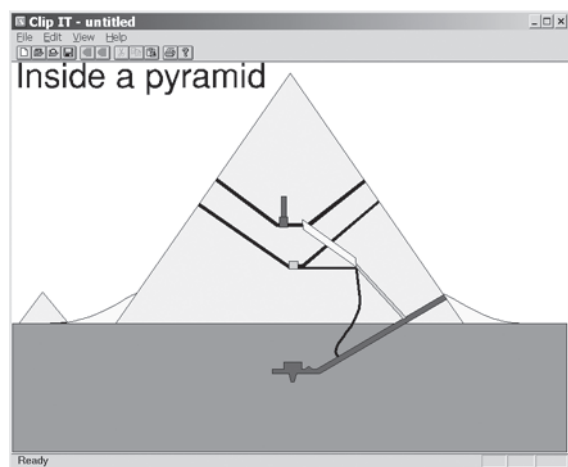


There are lots more available from PC World and other High Street suppliers.

A number of clip art CDs have been set up specifically to provide images for teachers to use in schools and for adults who need simple images to help meet their communication needs. These include:

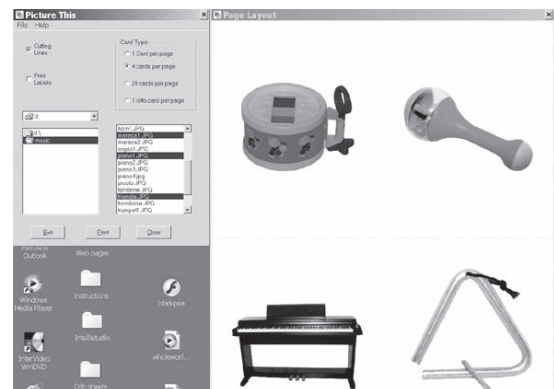
### Primary and Secondary Clip Art

These Sherston CDs provide a very good set of images in WMF (Windows Metafile) format that can be accessed from CD and copied into other programs. They are split into topics and have a good range of history and science pictures.



### Picture This and Picture This Pro

*Picture This* has 2700 images while *Picture This Pro* has 5000. Each CD is split into categories. You can print out directly from the CD. There is also *Picture This for BoardMaker*, which is an addendum to *Boardmaker* which allows you to access the pictures without having to install them individually into *BoardMaker*.



There are two more CD's in the same range as *Picture This Pro*. *Functional Living Skills and Behavioral Rules* has over 1,000 photographs illustrating a variety of daily routines. *School*

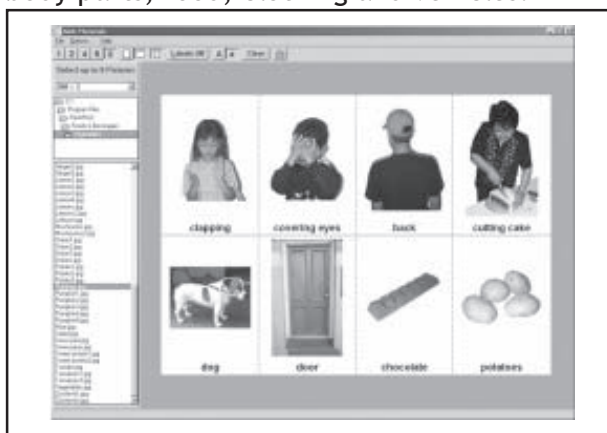
*Routines and Rules* has over 2,000 photographs illustrating different school-based topics. It is worth noting that all these Clip Art CD's have an American bias in certain pictures, so you will have to be selective in their use.

available for use with *Writing with Symbols 2000* and *Clicker 4*.

At present there is no database of vocabulary available for Sign-a-long.

## Flash! Pro 2

Print flashcards from over 8,500 colour photos arranged into 65 categories including actions, body parts, food, clothing and vehicles.



## Resources

Here are a few photos of resources that have been made using pictures and scanned images.

## Reading Scheme Clip Art



There are commercially available clip art for *Wellington Square* and *Oxford Reading Tree*. These can be used to make worksheets, used in *Clicker 4* and imported into *BoardMaker* to make more resources.



## Pics for PECS

This is a specially created set of over 400 symbols for PECS (Picture Exchange Communication System). They are in JPEG format and can be imported into Word, Textease, Clicker 4 and BoardMaker. They can be used on screen or printed out.



## Makaton

Used in the UK for more than 20 years, and in over 40 countries around the world, the Makaton Vocabulary is a well-established language program for encouraging and developing communication, using speech, signs and written symbols. A set of symbols is





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Resource	Supplier	Contact details
<i>Nova Art Explosion</i>	PC World	Branches throughout the UK. <a href="http://www.pcworld.com">http://www.pcworld.com</a>
<i>IMSI MasterClips</i>	PC world	See above for details.
<i>Primary Curriculum Clip Art Collection</i>	Sherston Software £40	Angel House, Sherston, Malmesbury, Wiltshire SN16 0LH. 01666 843200 <a href="http://www.sherston.com">http://www.sherston.com</a>
<i>Secondary Curriculum Clip Art Collection</i>	Sherston Software£40	See above for details.
<i>Picture This</i>	Don Johnston Special Needs Ltd. £40.50	18/19 Clarendon Close, Carver Road, Winwick Quay, Warrington WA2 8QP. Tel 01925 341642 <a href="http://www.donjohnston.com">http://www.donjohnston.com</a>
<i>Picture This Pro</i>	Don Johnston Special Needs Ltd £69	See above for details.
<i>Picture This Pro for BoardMaker</i>	Don Johnston Special Needs Ltd £47.50 (5 User license £169.50)	See above for details.
<i>Flash! Pro 2</i>	Inclusive Technology £55	Gateshead Business Park, Delph, Oldham OL3 5BX. Tel 01457 819799 <a href="http://www.inclusive.co.uk">http://www.inclusive.co.uk</a>
<i>Wellington Square Clip Art</i>	Crick Software £14	35 Charter Gate Quarry Park Close, Moulton Park Northampton NN3 6QB. Tel. 01604 671691 <a href="http://www.cricksoft.com">http://www.cricksoft.com</a>
<i>Oxford Reading Tree Clip Art</i>	Sherston £26	See above for details
<i>Pics for PECS</i>	Pyramid Education £32	Pavilion House, 6 Old Steine,, Brighton BN1 1EJ. Tel 01273 609555 <a href="http://www.pecs.org.uk">http://www.pecs.org.uk</a>
<i>Makaton for Writing with Symbols 2000</i>	Widget Software Ltd £65	124 Cambridge Science Park, Milton Road Cambridge CB4 0ZS Tel 01223 425558 <a href="http://www.widget.com">http://www.widget.com</a>
<i>Makaton for Clicker 4</i>	Crick Software £65	See above for details