



Why Wiki??

I found an excellent article through *Tech & Learning* online newsletter that shares eight great ideas on how to use Wikis in your school. The article is titled "*Eight Ways to Use School Wikis*" and was written by Lisa Nielsen, the Manhattan Technology Innovation Manager for the New York City Department of Education. In her article she shares eight easy ways to incorporate ideas to begin using Wikis to enhance your organization as a teacher. I have summarized the eight ideas:

1) Decrease Disruptions of Instructional Time

Use a Wiki to relay information such as announcements, field trip info, and class notes.

2) Make Meetings More Efficient

By communicating with your grade

level or department through Wikis you could save meeting time by conducting your discussion on your wiki instead of in person. If someone misses a meeting or misplaces their notes, there is access to the materials at all times.

3) Collaborate On Important Documents

Instead of always searching people down when you need some ideas or help proofreading, if you put your document on a Wiki you could ask several of your colleagues to help you without tracking them down.

4) Enhance Professional Development

Anytime you have professional development at your school post the handouts on your Wiki and have a shared forum about the session.

5) Share and Collaborate On Curriculum Maps

6) Save Trees and Time

Have all of your documents in digital format stored in your school Wiki.

7) A Portal for All Your Lessons

Link all of your documents and sites to your Wiki for easy access for you and your students.

8) Getting Started is Easy

Go to <http://www.wikispaces.com/site/for/teachers> to register for a free Wiki, yes FREE!

If you would like to read the entire article you could find it at <http://techlearning.com/article/22064>

Technology Integration Resources for Thanksgiving

I love the site EducationWorld! This month they are featuring some great ideas for Thanksgiving projects that you could do in the lab yourself, or collaborate with the classroom teachers. Click on the following link to check it out: <http://www.educationworld.com/holidays/archives/thanksgiving.shtml>

Another great Web site I told you about last year but is an awesome resource for any grade level depending on how you use it is the *First Thanksgiving* by Scholastic http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/

If you follow the next link to SMART Exchange Web site you will find some ready made Thanksgiving lessons for use with the SMARTBoard. There are many lessons across grade level and curricular areas. Check it out! <http://exchange.smarttech.com/search.html?q=thanksgiving&sbj=>

For ACTIVBoard users don't forget about Promethean Planet for all sorts of resources, lessons and ready made flip charts. <http://www.prometheanplanet.com/server.php?show=nav.1137>

Another great web site for holiday games is internet4classrooms at <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/holidays.htm>



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Special Thank You

To Eileen Updegrave, principal at St. Charles School in Parma, for letting me use her beautiful school for the SMARTBoard sessions held October 14th and to my four presenters: Stephanie Leffler, Diane Raguz and Lori Lender all from St. Paschal Baylon and Michelle Radovich from St. Anthony's in Lorain for sharing their ideas.



Sharing

To Sandy Gonsowski from Holy Cross in Euclid for sharing her Power Point about how to use Excel to create pictographs. This is an excellent idea! If you would like a copy of the Power Point go to OCE Educational Technology page to download: <http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/teachers/edtech.shtml>

Sandy also shared some of her favorite Web sites: <http://cooltoolsforschools.wikispaces.com/>
<cooltoolsforschools.wikispaces.com

<http://www.jimmoulton.org/1.html>

Funding Opportunities

An excellent site for a variety of education grants for classroom and larger school and technology grants available at: <http://www1.center.k12.mo.us/edtech/resources/grants1.htm>

Super Star educational software has \$100,000 worth of math and reading software to award to teachers. Check out the site and complete the easy to fill out grant application at: <http://www.helpme2learn.com/home/grants>



I Need Your Help!

Each month I have included integration lessons that I used when I taught. I love to share my ideas, but I would like to share some of your ideas too! If you have a technology integration lesson you would like to share, please submit it to me so I can share with others the great things that go on at your school!

In order to make this monthly newsletter fit your particular needs, please take a moment to contact me at dbruno@dioceseofcleveland.org with any suggestions for the newsletter.

Professional Development

Office of Catholic Education

- **Create a Moodle for your classroom**
November 16 @ Academy of St. Barts
- **ACTIV Board sessions November 10**
And Much, Much More!!!!

To register and check out the details for all the Office of Catholic Education Professional Development opportunities go to our site at: <http://www.oce-ocs.org/oce/register/>

BCL

<http://www.bclsite.com/MenuPages/trainingmenu.htm>

WVIZ IdeaStream

<http://www.wviz.org/education/development>



Resources

OCE Ed Tech Page

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

Willoughby Eastlake Tech Page

<http://www.willoughby-eastlake.k12.oh.us/classroom/technology>

Bloom's Taxonomy, Bloom's Digitally

<http://techlearning.com/article/8670>

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