

AnswerGarden

Answer Garden is a free web-based tool that can be used to instantly collect short (up to 40 characters), text-based feedback from students. Instructors post a question or topic and invite students to enter responses. If multiple students enter the same response, a word cloud is formed. Answer Garden does not require instructor or students to create an account. Posts can be made from any device with a web browser and can be embedded in a blog, website or Canvas. Required technology: classroom computer and projector for instructor, devices with web browser for students.

Possible educational uses

- Collect short responses to open an ended question or topic
- Brainstorming
- Reflection activities
- Mind mapping/Graphic Organizer
- Discussion starter

Creating a Wall

1. Go to <https://answergarden.ch/>.
2. Click **Create AnswerGarden**.
3. Enter a **topic or question**.
4. Choose **additional options**.
 - **AnswerGarden Mode** – Set number of times students can answer.
 - **Answer Length** – Choose 20 or 40 characters.
 - **Admin Password** – Create if future editing is desired.
 - **Spam Filter** – Turn on to block common unwanted answers.
 - **Local Discoverability** – This is not necessary.
5. Click **Create**.

Create AnswerGarden

Topic for your new AnswerGarden (required)

Type the topic of your new AnswerGarden. This can be a question or a topic, such as:
"Brainstorm for company name"

What is your favorite food?

More options (optional)

For your convenience, you can change the following settings for your new AnswerGarden. If you're using AnswerGarden in the classroom, we recommend that you provide a password, so that you can moderate the contents during the session.

AnswerGarden Mode

Brainstorm **Classroom** Moderator Locked

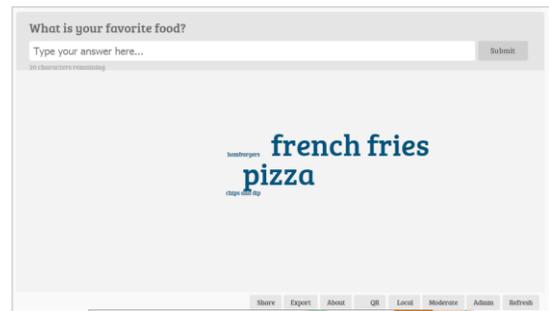
In **Classroom Mode** respondents can submit an unlimited number of answers, but may only submit each answer once.

Answer Length (New!)

You can set the answer length to 20 or 40 characters. For clear and understandable AnswerGardens we recommend using 20 character answers.

20 40

- The AnswerGarden will be displayed. As students submit answers, click the **Refresh** tab on the bottom menu to update the answer display.



- To invite students to submit responses, click the **Share** tab on the menu. Share the site by URL, social media or by embedding the AnswerGarden on a website, blog or Canvas.
- AnswerGarden can also be shared by QR code. Click the **QR** tab to share by displaying a QR code that students can scan with a mobile device QR code scanner.



Things to consider

- Discuss the guidelines for acceptable posts. You can choose to moderate student posts before they are posted to avoid any problems.
- This tool is beneficial for very short answers to a single question or prompt. If you plan to ask multiple choice questions or require extended answers, there are other tools that would provide that service.

Additional resources

AnswerGarden Tutorial

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4sL8JDJ6vlg>

AnswerGarden Fact Sheet

https://answergarden.ch/dls/answergarden_handout_factsheet_2014.pdf