



Web 2.0 Only for Technology Teachers!?

All year I have been concentrating a lot on giving information about Web 2.0 tools. Throughout the year I have received many comments about safety and appropriateness of using these types of tools in a classroom. It's important to remember Web 2.0 are tools, not an end in itself. When using Web 2.0 applications, students find learning exciting and that will engage the students in greater depth. Web 2.0 technologies should not distract from the subject matter but it should enhance the learning and inspire the

students to reach the desired outcome. Safety of your students should always be your first priority. Whenever you are putting student work on any site you need to be sure the site is secure. Another concern expressed was how the use of the Internet can cause students to get into trouble. It is our job to teach the students appropriate ways to use the Internet. We teach our students how to be moral citizens. We also need to teach them how to be moral online citizens. Technology needs to be viewed as a tool for all

teachers, no matter the subject. That is why you will continue to see many articles and sites listed here to help you provide your students opportunities to use the Web as a tool to learn.



Web 2.0 Worldwide Possibilities

If you have not seen *Google earth* you have to check this out! You can search anywhere on earth, the moon and sky. Here is the link: google earth <http://earth.google.com> Just imagine how powerful this will be for your students if you have an interactive board!

Podcasting is another great way to get students excited about learning in a new way. Students can showcase their work using their verbal skills. Some ideas for podcasting include creating book talks, interviews and class news. By using programs such as GarageBand and Audacity, they can add background music to give their projects a "professional" feel. If you want to share the podcasts with parents, you can upload the podcasts to itunes.

A new favorite site I have recently discovered is *Voice Thread*. The site is <http://voicethread.com/#home>. Here your students can easily link a series of pictures with commentary. As with many of these sites, you can choose the level of security you want so only the people you want to can view the students projects. There are some great student projects for the public to view. One that I thought you may be especially interested in is a fourth grade class presenting the Stations of the Cross. To view the presentation, go to voice thread, click "browse" and search "stations of the cross".

If you would like more information on what the different Web 2.0 tools are or how to use them go to *Common Craft*: <http://www.commoncraft.com>. This site offers numerous 3 minute videos to help you learn more.

Field Trips and Classroom Integration Possibilities

With budgets shrinking and liability concerns rising why not use Web 2.0 to go on field trips? You can take your students anywhere on earth (and beyond) using Google earth. Here are some classroom integration ideas: When teaching communities for 2nd grade Social Studies you can view all types of communities right in your classroom or computer lab! Some students have never been out of their community, with Google earth you can take them on a virtual field trip to the other communities. How about traveling to Spain or France? Foreign language teachers, imagine you can take the students to any place in the world you are teaching about so they can experience the culture. Science teachers - how about a field trip to the moon, or Mars? That certainly is a trip a fifth grader would never forget! Sixth grade teachers can visit the ocean floor. Why not visit Jerusalem where the tomb of Jesus is, or the Vatican to see the pope? The ideas and experiences are endless!!

If you already travel via Google earth, or this inspires you to do so, please share the experience with me!

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Resource Sites

Discovery Education

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/>

My Club My Life

<http://www.myclubmylife.com/clubtech/Pages/welcome.aspx>

Welcome 2 the Web

<http://www.teachingideas.co.uk/welcome/start.htm>

Internet4Classrooms

<http://www.internet4classrooms.com/project.htm>



Technology Integration

Earth day is April 22nd. Below are some interesting sites to get your students involved in helping our planet.

The Wilderness Society

<http://earthday.wilderness.org/>

This site has lessons and activities for students.

Earthday Bags Project

<http://www.earthdaybags.org/>

Looking for a creative, free community project, check this one out!

Earth's Birthday Project

<http://earthsbirthday.org/home/>

This site is designed to educate your students about the earth through hands on classroom activities and online projects.

Funding Opportunities

Digital Wish Grants

<http://www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/grants>

Discovery Education

<http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/waw/>

ENTER NOW FOR YOUR CHANCE TO WIN ONE OF THREE GRAND PRIZE PACKAGES including a 21st Century Classroom and a \$5000 digital media grant from Discovery Education. Plus, over 20 additional technology prizes!

3M Young Scientist Challenge

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



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- To Susan Walton from Academy of St. Adalbert's for sharing with me some awesome sites!



Professional Development

Office of Catholic Education

Be sure to go to the OCE PD site for upcoming opportunities!

- Three week SMART make and take sessions at St. Gregory's.

To register and check out the details for all the OCE Professional Development opportunities go to our site at:

<http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/register/>



Cleveland State - GCEDC Professional Development

www.csuohio.edu/cehs/gcedc

Clermont County Educational Services - eLearning

http://www.ccesc.org/ccesc2010/technology/technology_online_courses.htm

Resources

OCE Ed Tech Page

http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/teachers/teacher_resources.shtml

Mr. Young's Bouncy A

<http://www.covenantworks.com/Bouncy-A/index.htm>

Math Slice

<http://mathslice.com/index.html>

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