Starter activities for first week of school

Looking for ideas to know your students better on the first week of school?

How about each student describing himself/herself in as many words and then generate the descriptions into ‘clouds’ to decorate your classroom bulleting board?

Here’s how to do it the fun and easy way:

IDEA #1

**Go to:** [**http://wordle.net**](http://wordle.net)**/**

1. Click the Create button at the top of the page.
2. Click the create button at the top of the page
3. Enter as many words to describe yourself
4. Click GO to generate your word cloud
5. Use the buttons on the Menu bar to customize your cloud.
6. Use the buttons at the bottom to print or save

IDEA # 2:

Or better still if you want your students to present their information to the class and looking for options other than Power point(less!!) check out this real cool cool site:

<http://www.tagxedo.com/>

1. Click Start Now button
2. On the “creator” page click load and type/paste your text . (you may need to install Microsoft silverlight – takes few seconds and tab available on the page)
3. Use options to customize your presentation!!

Sample:

[](http://www.tagxedo.com/app.html?player=http://www.tagxedo.com/gallery/monalisa.xap)

IDEA # 3 – Great for first day of Homeroom to get to know students in your homeroom~!

1. Launch Google Earth on your SMART Board.
2. Ask each student to come forward and show the class on Google earth the country/city they come from and thereby introduce themselves.

(WARNING: KEEP SOME TISSUES READY FOR IT MAY STIR UP SOME NOSTALGIA!!)