

## Flickr Image Search using YQL and Flex

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A few days ago I spotted a Twitter conversation between [Simon Whatley](#) and [Christian Heilmann](#) which brought [YQL](#) back into my mind. In case you don't know, YQL stands for [Yahoo Query Language](#) is 'an expressive SQL-like language that lets you query, filter, and join data across Web services'. In short, it's a sort of API to a lot of other APIs, and then some. It's also very easy to use since it's effectively just like SQL. For example you can use [this example query](#) to get details about a specific Vimeo video. But not only can you query web services using YQL, you can even scrape HTML pages which do not expose an API - very powerful stuff.

Flickr is one of the APIs that's also supported and I figured that it would be a great addition to one of my products, [Scribblar](#), if a user could get easy access to all the images for a given keyword which are released under a [Creative Commons license](#). Again this is very easy with YQL using a [query such as this one](#).

I've created a [simple Flex app](#) which wraps the functionality provided by YQL and the Flickr API. You can [check it out here](#). The [source overview is here](#), and the [downloadable zip here](#).