



TECHNOLOGY

for K–12 Educators

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Grants and Other
Funding Sources

Awards and Competitions

Resources for Developing
21st Century Skills

Free and Inexpensive
Finds

Must-visit Web
Destinations

Practical Professional
Development

Respond and Win
an Epson Stylus
Photo 1400 color
inkjet printer.
See back cover
for details.



See page 14 for details
on the WIN A WIRELESS
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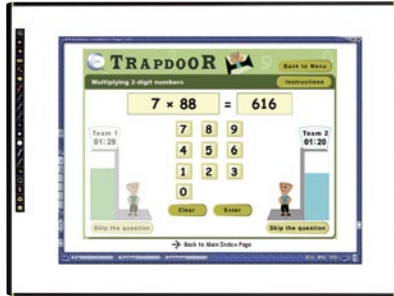
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TECHNOLOGY for K–12 Educators

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**Respond and Win
an Epson Stylus
Photo 1400 color
inkjet printer.**
See back cover
for details.



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Grants and Other Funding Sources

OPPORTUNITIES WITH NO DEADLINES

○ AT&T and the AT&T Foundation have committed \$100 million over four years (2008–2011) in their **Aspire** initiative for high school success and workforce readiness. The four key components of the Aspire program are (1) grants to school districts for high school retention and preparation for college and/or the workforce; (2) job-shadowing initiative, in partnership with Junior Achievement, giving 100,000 students the chance to see firsthand the job skills they will need for success in the future; (3) underwriting of major research on the high school dropout issue and solutions for engaging educational practitioners; and (4) funding for 100 state and community dropout prevention summits led by America's Promise Alliance.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.att.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=11546>

○ The Reinventing Education Program, a \$70 million grant initiative, is the centerpiece of the IBM global education commitment. Other grant programs include IBM KidSmart Early Learning Program and IBM MentorPlace. Grant application guidelines are on the Web site.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.ibm.com/lib/mlibmgives/grant/index.shtml>

Plus: Click Education and then PowerUp for a new *free*, 3-D multiplayer game for the classroom. *PowerUp* promotes jobs in engineering, science and technology while students save the planet Helios from ecological disaster.

○ Microsoft Fresh Start for Donated Computers is a grant program set up to provide K–12 schools with a *free* OS license for qualifying donated computers. Intel Pentium III (or equivalent) and older processors are eligible for the Fresh Start program. Schools can apply to receive licensing documentation and *free* installation CD for a legal license for Windows 2000 on eligible donated computers.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.microsoft.com/education/freshstart/>

○ The National Cristina Foundation provides computer technology a second home with its program to donate working computers and other technology to nonprofit schools, charities and public agencies in all 50 states. Complete the online grant application to request donations.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.cristina.org/oga>

Plus: The foundation has made available a *free*, downloadable guide called *Do the PC Thing*, about used equipment disposal.

Web: http://www.cristina.org/environmental_benefits.html



○ The primary interest of the **RGK Foundation** is a focus on formal K–12 education in math, science and reading, teacher development, literacy and higher education. Applicants must submit an electronic letter of inquiry; they will be notified about the formal application process.

Deadline: Ongoing; grant proposals reviewed quarterly: March 6, June 5, September 4 and December 4, 2009

Web: <http://www.rgkfoundation.org/public/guidelines/>

○ If you are looking for computers for your school lab, or a company looking to donate computers, the **Triangle United Way—Teaming for Technology (T4T)** program is a good model to follow. North Carolina schools can apply for a grant for refurbished computers from Teaming with Technology. For more information, visit the Web site.

Web: <http://www.unitedwaytriangle.org/t4t/>

○ The **Arthur Vining Davis Foundations** accept grant proposals for secondary education (grades 9–12) throughout the year. Preference is for innovative professional development programs that partner with higher education and address concerns and problems of secondary education on a national level. Grants range from \$100,000 to \$150,000 dollars. The foundation does not require an elaborate application, but prefers a letter with a simple statement describing the project with the proposed budget.

Deadline: Anytime

Web: <http://www.avdf.org/howtoapply.htm>

○ **Lowe's** accepts grant proposals for their **SkillsUSA** program, a national student organization with 13,000 chapters at public high schools, vocational and technical schools and colleges. SkillsUSA programs in schools help more than 300,000 students to develop personal and technical skills while they perform community service projects. Check the Web site for other public education K–12 initiatives.

Deadline: Anytime

Web: <http://www.skillsusa.org/educators/lowes.shtml>

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○ The **Micron Foundation** provides grants for K–12 classrooms in Boise, Idaho and Manassas, Virginia where **Micron Technology** has manufacturing facilities. Projects should focus on math, science or engineering. All schools are eligible to use the *free* K–12 resources available on the Web site. Detailed lesson plans are categorized under Early Elementary, Middle Elementary, Upper Elementary, Middle School and High School. Career awareness resources and K–12 Resources for Kids are available, too.

Deadline: None; see the Web site for guidelines

Web: <http://www.micron.com/k12/index.aspx>

OPPORTUNITIES WITH DEADLINE DATES

○ Supplement a math, science or technology learning program with up to \$200 in grant money from the **American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics** (AIAA). Apply for math and science kits, software, robotics supplies, rocket and flight equipment for a curriculum project in your classroom. All grant requests must be tied to a specific lesson plan.

Deadlines: Quarterly: January, March, June (due April 30) and September (due July 31)

Web: <http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=216>

○ The **InvenTeams** grant created by the **Lemelson-MIT** program awards grants up to \$10,000 to high school teams to invent technological solutions to real-world problems. InvenTeams grants are awarded to high school teams of students, teachers and mentors who collaboratively identify a problem to be solved, research the problem and develop a prototype invention as an in-class or extracurricular project.

Deadlines: April 24, 2009 for initial application; September 11, 2009 for final application

Web: <http://web.mit.edu/inventteams/about.html>

○ The **Kids in Need Foundation** provides more than \$100,000 in **Kids in Need Teacher Grants** of \$100 to \$500 each for innovative learning projects for K–12 students. Grants are funded by retail and education credit union sponsors. The grant application for the next round of grants will be available on the Web site after July 15, 2009.

Deadline: September 30, 2009

Web: <http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/>

○ The **NEA Foundation Learning & Leadership Grants** provide opportunities for educators to seek professional development and work with colleagues in professional growth. Grants of \$2,000 are awarded to individuals and \$5,000 for groups engaged in collegial study.

Deadlines: Three times a year; next deadlines are June 1 and October 15, 2009

Web: http://neafoundation.org/programs/Learning&Leadership_Guidelines.htm



○ The **NEA Student Achievement Grants** are awarded for proposals that seek to improve student academic achievement with emphasis on the 21st century skills of critical thinking and problem solving. Grants of up to \$5,000 are awarded three times a year.

Deadlines: Applications due February 1, June 1, October 15, annually

Web: http://neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm

○ Tap into the motivational weather of spring and summer to apply for the **Sol Hirsch NWA (National Weather Association) Education Fund Grants**. All K–12 teachers with a desire to improve the education of K–12 students in meteorology can submit a two-page proposal for one of ten \$500 grants awarded annually. Grant winners will be announced in October 2009.

Deadline: June 15, 2009

Web: <http://www.nwas.org/grants/solhirsch.php>

○ The **Toshiba America Foundation** targets projects that focus on improving science and math education and the science and math of technology for K–6. Projects should follow the national math and science standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics and the National Science Teachers Association.

Deadline: October 1, 2009

Web: <http://www.toshiba.com/tafpubljsp/about/HowApply.jsp>

○ The **LEGO Children’s Fund** provides grants quarterly to organizations for collaborative programs involving early childhood education and development, technology and communication projects that advance learning opportunities or athletic programs that concentrate on underserved youth. Typical awards are between \$500 and \$5,000.

Deadlines: May 1 for grants awarded in June; August 1 for grants awarded in September; November 1 for grants awarded in December

Web: <http://www.legochildrensfund.org/Guidelines.html>

○ The **MathMovesU** program grants \$1 million annually to students, teachers and schools. Based on a nomination process, math teachers and volunteers are rewarded for promoting math to students in a fun and challenging learning environment. Math teachers and volunteers who work with students are eligible to receive a \$2,500 **Math Hero award**, with a matching grant awarded to their school or an approved math-related nonprofit organization of their choice.

Deadline: May 15, 2009 for nominations

Web: <http://www.mathmovesu.com/Scholarships.aspx>

Web: http://www.mathmovesu.com/_res/pdf/Raytheon_MathMovesU_Hero_Nomination_Form_2009.pdf



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○ The **USA Mathematical Talent Search (USAMTS)** is an individual math challenge for middle and high school students. New problems are posted on the USAMTS Web site four times a year, one month before solutions are due. Students can use resources, such as books, calculators and computers to solve the problems but must do their own work.

Deadline: Ongoing; new problems four times a year

Web: <http://www.usamts.org/>

○ The **CVS Caremark Community Grants** program awards funds to public school projects that target a greater level of inclusion for **special education students** in student activities and extracurricular programs. Qualifying organizations are eligible for grants of up to \$5,000.

Deadline: Ongoing through October 31, annually

Web: <http://www.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants/>

○ Have you ever wondered what the cities of the future would be like? Sponsored by the nation's professional engineering community, the **Future City Competition** aims to stir middle school students' interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) as they design a future city. Download the handbook with contest rules and the **SIMCity4 Deluxe** software instructions to begin working on your team entry.

Deadline: Determined by region

Web: <http://www.futurecity.org/>

○ If you have a project idea that incorporates the power of the interactive entertainment industry, then the **Entertainment Software Association** could be a grant source. The **ESA Foundation** awards grants to programs for youth aged 7–18 that focus on education and multimedia arts and technology.

Deadline: April 15, 2009

Web: <http://www.theesa.com/foundation/application.asp>

○ Seven high school students have the opportunity to earn \$1,000 scholarships from **Samsung Techwin America**. The **Thinking Ahead** high school student scholarship program requires students to submit an essay of 500 words or less, telling about advances in technology and the way they will change learning in the future. Each application must have a teacher sponsor.

Deadline: May 1, 2009

Web: <http://www.samsungscholarship.com/>

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See back cover for details.



○ Museums, libraries, historic sites, historic societies and archives are invited to team up with local schools and apply for a **Save Our History Grant** with a project to preserve local history. Save Our History is a philanthropic initiative of **History**, which has given over \$1 million to fund historic preservation efforts across the country through the Save Our History Grant Program. Ten grants of up to \$10,000 each are available for this year.

Deadline: June 5, 2009

Web: <http://www.history.com/minisites/saveourhistory/>

○ The **National Endowment for the Arts** provides leadership in arts education with grants of \$5,000 to \$150,000. The **Learning in the Arts** for Children and Youth award targets students aged 5–18. All projects must offer students the opportunity to **experience** exemplary works of art (in live form, whenever possible); **study** of works of art in order to understand the cultural and social context from which they come, and to appreciate the technical and/or aesthetic qualities of each work; **performance** informed by their experience and study; and **assessment** based on national and state art education standards.

Deadline: June 11, 2009

Web: <http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/artsed.html>

○ The **Charles A. and Anne Morrow Lindbergh Foundation** funds research and educational projects that strive to balance **technology** and the **environment**. The grant is in the amount of \$10,580, a symbolic amount representing the cost of the *Spirit of St. Louis*. Applications are reviewed by the Foundation Board of Directors and previous grant recipients.

Deadline: June 11, 2009 for funding in July 2010

Web: <http://www.lindberghfoundation.org/grants/index.php/>

○ **Saucony Run for Good Foundation's** grant program encourages active and healthy lifestyles in children. Grants of up to \$10,000 are awarded for programs that initiate and support running and fitness programs for kids.

Deadline: June 13, 2009

Web: <http://www.sauconyrunforgood.com/>

TEACHER REWARDS PROGRAMS

○ Register your school to earn money from the **Meijer Community Rewards** program. Enrolled members shop **Meijer** and earn from 0.5 percent to 1 percent for the school of their choice on purchases made with cash, debit card or Meijer 1 Card. Schools can download marketing materials to promote the Community Rewards program for their school. Find full details on the Web site.

Web: <http://www.meijer.com/rewards/>

○ Through its **Take Charge of Education** program, **Target** donates an amount equal to 1 percent of **REDcard** (Target Visa and Target Card) **purchases** made at Target stores and Target.com to the eligible K–12 school of the shopper’s choice. Schools have used these unrestricted funds for everything from student recognition programs and new playground equipment to library books and costumes for school musicals. Promoting this fundraising program for your school is simple with Target’s **online fundraising tools**. You can download and print posters, flyers, clip art and more—everything you need to spread the word.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.target.com/tcoe>

○ **Advancing Student Achievement** is a grant program that brings together actuaries and educators in local classroom environments to boost students’ interest and **achievement in mathematics**. The **Actuarial Foundation** can provide a local network of actuaries ready to participate as well as offer suggestions on how to integrate math concepts from the workplace into the classroom. Groups applying for grants will be given wide latitude in designing programs that enhance learning by interacting with real-world mentors.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/grant/what.html>

○ **Airborne Teacher Trust Fund** invites elementary and middle school teachers from public and private schools throughout the country to submit proposals for **art and music programs** that their schools are unable to fund. A panel of judges will then review and select proposals quarterly, and awards will be announced monthly. Teachers and their schools will receive grants from \$200 to \$10,000 to be used to implement their programs. Teachers can submit applications year-round. At the end of each quarter, the judges will select recipients from the applicant pool. Recipients will be announced each month of the following quarter. The number of recipients and the recipients’ projects will determine how many announcements are made each month.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.airbornetrust.com/programoverview.aspx>

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Continued on page 12 ➔



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TOOLS FOR FINDING GRANTS

○ Sign up at *The Big Deal Book* Web site for a *free* biweekly e-newsletter that includes information about new grants, upcoming contests, the latest educational research and a wealth of information on interactive print and online resources for the 21st century classroom.

Web: <http://www.bigdealbook.com>

○ The U.S. Department of Education posts grant opportunities for education on the Ed.gov Web site. Each posted entry provides an annotated description of the grant, a grant timeline, the purpose of the grant and contact information for questions and applications.

Web: <http://www.ed.gov/fund/grant/apply/grantapps/index.html?src=rt>

○ Here is a **subscription service** for funding that makes it easy to research available grants. Continually updated, the **Foundation Center's** database consists of more than 92,000 U.S. foundations and corporate donors and 1.3 million grants. Search by Grantmakers, Companies, Grants and 990s, using 39 different search fields plus keyword searching. The five subscription levels start at \$19.95 per month.

Deadline: Ongoing; monthly alerts about updates to the directory

Web: <http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/>

○ Search **Grants.gov**, a *free* central storehouse of more than 1,000 U.S. grants, to find and apply for federal government grants that total more than \$500 billion in annual awards. Users can sign up for the new RSS feed about new grants and updates or register for email announcements. Registered users can apply for grants and track grant progress online. Click the Applicant Resources link in the left-hand menu to access the collection of tools and documents including guides and animated tutorials.

Web: <http://www.grants.gov/>

Attention Web Browsers: Web site addresses do change periodically. If you have difficulty connecting, use a search engine to get an updated address. These sites are recommended by teachers and editors for educational value, but all content and associated links are the domain of the site sponsor.

Search Engines: • **Altavista:** <http://www.altavista.com>

• **Ask.com:** <http://www.ask.com>

• **dmoz Open Directory Project:** <http://dmoz.org>



Awards and Competitions

● **Teen Ink** is a national teen magazine, book series and Web site devoted to teenage writing and art. Written by teens for teens, Teen Ink has published the work of more than 25,000 teens since 1989. **Monthly contests for original writing and photography** include Celebrity Interviews, Nonfiction Essays, Poetry and Teen Ink Cover Photos. Submission guidelines and writing tips can be found on the Web site.

Deadline: Ongoing; submit entries throughout the year

Web: <http://www.teenink.com/Contests/>

● If you have a great technology lesson plan or an idea for an innovative technology project, enter the **Digital Wish** competition to win resources for your classroom or school. **Tool Factory** and **Olympus** have teamed up to award digital technology prizes every month for innovative lesson plans that use one of the Tool Factory software products and digital cameras. A single entry gives access to 43 different technology awards. The *free* Digital Wish Lesson Plan Library of online lessons keeps growing every month with new teacher additions.

Deadlines: 28th of every month

Web: <http://www.digitalwish.com/dw/digitalwish/home/>

● In recognition of President Barack Obama's first 100 days in office, high school students are invited to submit an **Energy Solution Proposal** they can implement at the local level to **Now Debate This**. The **100-Day Presidential Challenge** is open to teams of two or more students in grades 9–12, or equivalent ages of 14–18, who are legal residents of one of the 50 states or the District of Columbia. Students will identify and research the biggest energy problem in their local community, develop an Energy Solution Proposal to solve the problem and create a 100-Day Presidential Challenge Team Web page on YouTube or SchoolTube. Winners will receive a \$5,000 clean technology prize for their school and an opportunity to share winning ideas with national energy experts. Visit the Web site for contest details.

Deadline: April 20, 2009

Web: <http://www.nowdebatethis.com/component/content/article/14-frontpage-rotation/34-100-day-presidential-challenge>

Plus: In partnership with the National Forensic League's Speech & Debate Honor Society, the Now Debate This Web site offers *free* curricular resources for teaching debate in any content area.

Web: <http://www.nowdebatethis.com>



Each year 100 educators are selected in the **ING Unsung Heroes** competition to each receive a \$2,000 award to fund an innovative class project. Then, three of those winners are selected to receive an additional \$5,000, \$10,000 and \$25,000, respectively. At least one winner is selected from each of the 50 states, provided a qualified application was received. Read the descriptions of the projects for the 2008 winners for integration ideas for your classroom.

Deadline: April 30, 2009

Web: <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/Education/INGUnsungHeroes/index.htm>

The **Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching (PAEMST)** recognize highly qualified K–12 teachers for their classroom contributions and professional contributions to improve teaching and learning. At least one winner from every state, each of the four U.S. jurisdictions and each of the U.S. territories will receive this presidential award. Teachers in grades 7–12 are eligible for the award in 2009. PAEMST award recipients will receive a citation signed by President Obama, a expense-paid trip for two to Washington, D.C. for a weeklong series of recognition events and professional development opportunities, gifts from program sponsors and a \$10,000 award from the National Science Foundation.

Deadline: May 1, 2009

Web: <http://www.paemst.org/controllers/home.cfc?method=view>

CDW Government, Inc. (CDW•G) and Discovery Education’s seventh annual “Win a Wireless Lab” sweepstakes gives K–12 schools nationwide the opportunity to win a 21st century classroom, complete with tablet or notebook computers, wireless cart, interactive whiteboard, student response system, projector, printer and document camera. CDW•G and Discovery Education also provide **on-site training** to all Win a Wireless Lab grand-prize winners. The 2009 program will award five grand prizes. In addition to the **technology hardware** included in the 21st century classroom, Discovery Education will award a **\$5,000 digital media grant** to the five grand-prize winning schools to help them more fully utilize the technology and engage students in learning. Public and private school teachers, administrators, and school and district technology specialists may enter the sweepstakes by filling out an online form. For each prize drawing, winners will be randomly selected from all eligible entries received.

Deadline: Entries accepted through May 1, 2009

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

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- Builds conceptual understanding in math

¹For students grades 6 and up, CDW•G offers Inspiration 8, the essential tool to visualize, think, organize and learn; call your CDW•G account manager for details and licensing options



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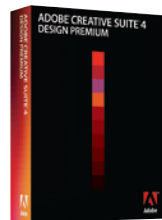
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● The Oracle Education Foundation's (OEF) **ThinkQuest Narrative Competition** invites students to publish their ideas on issues of global importance using ThinkQuest Projects OEF platform as their online publishing tool. Enroll your student team and select one of the 16 global topics ranging from world hunger to environmental issues to get started. Each team needs a teacher coach and three to six students. There are three age groups: 19 & under, 15 & under and 12 & under. Prizes include a laptop computer and a trip to ThinkQuest Live in San Francisco.

Deadline: May 4, 2009

Web: <http://www.thinkquest.org/competition/narrative/index.html>

● Enter the **2009 Adobe School Innovations Awards Program** and your school can win a site license of **Adobe Creative Suite 4**. The winning student will get **Adobe Creative Suite 4 Master Collection** and will be honored by Adobe in his or her community. The theme of the competition is **The World Is Your Stage**. Students aged 14 to 19 in grades 9–12 can enter their best design projects using Adobe applications in three categories: **Web Design and Development**, **Film and Video**, and **Graphic and Print Design**.

Deadline: May 8, 2009

Web: <http://www.adobe.com/education/solutions/k12/awards/>



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www.bigdealbook.com



● **Project Ignition**, sponsored by **State Farm Companies Foundation** and the **National Youth Leadership Council (NYLC)**, is an annual competition for high school students to promote **teen-driver safety**. Teams of students create “awareness campaigns” that employ any type or combination of media—television commercials, radio spots, print ads, direct mail, Web sites, special events, hip-hop performances, art exhibitions and more. To participate, teams submit their proposals to NYLC. The top 25 teams receive a \$2,000 grant to turn their proposals into a real campaign. Those campaigns are then judged, with the top 10 teams each awarded up to \$5,000 to attend NYLC’s National Service Learning Conference, where they present their campaigns to a national audience. The one chosen as Best of the Best earns that school a \$10,000 grant to continue its teen driver safety efforts.

Deadline: June 30, 2009 for the 2009–2010 school year

Web: <http://www.sfprojectignition.com>

● The awards for the **National High School Journalism Teacher Awards Program** include a **National Teacher of the Year** and four **Distinguished Advisors**, with **Special Recognition Advisors** chosen at the discretion of the judges. The Teacher of the Year wins a state-of-the-art laptop computer as well as the opportunity to serve as a quarterly columnist in the **Advisor Update** newspaper for the **Dow Jones Newspaper Fund**. A senior student at the winning teacher’s school will receive a \$1,000 college scholarship to major in news-editorial journalism based on performance in a writing contest at the school. Awards are supported by *The Wall Street Journal* Classroom Edition, Columbia Scholastic Press Association and Poynter Institute for Media Studies.

Deadline: July 1, 2009

Web: [https://www.newspaperfund.org/](https://www.newspaperfund.org/PageText/Prg_HomePages.aspx?Page_ID=Prg_TeacherOfTheYear)

[PageText/Prg_HomePages.aspx?Page_ID=Prg_TeacherOfTheYear](https://www.newspaperfund.org/PageText/Prg_HomePages.aspx?Page_ID=Prg_TeacherOfTheYear)

● The **Bridgestone Firestone 2009 Safety Scholars Video Contest** will award college scholarships to high school students for the most compelling and effective videos that drive home life-saving messages on auto and tire safety, and includes a chance for young filmmakers to have their auto safety videos broadcast as a public service commercial.

Deadline: Entries accepted May 27–June 17, 2009

Web: <http://safetyscholarsvideo.com/index.php?site/guidelines>

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See back cover for details.



● Summer is a busy time and sometimes so busy that nutritional eating habits get disrupted. Now is a good time to examine the free offerings from **Action for Healthy Kids**. The **Game On! Ultimate Wellness Challenge** is a year-long program that challenges America's youth, their families and schools to incorporate healthful food choices and physical exercise into their daily lives. The site provides a step-by-step guide with details on how to begin a program and set up challenges to be met before school, during school and after school. Get ready for summer school and afterschool programs with **ReCharge!**, a joint effort of Action for Healthy Kids and the **National Football League (NFL)**.

Deadline: Ongoing

Web: <http://www.actionforhealthykids.org/>

Attention Web Browsers: Web site addresses do change periodically. If you have difficulty connecting, use a search engine to get an updated address. These sites are recommended by teachers and editors for educational value, but all content and associated links are the domain of the site sponsor.

- Search Engines:**
- **Excite:** <http://www.excite.com>
 - **Google Scholar:** <http://www.scholar.google.com>
 - **HotBot:** <http://www.hotbot.com>
 - **Kids Search Tools:** <http://www.rcls.org/ksearch.htm>
 - **Lycos:** <http://www.lycos.com>
 - **Mamma:** <http://www.mamma.com>



Practical Professional Development

○ **Annenberg Media's Learner.org** is a collection of cross-curricular teacher resources and teacher professional development programs. The interactives are *free* video-on-demand instructional programs that can be searched by discipline or grade. *Free* workshop and course resources consist of video, print and Web components. Print guides can be downloaded in PDF format.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: *Free*

Locations & Dates: Online, anywhere/anytime as needed

Web: <http://www.learner.org>

○ Let **Atomic Learning** help you get ready for class video projects with the *free* tutorial series on **Windows Movie Maker 2**. Each short, show-and-tell tutorial lesson guides teachers and students in getting started with Movie Maker 2. The Atomic Learning library also includes more than 37,000 tutorials covering more than 110 different software applications.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators; K–12 students

Costs: *Free* trial for 14 days; see Web site for subscription costs

Locations & Dates: Online, anywhere/anytime, as needed

Web: <http://www.AtomicLearning.com/moviemaker2/>

○ Teachers need to know their responsibilities for keeping students safe on the Internet with regards to COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act). Print out *How to Protect Kids' Privacy Online: a Guide for Teachers* from the Federal Trade Commission.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: *Free* download

Web: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/pubs/consumer/tech/tec10.pdf>

Plus: For more information on COPPA and other privacy rights of children, visit **Kidz Privacy**.

Web: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/online/edcams/kidzprivacy/index.html>

○ Register for the *free* **FETC Virtual Conference '09**. Join peers on April 23, 2009 for an exchange of best practices and tips from expert speakers and product and service demonstrations from technology providers. Visit the virtual networking lounge and download *free* content on 21st century skills.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Cost: *Free*

Locations & Dates: Online, April 23, 2009

Web: <http://Virtual.FETC.Org/>

○ The NSBA (National School Boards Association) **Technology Leadership Network** (TLN) is providing online professional development on 21st century skills to TLN members through a partnership with **CyberSmart!**. The five online workshops are indicated by the acronym SMART:

- S – Safety and Security Online,
- M – Manners, Cyberbullying, & Ethics,
- A – Authentic Learning and Creativity,
- R – Research and Information Fluency and
- T – Twenty-first Century Challenges.

TLN members can register individually for any of the five online workshops; nonmembers must purchase a minimum of one workshop for 20–25 educators. The same workshop topics are available as *free* K–12 curriculum for students.

Suits: K–12 teachers

Costs: *Free* for TLN members; nonmembers, contact Information@cybersmart.org or call (800) 615-9806

Locations & Dates: Online, as requested. No scheduled meetings; 2.5 hours/week for four weeks

Web: <http://cybersmart.org/workshops/>

○ The **Discovery Education Speakers Bureau** (DESB) provides support for effective technology use in classrooms and schools, with presentations of more than 200,000 educators in over 30 states and on four continents. Speaker topics address Vision, New Technologies, Classroom Tools, Project Building and Media. **Discovery Education Network** (DEN), a division of **Discovery Communications** is a global community of educators committed to teaching with digital media, collaboration and networking to provide professional development to more than 250,000 teachers worldwide.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: Vary; based on conference and sponsors for event

Locations & Dates: Vary; see Calendar of Events for current workshop locations and schedule

Web: <http://www.discoveryedspeakersbureau.com/>

Web: <http://community.discoveryeducation.com/>

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○ Use the **Education World Professional Development Channel** to find a broad range of interdisciplinary “**best practice**” features for professional development. Features include columns and professional development collections such as Math Corner, New Teacher Advisor, Classroom Strategies That Work and Professional Development by Subject.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: *Free* database of professional development resources

Web: http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/

Plus: Click on **EdGate Personal Edition** for a personalized, individual subscription to thousands of educator resources, lesson plans (such as *USA Today* lesson plans), SchoolNotes, state Curriculum Matrix, monthly topic specific newsletter and online training materials.

Suits: K–12 teachers

Cost: \$24.95 per year

Web: http://www.edgate.com/personal_edition.php

○ **Internet4Classrooms** promotes a series of **On-Line Practice Modules** for teachers wanting to learn more about the basics of using such popular technology products as Inspiration, PowerPoint, Dreamweaver, HyperStudio, Microsoft Word, Internet Explorer and Netscape. All of the module sets are designed for self-paced learning. Print the Log with answers to demonstrate completion of each module.

Suits: K–12 teachers; entry level through advanced users

Costs: *Free* with registration

Locations & Dates: Online, anywhere/anytime

Web: <http://internet4classrooms.com/on-line.htm>

○ The **National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) Learning Center** offers *free* **Web seminars** on science topics of interest to K–12 educators. Each Web seminar is a 90-minute, live professional development opportunity that connects participants with nationally acclaimed experts. A set of *free* **teacher tools** (My PD Plan and Portfolio, My Library, My Calendar, My Notepad, My Indexer and My Transcript) makes it easy to organize your online professional development.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: *Free*

Locations & Dates: Online; see schedule for dates and times; archived seminars

Web: <http://learningcenter.nsta.org/products/webseminars.aspx>



○ Educators can prepare lessons and learn to use **The Geometer's Sketchpad** more effectively with the searchable **Sketchpad LessonLink** from **Key Curriculum Press**. The subscription service gives instructors easy access to more than 500 Sketchpad activities and demonstrations for grades 3–12, matched to standards and leading math textbooks. Tip sheets and videos support teacher and student use of the program. Register for a *free* trial to explore 30 activities for 30 days.

Suits: Grades 6–12 teachers

Costs: Annual school site subscriptions begin at \$119 per teacher

Locations & Dates: Online, anywhere/anytime

Web: <http://www.keypress.com/x22318.xml>

○ The **PBS TeacherLine Peer Connection** adds professional development resources for coaching, mentoring and communities of practice to the **PBS TeacherLine** professional development resources. Coaching Modules that support coaches' higher-level work with teachers include more than 200 resource groupings covering Mentoring, Instructional Strategies, Instructional Technology, Reading and Mathematics for Elementary and Secondary School. In addition, more than 30 professional development topics target the professional growth of coaches and mentors.

Suits: K–12 coaches, trainers and administrators

Costs: *Free* trial for 30 days; call (800) 572-6386 for subscription pricing

Locations & Dates: Online, anywhere/anytime

Web: <http://www.pbs.org/peerconnection/>

○ Through its **Online Conference Series**, **Smithsonian Education** honored Abraham Lincoln's bicentennial with a virtual conference on February 4 and 5, 2009. This and all of Smithsonian Education's other online conferences are archived for *free* access to replay at any time. Check the Smithsonian Events calendar (<http://www.si.edu/events/>) for other Smithsonian workshops and conferences for K–12 educators.

Suits: K–12 teachers

Costs: *Free*

Locations & Dates: Check the Smithsonian Events calendar for events; archived for replay anytime

Web: http://www.smithsonianeducation.org/educators/Professional_development/conference/2009/Lincoln/index.html

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○ Review the professional development content at **Teachscape XL** by registering for the *free* **Module of the Month Club**. Each month Teachscape XL gives registered users a chance to experience one of the online professional development resources normally available only to subscribers. Use the *free* module for personal professional development or share with a group of teachers you are coaching. April's *free* topic is Talking about Texts—Literacy: Evidence-Based Practices in Teaching Reading, and May's Module of the Month is Linear Equations.

Suits: K–12 teachers and administrators

Costs: *Free* with registration

Locations & Dates: Online, monthly

Web: http://www.teachscape.com/html/subscribe_to_our_email_newsletter.html

○ **TrainingTools.com** provides a selection of *free* Web-based **tutorials** to help teachers and students learn a variety of popular software programs. Sign up for the **Weekly ToolTips** or browse the **ToolTips** archives. Register for full site membership to access Internet Industry Certification materials, PDFs for all courses, email support from instructors and sensible navigation using **WhatWasIt?** and **WhereWasI?**

Suits: K–12 teachers, middle and high school students

Costs: *Free* Web-based tutorials; see Web site for full course licensing

Locations & Dates: Online

Web: <http://www.trainingtools.com>

○ Add the *free* **WINK 2.0** program to your professional development toolkit and create training tutorials to share with colleagues and students. **Wink** makes it possible to capture screenshots and add explanation boxes, titles and audio to make it easy to share expertise on a variety of professional development topics.

Suits: K–12 teachers, technology trainers and coordinators

Costs: *Free*

Web: <http://www.debugmode.com/wink/>

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²Licensing requires a minimum purchase of five licenses; includes one-year Maintenance (12x5 telephone and online technical support, virus pattern updates and product version upgrades)

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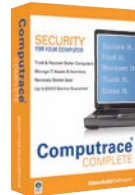
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³For complete details on the Service Guarantee, contact your CDWG•G account manager ⁴GPS receiver required; location tracked to within about 33 feet; contact your CDWG•G account manager for details

1-2499 user license

\$45.88

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STUDENT PROGRAMMING AND TUTORIALS

○ **ACT360° Media and Microsoft K–12 Education** have teamed up to produce **actDen** (Digital Education Network), an online community that offers nine *free software tutorials* (Internet Explorer, PowerPoint, FrontPage) and seven **online courses** (TestDEN, WritingDEN, SkillsDEN, SkyDEN, GraphicsDEN, MathDEN, NewsDEN) for interactive student learning. Detailed guides and screen shots throughout the lessons make it easy for students to follow.

Web: <http://www.actden.com/>

○ The **EasyTech** curriculum from **Learning.com** uses lessons, activities, practices, discussions and quizzes to provide K–8 students with technology curriculum based on the **ISTE NETS** standards, while using the context of core content and real-world experiences. The interactive, self-paced tutorials are clear, concise and focused to teach students the skills they need for success in the 21st century. **Sample lessons** are available as *free* downloadable PDFs, and the *free*, sample online **interactive tutorials** include Keyboarding and Beginning Graphics for grades K–2, Graphing in Spreadsheets and Web Browser Basics for grades 3–5, and Word Processing Software, Presentation Software and Communicating Online for grades 6–8. Many of the tutorials and activities are available in both **English** and **Spanish**. Try the samples and then sign up for a 30-day *free* trial to explore the entire curriculum. Tutorials are perfect as refresher courses for teacher training.

Web: <http://www.learning.com/easytech/>

○ Promote global learning for your students with **Globaloria**, which is a social networking project that connects youth in more than a dozen countries as they learn to use **FLASH** and other Web-based tools to create interactive Web games and tutorials. Participants in the **MyGLive.org** project-based beta in the U.S. include American University, West Virginia and Boulder Game Developers Club. Web visitors can click on the **MyGLive** Web site for games created by student participants in the Globaloria project. **MySLife** is all about students building simulations and games that impact Science. **MyHLife** does the same thing for students interested in promoting health concerns. Coming soon are Life areas for Human Rights, Art and Mathematics. Instructional tutorials for using **FLASH** and creating Web games and simulations are prolific.

Suits: Grades 6–12 students, college students and teachers

Costs: *Free*

Web: <http://www.globaloria.org/>



○ Students and teachers will benefit from the **National Geographic Events** schedule for exhibits, speakers, films, concerts and special events. The Events Calendar posts a detailed summary of each event, with specifics about the Date, Time, Location and Cost. If the event isn't *free*, the Buy Ticket button takes you to Ticketmaster. Search the interactive Events Calendar by date or click on event type to find all sponsored events.

Web: <http://events.nationalgeographic.com/events/>

○ Add to your “green” curriculum with this interactive professional development for K–12 teachers to teach students about nonpoint source water pollution. **Raindrops to Rivers** is a *free* interactive program sponsored by KET (Kentucky Education Television) and **Kentucky Department for Environmental Protection**. The program uses authentic video of classrooms to demonstrate high-quality instruction on watersheds. Lesson materials and links also provide resources for instruction. Instructional videos for students and an electronic fieldtrip to a watershed are also included.

Web: <http://www.raindropstorivers.org/>

○ **Squeakland** is a *free* educational environment for teaching abstract thinking in a visual way. **Etoys** is a media-rich, *free* **authoring tool** that gives students a visual programming system for learning 21st century skills using the tool to solve problems. Students use programming to manipulate objects, and creative sketches and scripting to create visual images of ideas.

Web: <http://www.squeakland.org/>

WEB WEDNESDAY!

Find **new resources** every week to help you weave 21st century interdisciplinary themes into core subjects.



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Free and Inexpensive Finds

○ The school campus graphical interface is an easy-to-navigate format for the **AboutSchool.com** comprehensive collection of *free* educational resources. The compact listings of links by category are annotated collections of **content-area databases** for the K–12 classroom. The Teacher page has links for professional organizations and annotated Lesson Plan Web sites. There is even a Parent page for **home resources**.

Web: <http://www.aboutschool.com/>

○ Ask Kids is a **student search portal** that uses natural language to perform keyword searches filtered by age categories. The search results provide direct links to answers and a drop-down list of possible questions that might fit the content being searched.

Web: <http://www.askkids.com/>

○ CyberSleuth Kids is a *free*, specialized K–12 Internet search engine committed to sorting through the seemingly infinite resources on the Internet to create a database of safe educational Web sites. Users can browse the list of topics or do a keyword.

Web: <http://www.cybersleuth-kids.com/>

Plus: Lesson Plan Central is an extension of CyberSleuth Kids with *free* lesson plans, Web quests and worksheets.

Web: www.lessonplancentral.com/

○ Classroom Clipart contains thousands of **royalty-free** clipart, animations, illustrations, icons and photographs available to members for just \$19.95 per year. Membership includes a personal Lightbox for storing images.

Web: <http://www.classroomclipart.com/>

○ CramSession is a Web resource for *free* **study guides** to support most of the popular technology certifications, including **A+ Certification**, **CISCO** and **Microsoft**. Try a practice exam or search the more than 130 *free* CramSession study guides for applications of interest.

Web: <http://www.cramsession.com/>

○ Visit **eduMedia Share** to find and share educational resources in this new *free* **educator community**. Currently, more than 1,000 resources covering **videos**, **images** and **simulations** are available to tag, comment on and download. Submit your material and contribute in the eduMedia community.

Web: <http://www.edumedia-share.com/>



EventLink is a service powered by School Datebooks that posts messages for **emergency alert** and **event reminders**. It is *free* for parents to register their email or text number and indicate the types of messages they want from their children's school. Once an administrator registers a school, the emergency alert and event reminders are activated.

Web: <http://www.eventlink.com/>

FreeReading is a *free reading intervention program* for K–3. The program was originally developed by **Wireless Generation** and an advisory board of leading reading researchers. Now the program is an open-source, peer-authored text. Educators can find research-based literacy activities, share lessons and ideas, and use the complete set of activities in hundreds of lessons mapped to a 40-week scope and sequence based on recommendations of the National Reading Panel. Users can even download *free* resources, including letter cards, picture cards, music and videos.

Web: <http://www.FreeReading.net/>

Free Resources for Educational Excellence (or FREE, for short) is an extensive compilation of *free* resources from federal agencies. Browse the Subject Map to review topics, type in a keyword to search the entire database or click on the featured links for current topics of interest. Sign up for the FREE RSS to get notification several times a week of new resources being added to the more than 1,500 existing resources on the site.

Web: <http://www.free.ed.gov/>

LookyBook has a growing library of more than 300 titles that can be viewed cover to cover, in full color to enjoy the text and illustrations. Every book can be reviewed, rated, shared, added to a personal Bookshelf and purchased. The *free* LookyBook library is searchable by author, illustrator, subject or genre; and search results always give a collection of related books to enrich the selection.

Web: <http://www.lookybook.com/>

NetSmartzKids is an interactive, educational **safety resource** from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) and Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) for children aged 5–17. Original animated characters are used to present **interactive games, activities and videos** to develop the safety awareness of children who use the Internet. The Use Your NetSmartz (UYN) curriculum is a rich collection of tunes, video, games and activities that help students learn the rules of staying safe on the Internet and safely using Internet tools, such as email.

Web: <http://www.NetSmartzKids.org/>

Plus: NetSmartz provides Internet safety resources for educators, parents and guardians, and law enforcement. *Free* downloads available to adults include wallpapers, audio, screensavers, media player skins and themes.

Web: <http://www.NetSmartz.org/uyunifreestuff/index.htm>



○ Make your end-of-the-year planning easier with the *free* **PBS Teacher Activity Packs**, a set of themed resources and activities packaged in a widget-format. Each pack includes links to PBS resources and activities organized by grade level. A Grab It button lets you automatically post any activity pack to a variety of media sites, such as **MySpace**, **Facebook** and **iGoogle**, or copy the embed code to post it to a school or personal Web page.

Web: <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/activitypacks/>

○ Your high school students will love this *free* multidisciplinary project through which they apply science, math, engineering and technology skills. **Sight/Insight**, a collaborative initiative between **USA Today Education** and **NASA**, provides a program for grades 9–12 to explore **human ingenuity** and **STEM careers** by completing the steps of a problem-solving process on the Hubble Space Telescope. The complete version is 15 to 20 sessions over 3 to 4 weeks using independent research and group homework. The abridged version is 5 to 10 class sessions over 1 to 2 weeks with independent research.

Web: <http://www.hubble-sightinsight.com/>

○ **Study Guides and Strategies** is a database of *free* educator resources categorized by subheadings to aid in teaching. Some of the index topics are Preparing, Learning, Studying, Writing Basics, Writing Types, Math and Science, and Technology. Each **study guide** includes detailed strategies and related links for using the guide. Currently, the index is posted in English and 30 other languages that can be accessed at the click of a button from the home page.

Web: <http://www.studygs.net/>

○ Get ready for summer reading and select books that match each student's reading level with **Teacher Book Wizard**. This *free* online tool from **Scholastic** is designed by teachers to create, organize and share booklists of more than 50,000 books from all publishers. Search based on given reading level, known author, keyword or instructional category and customize your list. Created booklists are stored in My Book Lists and can be printed, emailed and posted in the List Exchange to share with other teachers. A *free* BookAlike tool does a book title search for similar books at a specified reading level. Use the new widget to put the Teacher Book Wizard on your school or class Web site for easy access.

Web: <http://bookwizard.scholastic.com/>

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Leave a lasting impression.



\$498.99

CDWG 1539085

HP Color LaserJet® CP2025dn

Network- and duplex-ready, color laser printer

- Mfr. speed rating: up to 21 ppm black and color
- Print resolution: up to 600x600 dpi with HP ImageREt 3600
- Duty cycle: up to 40,000 pages per month
- USB 2.0 and Ethernet ports
- Get print-shop quality color documents with HP ColorSphere toner
- One-year limited warranty



\$898.99

CDWG 1152869

HP LaserJet P3005dn Printer

Network- and duplex-ready, monochrome laser printer

- Mfr. speed rating: up to 35 ppm
- Print resolution: up to 1200x1200 dpi with HP FastRes 1200
- Duty cycle: up to 100,000 pages per month
- USB 2.0 and Ethernet ports
- One-year limited warranty



\$898.99

CDWG 1599121

HP Color LaserJet CP3525dn

Network- and duplex-ready, color laser printer

- Mfr. speed rating: up to 30 ppm black and color
- Print resolution: up to 1200x600 dpi
- Duty cycle: up to 75,000 pages per month
- Give brochures and flyers a competitive edge with the image-enhancing ImageREt 3600 color technology
- USB and Ethernet ports
- One-year limited warranty



○ TechMatrix is a **guide to assistive technology tools** available for students with special needs. This *free* resource is created and maintained by the **National Center for Technology Innovation (NCTI)** and the **Center for Implementing Technology in Education (CITeD)**. The tool searches more than 200 products by subject or learning support and generates a matrix of products that have specific assistive technology support features. The user can print, email or bookmark each matrix generated with TechMatrix. Each product listing includes basic information, assistive technology features and research links for learning supports.

Web: <http://www.techmatrix.org/>

○ The **Tree of Life (ToL) Web Project** is a *free* resource that supports **biodiversity** instruction. ToL gives teachers and students Web-based tools to create “treehouses”, Tree of Life Web pages, created by scientists, which link to core content about the world’s organisms.

Web: <http://tolweb.org/tree>

FREE TECH TOOLS FOR LEARNING

○ Download the *free* basic edition of **Adventure Maker** to create point-and-click games and virtual tours for Windows, PSP, iPhone and iPod touch Web applications. The Adventure Maker package contains an icon editor, music composer, drawing program and program for resizing and compressing pictures.

Web: <http://www.adventuremaker.com/>

○ **ClassChatter** is a *free* **Web log service** that provides *free* blogging and Web tools. Create a class blog page and then add topic blogs where teacher and students can add posts to encourage class discussions. Student personal blogs can be created as a journal for reflections. New features include an assignment blog for keeping track of completed assignments, and ClassMail. An added feature is the ability to hide student identities, which makes ClassChatter FERPA compliant.

Web: <http://www.classchatter.com/>

○ Create, modify and share diagrams with **Draw Anywhere**, a *free* Web-based diagramming tool. Draw Anywhere works like a desktop application; no software download is required. Draw, modify and share flowcharts, organizational charts and other diagrams. Send diagrams to your printer or export as JPG, PNG or PDF files.

Web: <http://drawanywhere.com/>

○ **FotoFlexer** is a *free* online **photo-editing** resource that has all the sophisticated tools of far more expensive photo-editing software. Options include adding stickers, glitter text and borders

Web: <http://fotoflexer.com/>



● **Game Templates**, from the **Watson School of Education, University of North Carolina Wilmington**, is a *free* resource for creating interactive games for whole class or individual student use. Download game templates for PowerPoint, Word and Excel to use immediately or customize them to fit your curricular needs. Also download the PowerPoint Timers that will count down from up to one hour.

Web: <http://people.uncw.edu/ertzbergerj/msgames.htm>

● Use **Google Alerts** to up with developing news stories for a current events class or get the latest changes for a research search term. Create an alert by entering keyword search terms for a topic you wish to monitor. Also indicate how often you would like to receive updates. An email then updates the latest Google results on the topic requested.

Web: <http://www.google.com/alerts/>

● **Apple** provides access to *free* educational content for schools with **iTunes U**. Register and install the *free* iTunes software for Mac or PC and begin browsing the K–12 categorized collections of content divided for use in elementary, middle and high school classrooms. Watch the video for an introduction that explains how the collection of digital lessons can impact your curriculum.

Web: <http://www.apple.com/education/mobile-learning/>

● Introduce multimedia software to elementary and middle school students using **Kerpoof**, a *free*, full-featured online multimedia **authoring suite**. Students can create original artwork, animated movies, greeting cards and stories. As they complete their creative tasks, students earn Koins, which they can spend at the KerPoof Store for new interactive art tools and special avatars. The Rock Band tool enables students to create original music compositions with animations. The *free* teacher account allows access to collaborative features such as chat and message boards and the ability to monitor and moderate student participation. The For Teachers area has lesson plans and ideas for using Kerpoof Scholastic in the classroom.

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

● **PracticePlanet** provides online test practice based on your state's testing standards. The assessments and instructional games provide immediate feedback on all questions. Also available are summary reports and data aggregation for pre- and posttests with graphic depiction of results. Print the *free* Tips for Effective Test Taking with recommendations for before and during the test.

Web: <http://www.practiceplanet.com/>

○ SlideRocket is a *free* tool that makes it possible to create, manage and deliver presentations online. Users can import PowerPoint files, access presentations from anywhere, securely share files with colleagues, as well as organize a presentation library and share it on the Web. The basic service is *free*.

Web: <http://www.sliderocket.com/>

○ Download Microsoft's *free* Windows Movie Maker 2 and create, edit and share video from your PC. Use drag-and-drop tools to build your movie, delete bad shots, add cool effects and transitions, and share your movie via the Web, email or CD. The software tool requires Windows XP.

Web: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/updates/moviemaker2.msp>

Plus: A collection of video extras is available *free* from Microsoft. The Windows Movie Maker 2 Creativity Fun Pack includes video titles, music and sound effects. Download the full pack or select a partial pack.

Web: <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/downloads/power toys/mmcreate.msp>

○ Type or cut and paste a group of words into the Wordle tool and get an instant image of the words based on frequency of word use. The word cloud, or picture, creates a collage of all the words in the text, with those words used more frequently given a larger font and more prominent location in the image. The word cloud can be printed or saved to the Wordle gallery to share with others.

Web: <http://www.wordle.net/>

VIRTUAL LABS AND SIMULATIONS

○ Elluminate vRoom is a *free* distance-learning tool that lets up to three students (or teachers) videoconference to do real-time collaboration. Registered users get two-way VoIP, an interactive whiteboard, application sharing, file transfer, live Web cam and virtual office hours.

Web: <http://www.elluminate.com/vroom/>

○ ExploreLearning's Gizmos includes more than 400 easy-to-use simulations for students to use in exploring hundreds of math and science topics. Each Gizmo has a step-by-step, inquiry-based lesson for using the simulation. Teachers can customize the lessons, get correlations to standards and textbooks, and get immediate results through the assessment and reporting features. There is also an Elementary Math & Science Gizmos just for grades 3–5.

Web: <http://www.explorelearning.com/>

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Color inkjet printer, copier, scanner and fax

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CDWG 1545490



brother
at your side

NEW

Brother® HL-4040CDN

Network- and duplex-ready, color laser printer

- Mfr. speed rating: up to 21 ppm
- Print resolution: up to 2400x600 dpi
- Duty cycle: up to 35,000 pages per month
- PCL®6 emulation
- USB flash memory drive and PictBridge compatible
- One-year limited express exchange warranty

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xerox

Xerox® Phaser® 8560MFPN

Network-ready, solid ink color printer, copier, scanner and fax

- Mfr. speed rating: up to 30 ppm black and color
- Print resolution: up to 2400 dpi FinePoint™, 600x600 dpi
- Scan resolution: up to 600x600 dpi
- Duty cycle: up to 85,000 pages per month
- USB 2.0 and Ethernet ports
- One-year limited onsite warranty

\$1498.99

CDWG 1127973



LEGO Digital Designer is a *free* LEGO program that lets you build with LEGO bricks on your computer. Download the program for Windows PC or Mac OS X and watch one of the new tutorial movies to get started. **Starter Model** allows the user to add to an existing model. **Free Build** allows the user to create a model from scratch. Recent Models displays the user's latest creations. Educators can search the Activity Bank by age group, category and product for *free* activities to use for hands-on learning.

Web: <http://lidd.lego.com/>

No need to wait for a night sky to view the stars when you can download **Stellarium**, a *free* **planetarium** for your Mac or PC. This *free* open source simulation shows a realistic 3-D sky with sunrise and sunset. Features include illustrations of the constellations and 600,000 stars, as well as a zoom, time control and extensive keyboard control. Just type in your coordinates and begin stargazing.

Web: <http://www.stellarium.org/>

Middle and high school students will love **Tox Town**, a *free* interactive **problem-solving simulation** from the **National Library of Medicine**. They will discover the environmental health concerns and toxic chemicals found in everyday life while making decisions in Tox Town. Each interactive graphic neighborhood (city, farm, town, border and port) lets the user explore the environmental health risks associated with that location. Teacher resources include classroom activities, interactive student activities and a PowerPoint presentation to introduce Tox Town.

Web: <http://toxtown.nlm.nih.gov/>

It no longer requires a science grant to provide high school students with a **scanning electron microscope**. Now all students can have *free* access with the use of the **NASA Virtual Lab**. Users can zoom and focus into a variety of built-in microscopic samples. Instructional materials include a video demo of how the scanning electron microscope works and movies of the microscope in action.

Web: <http://learn.arc.nasa.gov/lab1/>

It's easy to follow safety rules with **Virtual Experiments** from the **University of Oxford**. **LiveChem** is an interactive **chemistry experiment lab** in which users choose items to mix and a video displays the reaction. It's as simple as clicking on a salt and then adding a reagent to get a reaction.

Web: <http://www.chem.ox.ac.uk/vrchemistry/labintro/newdefault.html>



Resources for Developing 21st Century Skills

● Visit the **Edublog Awards** site and browse the Eddies for 2008. Get great ideas for using blogs in the classroom from the winners of the fifth annual Edublog Awards. Check back on the Web site for 2009 nominations.

Web: <http://edublogawards.com/>

● **Explore Resources for Web 2.0** is a component of **Your Learning Journey** from the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). Teachers can easily find relevant Web 2.0 resources from the categorized collection of reviewed links. The resources help to define Web 2.0, access tools for Web 2.0 and find examples of Web 2.0 implementation in education.

Web: http://www.iste.org/Content/NavigationMenu/EducatorResources/YourLearningJourney/Web20/Web_2_0_Resource_Links.htm

● Access 21st century skills with **MILE** (Milestones for Improving Learning in Education) available on the **Partnership for 21st Century Skills** Web site. Users can access MILE by clicking on Resources, then Online Tools, then MILE Guide. Download the PDF file of the guide or use the online assessment in a school or district to determine progress in defining, teaching and assessing 21st century skills. Don't miss the **MILE Guide Workshop kit** and the **online MILE Guide Assessment**.

Web: <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org>

● **Route21** is a repository of nearly 600 resources set up to showcase resources, community tools and assessment tools for 21st century skills as they are developed. The definitions for the 21st century skills are also available.

Web: <http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/route21/>

Respond and Win an Epson Stylus Photo 1400 color inkjet printer.

See back cover for details.

COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION

Collection communities are based on a user profile, but the focus is on people who want to share a personal collection. For example, **AllRecipes** members can create a *free* private recipe box to store their recipes, share any recipes with others and post recipes, ratings and reviews for any of the public recipes in the community collection. Search for new recipes to add to your recipe box, categorize and even create an automatic shopping list for ingredients. Have students look up nutritional facts for favorite recipes. Need a fundraiser? Just click on Create-a-Cookbook in the menu bar and build a class or school recipe book. Then personalize with any uploaded images (hardcover, \$34.99; soft cover, \$24.99).

Web: <http://allrecipes.com/>

Plus: The **DinnerSpinner** is a *free* teacher time-saver after a faculty meeting or afterschool professional development session. Just download the *free* application to your **iPhone** or **iPod Touch** and spin the menu options for a meal based on your selection of main ingredients, type of dish and desired preparation time. The search results from the AllRecipes database put detailed ingredients, cooking directions and nutritional information in the palm of your hand.

Web: <http://allrecipes.com/Features/More/iPhone.aspx>

The *free* **GNU Image Manipulation Program (GIMP)** can be used for photo retouching, image composition and image authoring. This *free* graphics editing tool is easy to use and portable. An example of the tasks performed by GIMP photo enhancements is a mode to correct distortions created by a lens tilt of the camera. What a great way to correct digital snapshots of class activities for the yearbook.

Web: <http://www.gimp.org/>

imbee was created to provide *free* **social networking** for young people. Students can connect with friends, share audio and video with real-world friends and link to fun things to do on the Web. Parents and teachers can view students' activities from the imbee site. Students can use Spotbuilder to create their own Web page, blog, personalized trading cards and avatar or to join an imbee group. Teachers can use imbee to set up a teacher account and access *free* lesson plans for using imbee social networking in the classroom.

Web: <http://www.imbee.com/>

Web: <http://www.imbee.com/teacher/>

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Get up to speed with the latest technology.

NComputing®

NComputing® X550 5-User Desktop Virtualization Kit

Virtual desktop expansion kit



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CDWG 1603324

The NComputing® X550 kit enables you to dramatically cut computing costs by sharing the untapped power of existing PCs. The kit's PCI card, access devices and NComputing vSpace™ software work together to efficiently harness excess computing capacity and enable multiple users to share a single PC. Each kit adds five users to a PC, so with two kits a total of eleven users can share one PC simultaneously. And each user gets the full performance and capability of a PC.

Benefits:

- Maintain fewer PCs
- Incredibly cost-efficient, compared to buying separate PCs
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HP SMART BUY

HP Compaq Business Desktop dc7900

Offering stable, professional and secure features

- Intel® Pentium Dual-Core Processor E5200 (2.50GHz)
- Memory: 2GB
- 80GB hard drive
- DVD-ROM drive
- Windows Vista® Business Edition
- Windows® XP Professional installed²

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CDWG 1591436

lenovo

Lenovo ThinkCentre® M58

Offering Intel® vPro™ Platform Technology

- Intel® Pentium® Dual Core Processor E5200 (2.50GHz)
- Memory: 1GB
- 160GB hard drive
- DVD-ROM drive
- Windows Vista® Business Edition
- Windows XP Professional Downgrade installed²



\$698.99

CDWG 1607994



²Windows XP installed with Windows Vista Certificate of Authenticity and logo; Windows Vista media included; customer has rights to both Windows Vista and Windows XP Professional

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● **In2Books** is a *free* curriculum-based eMentoring program for grades 3–5 from ePals. Adult pen pals are matched with students who are reading the same curriculum-based books, and students and mentor exchange online letters about relevant issues from the books read. The six curriculum units support understanding pen pals, letter writing and sharing in an online community. Versions of In2Books are also available for after-school programs and home use.

Web: <http://in2books.epals.com/>

● Create an online collaborative timeline using the *free* **OurStory** Web service. Users can easily make personalized timelines using the selection of Question sets (My Story, Family Story, Life Story and more). Collaborate with other colleagues or students, family or friends to add to your timeline. Once created, an OurStory timeline can be embedded into MySpace, or any other Web site, using a new timeline widget from OurStory.com to share with anyone you want. Just click Export and copy the code provided into your personal Web page.

Web: <http://www.ourstory.com/>

● Harness the technology power of existing computers with **nComputing** solutions, which uses small access terminals combined with **nComputing** software to allow users to share a PC. Users need their own monitor, keyboard and mouse, and their own applications, but the PC power of one computer is then shared by up to 30 users. The X300 access terminal will share one PC with up to seven students. Visit the Web site for a *free* 30-day trial, valid for the U.S. educational market.

Web: <http://www.ncomputing.com>

● Create surveys and polls for your elearning modules, add a student poll to your class Web page, ask parents their opinion on a new school policy—all for *free* with the **PollDaddy** Web 2.0 service. Survey features include unlimited *free* polls as well as more than a dozen PollDaddy skins to customize the interface; add text, pictures and video to polls; block repeat voters by IP address or cookies; close polls after a certain date; randomize answers; show or hide results; and export data as XML, CSV and subscribe to them via RSS. Surveys can be posted to a Web site, blog or social network profile.

Web: <http://www.polldaddy.com/>

Respond and Win an Epson Stylus Photo 1400 color inkjet printer.

See back cover for details.

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Performance and productivity — on the go.

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Designed for Education



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RM Mobile One Classbook 200

From a rubber bumper plate protector to hard screen LCD, spill-proof and removable keyboard, the RM Mobile One has all the unique features you need.

- Intel® Centrino® Processor Technology
- Intel® Core™ 2 Duo Processor T7250 (1.80GHz)
- Intel® Wireless WiFi Link 4965AGN
- Memory: 1GB
- 80GB hard drive
- DVD±RW drive
- 15" WXGA display
- Windows® XP Professional Downgrade installed¹



lenovo



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Lenovo ThinkPad® SL500

Offers legendary ThinkPad® reliability plus advanced wireless and multimedia features ideal for education.

- Intel® Centrino® 2 Processor Technology
- Intel® Core™ 2 Duo Processor P8400 (2.26GHz)
- Intel® Wireless WiFi Link 5100AGN
- Memory: 2GB
- 160GB hard drive
- DVD±RW drive
- 15.4" WXGA display
- Windows Vista® Business Edition



TOSHIBA



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Toshiba Portégé® M750-S7202 Tablet PC

Includes web camera and Toshiba EasyGuard™ technology

- Intel Centrino 2 Processor Technology
- Intel® Core™ 2 Duo Processor P8600 (2.50GHz)
- Intel Wireless WiFi Link 5100AGN
- Memory: 2GB
- 160GB hard drive
- DVD±RW drive
- 12.1" WXGA display
- Windows Vista Business Edition²



²Windows XP Professional Downgrade disc included in box



○ **HP and Microsoft** are teaming up to offer a *free* online community for teachers. Called **TEE** for short, the **Teacher Experience Exchange** project is a repository of content for teachers built by teachers. TEE content includes *free* software, lessons, discussions, contests and training materials. Courses, interactive how-to's and online resources and tools are available 24/7. Register to become a teacher member eligible to sign up for online courses, interact with others on the campus forums, rate and review content, tag other users' reviews and forum.

Web: <http://lh30411.www3.hp.com/>

○ **Yugma** is a *free* online screen-sharing tool that lets users conference with up to 20 participants. (A paid-for version for larger conferencing is available for as little as \$14.95/month and is free of sponsored ads.) The live collaboration tools include desktop sharing, robust annotation tools and whiteboard options to capture audio/video files that are hosted by Yugma. The Yugma service then provides a URL to make sharing a presentation on the Web easier. Participants can share mouse and keyboard controls, conduct public and private chats, share file space, change presenters, share desktops and record Web sessions.

Web: <https://www.yugma.com/>

Plus: The **Yugma Education Program** allows accredited education institutions to register for 100 *free* Yugma Professional-10 accounts for one year. With access to all the premium features of Yugma, faculty and student leaders can be assigned accounts to facilitate collegial collaboration among faculty and between schools.

Web: http://www.yugma.com/share/education/share_education.php

INFORMATION, MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY SKILLS

○ The **Cybercizen Partnership** is an awareness program to educate children and young adults about cybercrime. The collection of Web resources on cyberethics and cybercrime support teachers and parents in encouraging ethical online behavior by students. The **Just for Kids** link provides numerous interactive resources for students. **Cyberethics for Kids** is a simulation in which players make decisions based on cybercizen rules.

Web: <http://www.cybercitizenship.org/>

○ **DIGG** is a sharing community that collects and shares resources from the Internet. The Web site allows people to collect and share resources they find, and the best resources eventually come to the homepage as people use the resources. When users “dig” through the content, the resources that are popular come to the top, the user can “bury” resources that are unreliable or dead links. Explore the related *free* DIGG tools and try out the DIGG Mobile tool available for a cell phone.

Web: <http://www.digg.com>



Explore curriculum content using **42eXplore**, a combined search of relevant K–12 topics. The “four to explore” sections on each page consist of definitions, activities, four good starting points and many more Web links and resources for the selected thematic topic.

Web: <http://www.42explore.com>

The **Digital Citizenship and Creative Content** curriculum is a *free* turnkey **instructional program** available through **Microsoft** sponsorship. Because students interact daily with music, movies, software and other digital content, they need to understand the appropriate use of digital properties to be better stewards of creative materials and responsible digital citizens of 21st century learning. The curriculum content is divided into four thematic units, each consisting of 4 to 6 stand-alone, yet complementary, lesson plans that promote awareness and understanding of intellectual property rights and respect for creative rights for digitally delivered content. Lessons which align with **AASL standards for the 21st Century Learner**, include Civics, Computer Science, Debate, Economics, Fine Arts, Government, Journalism, Language Arts, Drama and Video Production. Initially designed for grades 8–10, the curriculum can easily be adapted for grades 6–12. Register to download the *free* curriculum materials. Be sure to check out **MyBytes**, the student activity Web site.

Web: <http://digitalcitizenshiped.com/>

Middle and high school students will learn more about global awareness with **Real Lives from Educational Simulations**. This unique, interactive life simulation lets students become a character from one of billions of lives in more than 190 countries. Students learn about different cultures, political systems, economic opportunities, religions and geography as they make decisions and experience the consequences of their choices.

Web: <http://www.educationalsimulations.com/>

The next piece of the puzzle fell into place with the release in January of the draft **NETS for Administrators 2009**. The final standards will be published in June 2009. Participate in the online NETS Survey to voice your opinion of the NETS Refresh project for administrators as the draft is revised. Or check the Web site for a NETS Refresh Forum near you.

Web: http://www.iste.org/Content/NavigationMenu/NETS/NETSRefreshProject/NETS_Refresh.htm

Plus: ISTE has created a collaborative wiki where educators can share their ideas, lesson plans and other tools they are using to implement the **NETS for Students** in the classroom. The **From Paper to Practice** video series simulates what NETS for Students looks like in the classroom.

Web: <http://nets-implementation.iste.wikispaces.net/>

● **Skitch** is a *free* beta program for the Mac that allows users to easily share screenshots, photos or drawings. Select your image, edit or crop if necessary, add captions and save the file anywhere on your desktop. A Webpost in the program uploads the image automatically to .Mac, FTP, Flickr and more. You can copy the URL for sharing; the Skitch history keeps every image you share so the image is readily available to use again.

Web: <http://skitch.com/>

● The **TechYES Starter Kit** for grades 6–9 from **Generation YES** is a complete technology education and certification program that meets NCLB requirements for national technology literacy certification. The three-step certification process includes mastery of Internet safety and ethics as well as the completion of two technology projects in which students must show proficiency in a variety of technologies. A **teacher-implementation guide** and **resource CD** provides blackline masters, lessons and video to support the student technology literacy certification. Don't miss the extensive **database of tutorials** and the **TechYes Science projects**.

Web: <http://www.techyes.net/>

● **Vector Magic** allows you to change a bitmap into a vector image that you can then download as an EPS, SVG, PDF or PNG file. To convert an image, just upload it to the Vector Magic Web page, answer questions in the vectorization wizard and vectorize the image. The video tutorials make it easy for teachers and students to complete a change from bitmap to vector. Try Vector Magic *free* with two images or buy the unlimited online service for \$7.95/month.

Web: <http://vectormagic.com/>

Attention Web Browsers: Web site addresses do change periodically. If you have difficulty connecting, use a search engine to get an updated address. These sites are recommended by teachers and editors for educational value, but all content and associated links are the domain of the site sponsor.

- Search Engines:**
- **Search.com:** <http://www.search.com>
 - **Virtual Reference Desk:** <http://www.refdesk.com>
 - **WebCrawler:** <http://www.webcrawler.com>
 - **Yahoo!Kids:** <http://www.kids.yahoo.com>



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HP iPAQ 210 Enterprise Handheld

Delivers enterprise connectivity

- Intel® PXA310 Processor (624MHz)
- Memory: 128MB SDRAM
- 4" transfective TFT touchscreen color display
- Weight: 6.8 oz.
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HP iPAQ 110 Classic Handheld

Personal organizer with Wi-Fi®

- Intel® PXA310 Processor (624MHz)
- Memory: 64MB SDRAM
- 3.5" transfective TFT touchscreen color display
- Weight: 3.86 oz.
- Microsoft Windows Mobile 6 Classic



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HP iPAQ 910c Business Manager

Simplify your work and personal life

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- Ultrafast downloads via tri-band UMTS and HSDPA at up to 7.2 Mbps
- QWERTY keyboard and 2.4" touchscreen for comfortable use
- Built-in Google™ Maps and multimode GPS
- Microsoft Windows Mobile 6.1 Professional Edition



\$498.74

CDWG 1491795



Must-visit Web Destinations

○ The Earth Day Network Footprint Calculator debuted in August 2008. It was designed to help us find out the impact each of us is having on our environment. Click on the **footprint quiz** to find out what kind of impression you are making on our planet. Students can save their ecological footprint for later access and even try different scenarios to explore ways to improve their footprint.

Web: <http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.html>

○ The ePals Global Learning Community has added even more to its list of collaborative projects that include In2Books and ePals SchoolM@il. The newest addition is **eFilms on ePals**, educational documentaries powered by SnagFilms. The *free*, high-quality educational films are available to the ePals global community which connects more than 10 million K–12 educators and students to school-safe communication tools, learning projects and rich content across 200 countries.

Web: <http://www.epals.com/>

○ FOSSWeb! (Full Option Science System Web) is a *free* science resource for teachers and students that supports the FOSS inquiry-based science curriculum. Interactive activities are organized for grades K–2, 3–6 and middle school. All of the dozens of thematic science modules has **multimedia games**; **media** with related images, movies, audio include and Web sites; and **teacher/parent info**. An **Ask a Scientist?** section answers frequently asked questions about the topic. The middle school resources include **Planet FOSS**, where students can accept a topical challenge, take digital pictures in their environment and upload the pictures to the Planet FOSS Web site to share with others around the world. A *free* **Lab Notebook** and duplication masters can be downloaded in **English** and **Spanish**.

Web: <http://fossweb.com/>

○ Global Footprint Network has a simulation tool that enables students to research worldwide ecological footprints. Check to see which nations are ecological creditors or debtors. Look up your city and/or businesses to learn about their ecological footprint. Learn more about footprint science and the methodology used to determine ecological footprints. Download the *free* **Ecological Footprint Atlas 2008** for 201 countries and the **Living Planet Report 2008**.

Web: <http://www.footprintnetwork.org/>

○ Literature Learning Ladders is an extensive resource of themes and projects that use book-technology connections to focus on reading. The index includes Themes and Literature Circles.

Web: <http://www.eduscapes.com/ladders/>



○ May 2 is Space Day, and the **NASA at 50** Web resource from **Discovery Education** is a great place to begin a class celebration of space science. Video and audio formats follow the NASA timeline from the 1958 start of Project Mercury to the 2008 50th celebration. Each event in NASA history has a teacher's guide ready to download, complete with learning objectives, classroom activities and target vocabulary.

Web: <http://discoveryeducation.com/NasaAt50/>

○ **Kids Page**, sponsored by the **National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)**, has lots of environmental resources for teachers and students to connect to Earth Day and the environment. Go to the Games page where you can safely create a dynamic fireworks display on your computer page.

Web: <http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/>

○ Investigate a variety of natural history topics at **OLOGY**, the **American Museum of Natural History** kids site. The main OLOGY topics are Archaeology, Astronomy, Biodiversity, Earth, Einstein and Genetics. Completing the *free* registration lets students save card collections and submit projects using the cards. Registered users can also create their own Web page to store their favorites and more than 300 OLOGY cards collected from the OLOGY online activities. A **Climate Change** exhibit began in October and runs until August 16, 2009.

Web: <https://www.amnh.org/ology/>

○ Visit the **Recycle City** simulation to try different strategies to clean up and reduce waste in Dumptown. Students will learn about recycling as they investigate the different areas of Recycle City. Click on the EPA home page for a plethora of recycle resources.

Web: <http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/>

○ Teachers will find dozens of resources at the *free* **Time for Kids** teachers Web resource that supports the *Time for Kids* weekly magazine. Resources (leveled for K–1, 2–3, 4–6) include **worksheets**, **lessons** and **graphic organizers**.

Web: <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/teachers/>

Plus: Click the **Time for Kids** Web site from the teacher resource page to access three different **Homework Helper** links. **Rapid Research** lists Web links recommended by kids and are organized by content area. **Writing Help** consists of A+ Papers, Expert Tips and a Writers Toolbox. **Around the World** is a quick link to country databases. **News and Games** complete the major categories in the *Time for Kids* resources.

Web: <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/kids/hh/rr/>

○ **Exploratorium** is a museum of science, art and human perception. Click Explore for online activities and exhibitions. There is a plethora of Tools for Teaching if you click on Educate – everything from an online Digital Library to Science Snacks with instructions for creating Exploratorium exhibits in the classroom. Register for the *free* EduNews! this is emailed four times a year with updates for events, Webcasts and online resources.

Web: <http://www.exploratorium.edu>

PRACTICAL TEACHER ZONES

○ **CrA+mster.com** is an online study community of students, educators and subject enthusiasts who help each other solve math, science and engineering problems. The **Cramster.com Q&A Board** is a unique feature that allows members to ask questions about problems and, in return, receive detailed, step-by-step solutions from the Cramster community. Community members earn Karma Points by helping others on the site. They can redeem their points for rewards ranging from iTunes gift cards to new laptops. The majority of Cramster's services, including step-by-step textbook help and practice problems, are *free*, premium access is offered for as low as \$9.95/month. Cramster offers an educator-specific membership with added benefits at *no cost*.

Web: <http://www.cramster.com>

○ Using the Internet effectively is easy when educators use the plethora of teacher tools available on the **Internet4Classrooms (I4C)** Web site to support content, assessment and technology. The **Links for K–12 teachers** lead to hundreds of Web resources for the content areas categorized by subject and grade level. **Assessment Assistance** links to resources to help students practice skills needed for assessment. The **On-Line Practice Modules** are *free* tutorials and resource links for technology professional development on the major application tools. Visit the **Daily Dose of the Web** section for daily and weekly updates to links for **Question of the Day**, **Trivia**, **Brain Teasers** and **Quotations**.

Web: <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/>

○ **National Atlas.gov** is a *free* Web site with **interactive maps** and a **MapMaker tool** for creating U.S. and world maps with nearly limitless layers of mapping information.

Web: <http://nationalatlas.gov/>

○ Explore the Egyptian pyramids and temples in awesome 360° views on **Mysteries of the Nile** at the **NOVA/PBS Online Adventure** Web site. Use the extensive **Classroom Resources** for **lesson plans** or customize your own lessons from helpful resource charts of this and other archaeological sites. Visit the archive for more than 170 companion Web sites for NOVA TV programs.

Web: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/egypt/>

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○ **TrackStar** from **4Teachers.org** is a *free* online resource for teachers to organize and create Web-based lessons that can be linked to and accessed for classroom use and made public for others who visit the site to use. The Track database of hundreds of thousands of tracks is searchable by keyword, subject, grade, theme and standard. A drop-down menu gives immediate access to other 4TeacherTools that include **RubiStar**, **QuizStar**, **NoteStar** and **Web Poster Wizard**. TrackStar **tutorials** simplify the use of all these tools for use in creating TrackStar resources.

Web: <http://trackstar.4teachers.org/trackstar/>

○ **Webquest Locator** is a great tool for searching the Internet to find instructional Webquests for the K–12 classroom. The locator lets users search for ready-made Webquests by age group or content area.

Web: <http://www.gecdsb.on.ca/d&g/DPI/>

○ Chemistry teachers will find a well-organized instructional resource created by a high school chemistry teacher at **Chalkbored**. The worksheets, labs, handouts and PowerPoint lessons are *free* for classroom and personal use. All of the more than 100 resources are ready-to-use in your classroom.

Web: <http://www.chalkbored.com/lessons/chemistry-11.htm>

○ Search and find royalty *free* sound effects at **Soungle.com** to use with any class project. The mega online library of sound effects and musical instrument samples is easy to search, preview and download. A short description appears above every sound file along with the frame rate, duration and bit rate.

Web: <http://www.soungle.com/>

○ With more than 50 hours of video from more than 150 educational videos of educational documentaries and video clips, **SpaceTime TV** has math and space videos for class instruction needs. The searchable library includes video clips from such well known sources as **National Geographic**, **PBS** and **The History Channel**. Visit the SpaceTime Arcade for *free* math and puzzle games.

Web: <http://www.spacetime.us/tv/>

INTERACTIVE STUDENT ZONES

○ If you need a quick student review for a three to four-minute gap in your schedule, try the two-minute **Brain Quest** challenge. Students click on an age group (6–9 or 9–13) and test their knowledge with other students online. Then they post their score and challenge a friend or parent to beat their score.

Web: <http://www.brainquest.com/kids/>



○ **Create a Graph** is only one of the interactive tools to be found at **KidsZone Learning with NCES**. Students can use the tutorial to learn about the graphing tool and get started creating and saving, bar, line, area and pie graphs using their own data. There are even sample graphs to help students get started. By clicking the Tools button, they can Find a School, Find a Library or Find a College with lots of collected information on each. Or they can Dare to Compare their knowledge with other students from around the world by answering content-area questions or go to the Grab Bag for thinking skills activities.

Web: <http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/createagraph/>

○ **e-Learning for Kids** is a global nonprofit foundation offering *free* interactive online courseware in math, science, reading, technology and health, and life skills for youth aged 5–12. The index of courses, categorized by content area, lists the name, age level and number of visitors currently online. The newest addition to the e-Learning resources is Mingoville, with lessons and activities for English language learners.

Web: <http://www.e-learningforkids.org/>

○ The **National Academy of Sciences** showcases 10 contemporary working women scientists on its **I was Wondering** Web site. An interactive scrapbook of text, pictures and animations about each scientist's life and career lets middle school students explore science careers. Featured videos, science labs and related Web links engage students in learning about successful women working in science careers. Students apply knowledge of science careers with interactive science games on space and animals in the jungle. They can also create their own robot.

Web: www.iwaswondering.org/

○ **KidsKonnnect.com** is a safe Internet gateway with more than 400 portal sites for kids. Start with the featured sites selected by kids and then move to the alphabetized list of sites or use the categorized subject index to find specific resources by topic. Topics include people, states, countries, history, holidays, content areas and more. Don't miss the new **Educators Konnect** with links to Curriculum Portals, Internet Safety and Webquests.

Web: <http://www.kidskonnnect.com/>

○ The **National Gallery of Art** has created **NGAkids**, an interactive art exploration resource for students of all ages to explore art using color, shape and line. Online interactive art tools include a **Still Life creator**, **BRUSHster painting machine** for abstract art, **Collage machine**, **Paint Box** and **3-D Twirler**. Children's guides for the permanent collections at the gallery can be downloaded in five languages.

Web: <http://www.nga.gov/kids/kids.htm>

○ **Sanford** has collected 30,000 years of art media for students to use and explore on **ArtEdventures** Web site, **A Lifetime of Color**. As students learn about art media, they can select video clips to put together their own movie about art through the ages. Art topics include oils, acrylics, watercolors, markers and colored pencils. As a personal touch, students can upload their own artwork to include in their video timelines.

Web: <http://www.alifetimeofcolor.com/>

○ **Spelling City**, a *free* spelling tool of interactive audio lessons and games, gives students a Teach Me, Test Me or Play a Game format for learning vocabulary and weekly spelling lists. Students can enter words on the fly, select from the **Spelling City Lists of the Month**, or use word lists entered by the teacher. Parents can use the Web site at home to help motivate the study of weekly spelling lists. The *free* registration allows users to save lists.

Web: <http://www.spellingcity.com/>

○ **Sorted Kids & Money** lets students learn about money and economics while playing **interactive games**. The leveled games in **Cash Cloud** for 11 and 12 year olds, **Money Island** for 8–10 year olds and **Dollar Reef** for 5–7 year olds allow all elementary students to interact at this online resource. Teachers and parents will find **learning guides** for each game and **guided questions** at the end of each activity to connect the financial learning skills to the classroom curriculum. Users can download *free* screensavers and posters.

Web: <http://www.sorted.org.nz/life-stages/kids-and-money/for-kids>

○ Let your K–2 students play the interactive science game **Animal Universe** to learn more about world habitats. Choose a habitat and then place animals into the habitat and learn more about the animals and the habitat through associated videos from the **Cosmeo Brain Games** powered by **Discovery Channel**. Collect animal cards filled with pictures and detailed information as you complete activities in each habitat. Play the sample game for *free*.

Web: <http://www.cosmeo.com/welcome/games.html>

○ The **Digital Learning Center for Microbial Biology (DLC-MB** or **Microbe Zoo** for short) is a science education project developed at **Michigan State University** in collaboration with the Comm Tech Lab and the Center for Microbial Ecology. The **Microbe Zoo** lets students explore the world of microbes in a virtual zoo with visits to the **Animal Pavilion**, **DirtLand**, **SnackBar**, **SpaceAdventure** and **WaterWorld**. All of the represented microbes in the zoo are illustrated with picture representations taken with an electron microscope.

Web: <http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/dlc-me/zoo/index.html>

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CALENDAR CURRICULUM

Looking for an education guide for holidays, historic events and famous birthdays? The **Day-by-Day Calendar** of events from **Education Oasis** is a detailed listing of events for each month of the year, with related Web links to assist teachers and students in finding out more. For a comprehensive listing of categorized Web links for students and teachers, click Resources from the top menu bar.

Web: <http://www.educationoasis.com/curriculum/calendar/calendar.htm>

Sites of the School Days (S.O.S. Days), from the Kathy Schrock Web site on **Discovery Education**, is a dynamic resource of recommended technology Web links to help teachers integrate technology into the curriculum. A new online Web resource is posted every week. Teachers can also sign up to receive an email announcing the new S.O.S. resource.

Web: <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schrockguides/sos.html>

The PBS Web site on American History entitled *Freedom: A History of US* includes 16 episodes of the U.S. history series about freedom based on the books by Joy Hakim. Each Webisode includes an overview, links to video and photos to help tell each story. Interactive Web links are located throughout the text for more in-depth study. Review-learning with two multimedia games: *What did they say?* and *Scavenger Hunt Through History*. Research Tools provide a timeline, glossary, quiz, image browser and additional resources.

Web: <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/historyofus/index.html>

On May 14, 1804 the **Lewis and Clark expedition** began a 2½-year journey from St. Louis to the Pacific and back. The bicentennial was four years ago, but the PBS Web site is still a great tool for engaging students in the study of American history. Resources include a comprehensive database of all the Indian tribes encountered during the expedition, an extensive collection of **journals** and **maps**, and a **timeline** of the journey. Into the Unknown and Interactive Trail Map let students simulate travel along the trail. The **cross-curricular lessons** make it easy for teachers to incorporate this historic event into the curriculum.

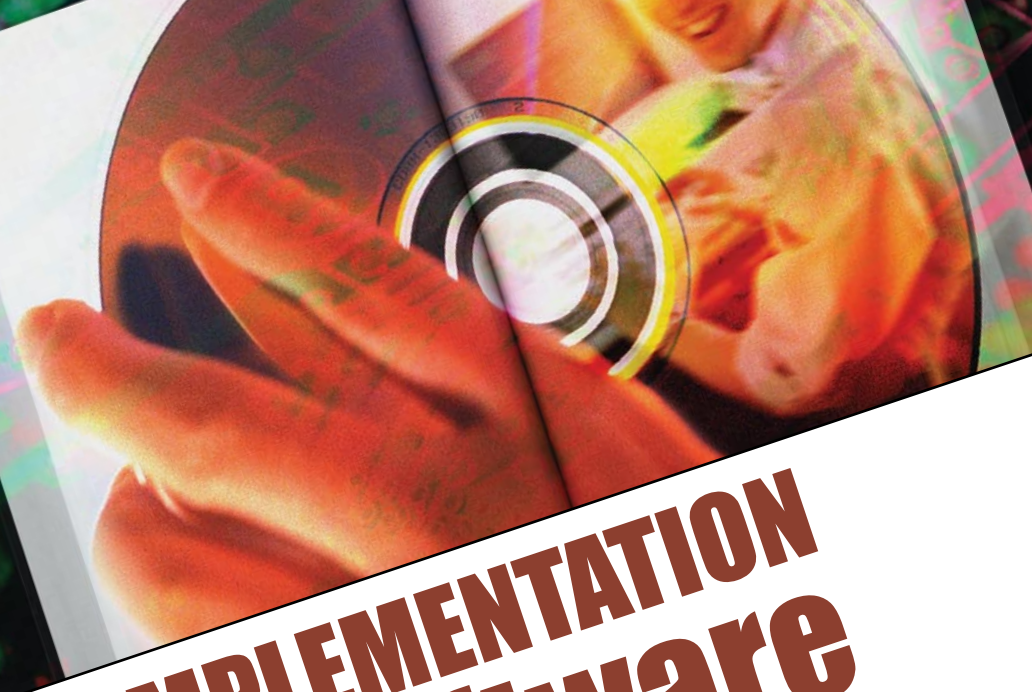
Web: <http://www.pbs.org/lewisandclark/>

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See back cover for details.

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siaa.net/education/foreducators/software.asp

○ The **Thinkfinity Calendar** is a comprehensive listing of instructional Web links for different historical events listed for each day of the month throughout the year. This *free* digital learning platform is a result of a merger between the **Verizon Foundation's MarcoPolo program** and the **Thinkfinity Literacy Network**. The Educator, Student, Parent and After-School categories make it easy to browse the more than 55,000 standards-based lesson plans, student materials, interactive tools and reference materials for K–12

Web: <http://thinkfinity.com/teacher/calendar.aspx>

BUDGET-SAVING VIRTUAL TRIPS, TOOLS AND GADGETS

○ Register your students for free curriculum and a virtual journey to Greece for the new **Blue Zones Quest** for the fountain of youth. Join the live, interactive expedition beginning April 20, 2009 – May 1, 2009 as a team of scientists reveal the fifth Blue Zone in a study of age and what creates good health and longevity. Complete the two minute, 35 questions Vitality Compass assessment to determine an estimate of your life expectancy, health expectancy and Blue Zone years.

Web: <http://www.bluezones.com/>

○ Watch, listen and play as an online audience at the **Carnegie Hall** Web site. Explore and learn from the ever-changing variety of audio and video activities. Start with Listening Adventures for ages 6–12 and then investigate the Interactive Timeline of Carnegie Hall History. Students can also test their artistic talents with the Interactive Performance Guides. Walk right in – your virtual ticket to the orchestra is waiting.

Web: http://www.carnegiehall.org/article/explore_and_learn/art_multimedia.html

○ Visit **Colonial Williamsburg** online and select an Electronic Field Trip (\$500 for the entire season or \$120 for one package). Build history, civics and literacy skills as students interact and communicate with Colonial Williamsburg historians and analyze primary source materials and videos. Check out the schedule for this school year and view the Electronic Field Trip Season Sampler. Don't miss the interactive games and online Tour the Town.

Web: <http://www.history.org/history/teaching/left/>

○ Jump on the virtual tour bus for a **Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia** – just in time for a summer school 4th of July celebration. The online tour consists of 33 stops with a link to the Web site for each historical site. Download the *free* Print-n-Go map with photos and site descriptions for a study guide or offline self-guided tour of the most historical square mile in the United States.

Web: <http://www.theconstitutional.com/tour.php#>

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- ✓ Grant Evaluation

For more information and a demonstration visit www.zarca.com



○ Students will love doing word problems and critical thinking in math with the **online CyberChase Talking Calculator** from PBS Kids. The basic steps of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division become a game with the Talking Calculator. Click on the Parents & Teachers link for lessons and ideas that extend the CyberChase experience.

Web: <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/calculator/>

○ Take a virtual tour of the online exhibits at **The Field Museum**. Take a walk-through tour of The Ancient Americas and be sure and try the Interactives link where online visitors can click on excavation maps and make discoveries along with the museum scientists. Each online exhibit has teacher and family resources, related online resources and a complete Glossary. For other exhibits, step into the shoes of a paleontologist to study Sue, the largest, most complete T. Rex in any museum or do a virtual travel through soil in the Underground Adventure exhibit.

Web: http://www.fieldmuseum.org/exhibits/online_exhib.htm

○ Ever wish you had the ability to take your students into a map to walk through a historical location or visit selected sites in a state study? **Google Earth** is a *free* tool that combines Google Search with satellite imagery, maps, terrain and 3D buildings to allow students to virtually explore rich geographical content. Take advantage of the new ocean floor and surface data in version 5.0, view historical imagery from around the globe or add audio and voice recording. Create customized tours and save to share with other classrooms.

Web: <http://www.googleearth.com/>

○ The partnership between NCTM (National Council for Teachers of Mathematics) and **MarcoPolo** provides teachers with dozens of virtual math manipulatives and lessons correlated to NCTM standards. The detailed lesson plans are searchable and include many activity sheet correlations and related Web resources.

Web: <http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

○ Economic literacy is a very hot topic and **Sense & Dollars** from Maryland Public Television and Star Schools lets students enter the world of economics without losing a penny. This virtual simulation will challenge your middle school students to demystify personal economics. Simulation games let them plan a dream prom, master checking accounts and use credit cards wisely. An extensive list of annotated related links makes it easy to complete a financial literacy unit.

Web: <http://senseanddollars.thinkport.org/>

Join CoSN Today

...and experience the benefits of belonging



CoSN is THE national organization for K-12 technology leaders. Through networking powerful community of peers, CoSN nurtures leadership, promotes ed tech advocacy and gives me tools, resources and links to innovative best practices in the field. As a technology leader, I rely on CoSN every day!

—Katie Lovett
CIO, Atlanta, Georgia

Consortium for School Networking (CoSN), Your Voice in the Future of Education Technology

CoSN's mission is to serve as the national organization for K-12 technology leaders who use technology strategically to improve teaching and learning.

CoSN Membership Benefits:

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- Access to essential ed tech resources, available exclusively in myCoSN at www.cosn.org.
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Consortium for School Networking (CoSN)
1025 Vermont Avenue NW, Suite 1010
Washington, DC 20005
866.267.8747 | 202.393.2011 (fax)
www.cosn.org | info@cosn.org

○ **Tramline Virtual Field Trips** is an online guide to dozens of ready-made virtual trips. Each virtual field trip uses software to create a package of Web resources on a given topic that runs on a Web page. Use the virtual trips shared on the Web site or create your own with **TourMaker** software.

Web: <http://www.field-guides.com/vft/>

Plus: **TourMaker** is a software tool from **Tramline** that makes it easy to collect Web resources, add discussion and questions to guide learning, and take students in an organized, step-by-step trail through a selected topic. Try the **TourMaker** trial before you buy; \$25 per station.

Web: <http://www.field-guides.com/tm/download.htm>

○ The **Virtual Electron Microscope** powered by **Discovery Education** lets students examine virtual specimens under a high-powered microscope, identify and sort the specimens.

Web: <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/interact/vemwindow.html>

Plus: **Discovery Education** has a comprehensive lesson plan library. The **Virtual Electron Microscope** for grades 4–6 is a detailed lesson plan with materials, procedures, adaptations, discussion questions, evaluation, extensions and academic standards. A **Share** button allows the teacher to bookmark the virtual microscope and share it with colleagues using such popular programs as **Digg**, **MySpace**, **Facebook**, **Twitter** and **Email**.

Web: <http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/activities/electronmicroscope/>

○ By the end of the school year field trip money is dwindling, but this **Virtual Tour of the Supreme Court Building** by the **Oyez** project will keep your students interested in civics education. The tour is set up with 360 panoramic views of the outside of the building so students can pan the building and the surrounding scenery. The cursor changes to a button when the mouse travels over hot spots so students can get an up close look at the bronze doors at the top of the stairs or examine a statue in closer detail.

Web: <http://www.oyez.org/tour/>

INTERNET SAFETY

○ Learn more about Internet safety and the work of the **Central Intelligence Agency (CIA)** from the games and resources on the **Kids' Page**. Lessons and activities are divided for kindergarten – grade 5 and grades 6–12. Parents and teachers can find lessons and discussion points on the **CIA**, how-to advice on helping kids avoid drug use and tips for Internet safety. Annotated links to other child-, parent- and teacher-friendly government sites are also available.

Web: <https://www.cia.gov/kids-page/parents-teachers/index.html>

SUMMER LEARNING FUN VIA THE WEB

○ Get parents involved with good nutrition – just in time for June Dairy Month. Download *free* nutrition handouts for parents from the **Nutrition Exploration** Web site. The **Nutrition Fun Facts** newsletter is perfect for parent communications now and through the summer. Little D’s (primary) and Arianna’s (upper elementary) Smart Snacking brochures contain 26 snack ideas for home, school or on the run and are downloadable. Several handouts are available in English and Spanish.

Web: <http://www.nutritionexplorations.org/educators/classroom-connections-handouts.asp>

○ Parents will love the resources at **GoCityKids** where they can search for summer camps, summer classes and indoor and outdoor entertainment. Complete a database search by key U.S. cities or type in your city or town to find kid-friendly resources appropriate for on the road or close to home.

Web: <http://gocitykids.parentsconnect.com/choose-a-city/>

○ Introduce your K–5 students to **Just for Kids** from the **University of Illinois Extension Program** for Arbor Day (April 24, 2009). Then encourage students to go back to the site again over the summer months. They will find interactive activities and informative videos, with audio in **English** and **Spanish**, on a variety of science topics, from trees to weather.

Web: <http://www.urbanext.illinois.edulkids/>

○ If you are planning a summer reading promotion for your school or library, the **Library of Virginia** Web site offers tips and guidelines for getting your program off to a good start. Visit the site to learn more about designing your summer reading fun.

Web: <http://www.vacationreading.org/>

○ The **Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP)** is a consortium of state libraries that promotes summer reading. The 2009 program, **Be Creative @ Your Library**, includes a collection of annotated booklists along with ideas for using the books and related Web resources. Themed topics are I’ve Got Rhythm, Be Creative, Now You See It (picture book art), Dance and More, Free Play and Adult Programming Ideas. The library summer reading programs offer many opportunities to reach out to **children with disabilities**. One resource is the ASL “Catch the Reading Bug” Signing Video.

Web: <http://www.cslpreads.org/>



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