

## Webcams as simple educational tools in education

January 3, 2010

Hi guys,

Just a short story about webcams. The webcam has enjoyed a great career, from its early commercial adoption in the sex industry, through its use in personal video-conferencing, to more recent applications in monitoring traffic and examining air quality.

Despite its popularity and rapid development many people still regard webcams as a gadget and there is surprisingly little published on its specific use as a learning tool. In this post i'll try to summarize some information currently available about webcam learning.

If you've never seen the world through a webcam on [Earthcam.com](http://Earthcam.com), you're missing out. [Earthcam.com](http://Earthcam.com) is a great website where you can see the world through webcams that are stationed all around the world, viewing everything from various types of animals to the beaches of Hawaii. The webcams are (usually) live and they even have a Hall of Fame section where you can see some outstanding captured previous shots. You would be surprised what can be viewed on the camera just by watching for a few minutes. There are some great live webcam's in New York right now, and here are just a few of the webcams on [Earthcam.com](http://Earthcam.com) that you should take a look at.



### The Ground Zero Cams

There are currently three cameras positioned on the Ground Zero site in New York where you can watch the live progress of the work that they are doing. I find this webcam especially relevant for parents to show their kids what the site looks like if they have never seen the actual site in person. It's a good opportunity to explain to them what happened there if they don't know already and allow them to see the progress that is being made there day by day.

### The Times Square Cams

There are several webcams positioned right on Times Square from several different locations. There are currently webcams that have an aerial view from 43rd and Broadway in New York, a webcam at the Crossroads, and even a webcam positioned right at the Panasonic Astrovision along with quite a few other webcams that show different views. If you're curious as to what Times Square looks like day or night, here is your chance to view it.

### The Statue of Liberty Cam

The webcam is positioned directly on the Statue of Liberty herself from a view looking across the New York Harbor. You can see the boats pass in some shots, and some of the sky shots in the background are absolutely stunning.

### The USS Intrepid Cam

The webcam gives a fantastic aerial view from the mast of the USS Intrepid, which is currently docked in Staten Island. The Hall of Fame pictures are especially interesting.

### The Penguin Cam at the Central Park Zoo

Here you can watch penguins as they run around their home at the Central Park Zoo in New York. You can also see views of the keepers feeding them and cleaning out their living area.

The webcams on [Earthcam.com](http://Earthcam.com) aren't just an interesting thing to look at throughout the day. It's a useful tool to see what the rest of the world looks like, including areas, people and animals, if you haven't had the privilege to travel the world.

Note: Links, webcam views and information is subject to change after publication of this article.