



Office of Catholic Education

January, 2012

Digital Learning Day is February 1, 2012

Digital Learning Day organizers ask everyone - teachers, librarians, school leaders, after school programs, community groups, parents - no matter their comfort level with technology, to do one of the following three things:

- Start a conversation
- Try one new thing
- Showcase success

ISTE is a partner for the 2012 Digital Learning Day, a culminating event in a year-round awareness campaign to improve learning and teaching for all children. Learn more about the toolkits for teachers, administrators, and parents and get ideas about what you can do to support innovation to benefit students by going to <http://www.digitalllearningday.org/>

Please let me know if you join the movement; email the details to dbruno@dioceseofcleveland.org. I'd love to hear about it!

Top 10 sites for Educational Games

This article by David Kapuler, is from Tech & Learning online newsletter. For more information about his work, contact him at dkapuler@gmail.com and read his blog at cyber-kap.blogspot.com. His top 10 favorite are the following:

1. <http://www.funbrain.com/>- One of the most popular educational gaming sites around. Not only does this site cover a variety of subjects, it also caters to K-8th graders and has nice teacher resources as well.
2. <http://www.gameclassroom.com/>- Excellent, safe, teacher-approved, state-standard-aligned games for grades K-6. Also, lots of teacher resources, including videos, lesson plans, worksheets, and more.
3. <http://gamequarium.com/>- Great site for games for kids K-6 in all types of subjects. Videos, eBooks, and teacher resources can be found here as well.
4. <http://www.braineos.com/>- Nice site where games are based on flash cards. A registered user can include their own study lists and flash cards in the games.
5. <http://www.tucoola.com/en/>- Wonderful site for skill-building games for younger kids where parents can track their progress.
6. <http://tutpup.com/>- Cool site for math and spelling games where kids can compete with other kids online. Best of all, this site is COPPA compliant.
7. <http://www.brainnook.com/>- Innovative site that allows kids to play educational games for math and English in safe virtual worlds where they interact and compete with other kids. Teachers can sign up their classes via the teacher portal.
8. <http://www.cleverisland.com/>- Offers fun educational games for kids ages 3-8 in a variety of subjects such as math, reading, spelling and more.
9. <http://www.what2learn.com/>- Excellent site for educational games where a teacher can track student progress through a paid account. Users can create custom-made games as well.
10. <http://www.abcya.com/>- Great site for elementary students that covers a wide variety of subjects. Also has educational apps for mobile devices.

The Link



Check This Out



CDW-G in partnership with Discovery education is having a wireless lab sweepstakes. They are celebrating 10 years of transforming classrooms.

Starting January 3, 2012, enter for your chance to win one of three grand prize wireless labs, weekly technology prize giveaways and more!

Click the link below to register.

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

Digital Citizenship Sites

These sites have resources for teaching Digital Citizenship in the classroom:

1. *Common Sense Media*

<http://www.common Sense Media.org/educators>

2. *Netsmartz*

<http://www.netsmartz.org/educators>

3. *Be Cyber Wise*

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

4. *Digital Citizenship Site*

<http://www.digitalcitizenship.net/>

5. *Yahoo Safely*

<http://safely.yahoo.com/>

6. *Cable in the Classroom*

<http://www.ciconline.org/DigitalCitizenship>

7. *FOSI Family Online Safety*

Institute <http://www.fosi.org/>

Reluctance to Technology Integration

It's hard to believe but principals complain that there is still high resistance to integrating technology by some teachers. Here are some simple ways to combat that.

Highlight ways technology makes life easier

- Start each staff meeting with technology tips. Let classroom teachers share successful technology uses.
- Do a quick sample lesson for classroom teachers that demonstrates use of technology.
- Use technology regularly in staff meetings.

Easy ideas that take 2-3 minutes, to show others how easy technology can be!

Upcoming Technology Workshops

Classroom Curriculum and Technology Integration

This series of after school sessions will address how classroom teachers can use different technology tools to enhance student learning. These sessions are **NOT** "how to" use the particular piece of technology! Each session will be broken down by technology tool and grade level. Interactive white board, iPad and Web 2.0 tool are the technology tools being highlighted.

Dates:

*Social Studies: February 23, 2012

Location: Mary Queen of Peace, Cleveland

*Language Arts: April 24, 2012

Location: St. Clare School



Digital Citizenship Academy

This monthly series will provide basic understanding of the 9 themes of digital citizenship as outlined by the International Society for Technology in Education (iste). It is our goal to increase specific knowledge of the current trends in technology while discovering how to meet the needs of digital natives. At completion of the academy, each participant will receive a FREE Internet Safety Curriculum. The next session is January 11, 2012 Academy of St. Adalbert, Berea. You can still register! Materials you missed will be provided for you.



Educational Impact Online Courses

There are many course offerings to select from at the Educational Impact Academy: http://www.educational-impact.com/programs_topics.html

After selecting the course you would like to take, contact Dolores Bruno at dbruno@dioceseofcleveland.org to register **FREE!**

