Websites Reviewed:

http://creativecrusade.com/ (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

https://sites.google.com/site/sagacitylearning/home (Links to an external site.)Links to an external site.

Compare and Contrast

The two websites I chose are examples of a gamified classroom. Creative Crusade, as well as Saga City Learning, include classroom gamification aspects such as quests, achievements, items, resource links, and more. Both have a logical organization that is easy to navigate. In terms of design, Creative Crusade is much more visually appealing. The website includes an attractive color scheme and is full of rich multimedia. On the other hand, Saga City Learning doesn't appear to have any sort of theme and is lacking a lot of multimedia elements. When looking at the content, Creative Crusade has information that is detailed and stimulating. Saga City Learning includes basic information, but some content seems to be missing and some links appear to be broken. Finally, each site seems to be credible, although Creative Crusade showcases material that is of a higher quality all around.

Strengths and Weaknesses

creativecrusade.com

Strengths of this website include design and content. Almost every page utilizes consistent colors, fonts, and style. Each gamification component is present and easily accessible. The content is detailed, credible, and is rich with multimedia. Having a visitor page was especially helpful to explain some of the workings of the website to someone unfamiliar with the setup.

Unfortunately, some pages were almost too crowded with information and multimedia. I might imagine that, as a student, I would be overwhelmed by all the busyness of the page. Most of the pages followed different layouts which could also be tricky to navigate. There is no real standard for where to look for information, links, within the page itself. Lastly, some of the information was missing such as an email address or contact information.

https://sites.google.com/site/sagacitylearning/quest-logs

This particular website follows a simple structure and organization. This is a strength because it is easily navigable by students. Each page has clearly displayed information directly relating to the page's topic. I thought that the embedded leaderboard was a nice touch. Students can view the amount of XP or AP they have earned so far in the course.

The simple design is also a weakness. The website seems to be lacking a cohesiveness that could be achieved through more color and graphics. There are not very many unifying elements since there is a variety of fonts and sizes used. Also, there is no teacher page or directions for how to use the website. A few links are broken, and this particular site also lacks any sort of contact information.

Use Cases

creativecrusade.com

This website is mostly used by students enrolled in the course. Students receive a course rundown, weekly information with a list of daily quests (tasks to complete), and details about the class grading policy. There are links to visit if a student needs to access any links, resources, or materials. Other than students, visitors such as teachers, parents, or the community can find information. There is a page that is supposed to give a general overview and go over frequently asked questions, but it appears to be missing.

https://sites.google.com/site/sagacitylearning/home

After viewing the different pages within this website, students are only the viable user for this website. There is no page or place for parents, teachers, or other visitors to gather information from. As a student though, you could use this website to view the class leaderboard, all-time leaderboard, achievements available to work on, items (rewards) to purchase with points, perks, powers, and quest logs with specific tasks to complete in class.

Edited by Hannah Johnson on Jan 31 at 11:01pm

Jennifer Morelock

YesterdayFeb 3 at 6:31pm

I agree that Creative Crusade has a nice consistency in it's design, but it is very busy. Even as an adult, I found all the material on one page confusing. The Saga City Learning site is laid out much better. It is easier for me to follow with all different pages. I assume you are going to do a type of gamification website for students, I think that if you could put the design elements of Creative Crusade together with the site mapping of Saga City Learning, you would have a great site. Good luck!