Media Copyright and Fair Use

Copyright is a complicated and confusing issue. With more and more people creating and posting material online, it is very important that you pay attention to who owns the rights to the media. Here you’ll find some resources to help you understand this difficult topic, as well as websites with media you may be able to use in your projects.

Keep these general points in mind when using media created by other people in your own projects.

• Not all copyrighted material displays the © symbol. The lack of one doesn’t mean the media isn’t protected. Always check with the author or owner before using someone else’s work.
• Just because you are able to copy or edit media doesn’t mean you are legally allowed to. Make sure you have permission.
• Media that you create is always the safest bet if you’re in doubt about the rights to other work.
• It’s good practice to credit the person or organization whose content you use. Write the credit in the format they provide.

For additional information on copyright, fair use and Creative Commons licensing, please visit http://science.kqed.org/quest/education/professional-development/fairuse/

Media Resources

CREATIVE COMMONS

ccMixter http://ccmixter.org/
This community music site features remixes licensed under Creative Commons. You can listen to, sample, mash-up or interact with music in any way you want.

FreeSound http://www.freesound.org/
This is a collaborative database of Creative Commons licensed sounds (not music).

PUBLIC MEDIA

QUEST Photos on Flickr http://www.flickr.com/photos/kqedquest/collections/
Photos from our Bay Area science, nature and environment projects. Most are available to use, but please be aware that other people own some of the images. These are covered under other, more restrictive licenses or are marked “All Rights Reserved.”

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

NASA Multimedia Gallery http://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/index.html#Uy0aFGTF27c
Find and search for images, audio recordings and video. The website includes links to several different image galleries from NASA.

This online vault has a comprehensive collection of video clips and high-resolution still images from America’s underwater treasures. The media are available for search and download.
Here you’ll find a wide assortment of public-domain images, publications, video and audio clips.

The USGS Multimedia Gallery is a collection of videos, photography, audio and more. All items in this gallery are considered public domain.

### ABOUT THE TOOLKIT

This resource is a component of the Media-Making Toolkit for Science Education, developed by KQED Education. The Toolkit includes instructions, worksheets and rubrics to assist educators in implementing media-making projects with students.

For a complete listing of the resources in KQED’s Media-Making Toolkit, please visit [www.kqed.org/education](http://www.kqed.org/education)