



End of the Year Already!?

I can't believe we are at the end of the year already! This is my last newsletter for the year. Since the school year is a tough time to research and learn new technology tools, I have dedicated this last tech newsletter before the summer to Web sites you can learn during your break. It is my hope you "play" with the sites and find some awesome activities for your students to do!

The best advice that I can give is to take a step back and choose only one or two new tools to master and to add to your teaching repertoire. Take time and reflect on your curricular goals and try to pinpoint areas that could be improved by the integration of a new technology tool. Reflection is the key here. Don't race into the world of Web 2.0 without a plan and a clear focus on what you want your students and yourself to learn. After all, summer is the perfect time to do this!



Check this out

Teacher/Presentation Tools

These sites focus strictly on sites that have an educational portal//instance. Each site has a section for teachers or a way of controlling the content that students produce. This can be done by educational accounts, monitoring by teachers, filtering, or other means. I have listed only free sites, some of these sites; may offer more services via paid subscription.

1. **Schoology** - A social networking and LMS. <http://schoology.com>

2. **Live Binders** - an online binder to help organize your lessons, activities, classes! Create your own or search for The Diocese of Cleveland - 21st century skills binder full of resources. <http://www.livebinder.com>

3. **Bloomin' Google** - google tools to support Bloom's Revised Taxonomy Office Web Apps <http://kathyschrock.net/googleblooms/>

4. **Edmodo** - A wonderful free site that creates an educational environment for students that focuses on skills such as blogging and collaboration. <http://www.edmodo.com/>

5. **Glogster** - A great multi-media site for creating interactive posters that can be viewed online. Plus, student accounts can be created by an educator without the need of a student email. <http://edu.glogster.com/>

6. **Voice Thread** - One of the most popular web 2.0 sites around. An ideal site for creating interactive presentations/slide shows. <http://voicethread.com/products/k12/>

7. **Animoto** - Create dynamic slide shows with one of the most popular slide show creators on the web. <http://animoto.com/education>

8. **Prezi** - The evolution of presentations has arrived with this zoomable presentation creator. Also, there is an educational portal in the works. <http://prezi.com/>

9. **Aviary Education** - A safe, secure way that offers many services for students, such as photo editor, audio editor, and movie creator. <http://www.aviaryeducation.com/>

10. **Diigo** - An ideal site for social bookmarking that allows teachers to create student account for sharing and annotating links. <http://www.diigo.com/education>

11. **Weebly** - A fantastic site for creating student or teacher websites with the ability to blog. <http://education.weebly.com/>

12. **SymbalooEdu** - A great visual way for teachers to share sites and resources with students. <http://www.symbalooedu.com/>

13. **Zunal** - A fantastic webquest creator for teachers. <http://www.zunal.com/>

14. **Magic Studio** - A wonderful site for teachers to share multimedia resources with students. A great historical site for teachers and students to create multimedia projects. <http://www.magicstudio.com/>

15. **Qtopia** - free online access to thousands of ready to use activities, homework, quizzes. <http://www.qtopia.com/>

16. **Aviary** - a free suite of powerful online creation tools. <http://www.aviary.com>

17. **Thoughtboxes** a simple tool that helps you organize <http://thoughtbox.es>



Sites for Classroom Integration

1. **Google** - Google Apps are some of the most popular services for document creation and collaboration.

<http://www.google.com/apps/>

2. **Myths & Legends** - A free site that is wonderful for digital storytelling. All a teacher has to do is get approval from a school administrator to sign a school up for this great service.

<http://myths.e2bn.org/index.php>

3. **Mixbook** - A great way to create a safe and secure environment for students to create online or real books (for order).

<http://www.mixbook.com/edu>

4. **Kidblog** - One of the top ways for students to create blogs in a safe environment.

<http://kidblog.org/home.php>

5. **Primary Access** - A nice site for digital story telling that allows students to use a variety of different resources such as video, audio, photos, etc.

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

6. **Kerpoof** - A multi-media site for creating stories, games, lessons, etc.

<http://www.kerpoof.com/#>

7. **Zimmertwins** - A fun site for digital storytelling that is done by creating one student account for a class.

<http://www.zimmertwins.com/about/teachers>

8. **Story Jumper** - A great way for students to create real or online stories and then have the ability to order a book.

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

9. **Storybird** - A fun site for collaborative and digital storytelling.

<http://storybird.com/teachers/>

10. **ABC Animation for Kids** - kids enjoy animation and can learn the basics of how to animate.

<http://www.abcya.com/animate.htm>

11. **Scribble Maps** - annotate over any map

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

12. **Literacyhead** - Through this site you can increase literacy skills through the use of art.

<http://literacyhead.com/>

13. **Wonderopolis** - activities, videos, links students can do.

<http://wonderopolis.org>

14. **Unmapper** - Create interactive maps and geography games.

<http://www.unmapper.com/pages/geodart>

15. **The Trans Atlantic Slave Trade Database** - information on almost 35,000 slaving voyages.

<http://www.slavevoyages.org/tast/indexes.faces>

Don't forget I have Internet Resources linked to every subject area by grade level at my page all year! It will be updated over the summer months. Be sure to check it out!

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

Thanks for Sharing

*Thank you to Barb DeSessa from St. Joseph in Avon for teaching a podcasting class in April and to Pat Vaccaro, principal at St. Joseph School, for hosting us.

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Funding Opportunities

Mimeo Grants

<http://mimio.com/mimioink/index.asp>

MIMEO Math and Science Grant

<http://mimio.com/grants/index.asp>

Turning Point Technologies

<http://www.turningtechnologies.com/studentresponsesystem/turningfoundation/k12grants/>



Digital Wish Grants

http://www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/grant_awards

Ongoing grants and awards in many different areas!

Target

<http://sites.target.com/site/en/company/page.jsp?contentId=WCMPO4-031767>

Three types of grants: Field Trip, Early Childhood Reading and Arts.

Resources

OCE Ed Tech Page

<http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/teachers/edtech>

Online Collaborative Projects

<http://eduscapes.com/tap/topic1.htm>

Interesting Ways to Use Ed Technology

<http://edte.ch/blog/interesting-ways/>

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