Formative Assessment - Additional Info from Carla Peck

Twitter Back Channel
Here are some links that will help people with the details of using a Twitter "backchannel". The instructor should set ground rules for what kind of content is expected/acceptable when tagged with the chosen hashtag - e.g., use the hashtag to ask questions, to respond to questions, etc. but not to criticize or complain - that is not the purpose (this should be made clear before it's used in a class).

Also, the instructor should decide if she/he wants to display the tweets on a "public" screen or if they just want to monitor them on their own computer. There are advantages and disadvantages to both approaches - the public screen allows all students to see what's being tweeted and they can reinforce or clarify/respond to each other (they can also monitor the tweets themselves by following the hashtag on their devices).

The only real downside is that if there are any inappropriate comments made they will be very public but then again, students can still see them on their phones and hopefully, if the purpose of using the backchannel is made clear at the beginning of the class there won't be any inappropriate comments made. There are some backchannel tools that are private (only the students and instructor can see them, instead of all of Twitter) - these options and more are detailed in the following resources:

Tweetbeam: 3 Step Plan for Using Twitter as a Backchannel: http://wall.tweetbeam.com/events/twitter-backchannel.html

Backchannel in Education: 9 Uses - http://derekbruff.org/teachingwithcrs/?p=472

The Backchannel by Cliff Atkinson - free preview of Chapter 1: http://www.backchannelbook.com/wp-content/uploads/2009/11/TheBackchannelChapter1.pdf
(Chapter 2 has instructions for setting up a backchannel - does our library have this?)

6 Steps to Create a Twitter Backchannel for your classroom: http://maggiev.edublogs.org/2011/11/23/day-14-6-steps-to-create-a-twitter-backchannel-for-your-classroom/

Also, here are the two links I showed today:

Kahoot (game app - very easy to use): https://getkahoot.com

10 Useful Web Tools for Creating Online Quizzes and Polls: http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2014/02/10-useful-web-tools-for-creating-online.html

I struck out looking for "Scribble" or "Scribbo" - one appears to be a drawing puzzle game. Scribbo is a Wordpress blog theme.