

ALTEC NEWSLETTER



OCTOBER 2009

Great resources on the Web!

As a teacher you don't have a lot of extra time to spend finding high-quality Web sites. This month, we decided to put together a list of Web sites that you might find useful for free professional development, online lessons, project ideas, strategies for teaching students with different learning styles, great sites to use in the classroom, timesaving tips, and more.

Education World Tutorials

http://www.education-world.com/a_tech/techtutorial/techtutorialintro.shtml

Tutorials are short simple, step by step tutorials on using some aspect of technology in your classroom. Each week, Education World posts a new Tutorial that you can use in your classroom today!

Here are just a few of the Tutorials you will find:

Beginners Guide to Wikis

Build a Blog

Teaching Excel

Notetaking on the Net

Online Games in the Classroom

Create Surveys with Excel

100 Free Online Lectures that will Make you a Better Teacher

<http://tinyurl.com/betterteacher>

Expand your knowledge base with more than 100 free online lectures about creative learning environments, technology, information for new and experienced teachers, P.E. lectures, arts, special education, and more!

Misunderstood Minds

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/misunderstoodminds/index.html>

This site was created as a companion site to the PBS special about learning differences and disabilities. Parents and teachers can use this site to find strategies and resources to help students with learning disabilities achieve success in the classroom.

Concept to Classroom: A series of workshops

<http://www.thirteen.org/edonline/concept2class/>

This site contains FREE award winning online workshops that you can work through at your own pace. The wide range of workshops includes such topics as:

Inquiry-based Learning

Assessment, Evaluation, and Curriculum Redesign

Cooperative and Collaborative Learning

Teaching to Academic Standards

Webquests

Why the Net? An Interactive Tool for the Classroom

How to Make an Impressive Blog Layout in Photoshop

<http://tinyurl.com/makebloglayout>

Follow this simple, step-by-step tutorial to create your own professional-looking blog layout. Learn tips and tricks for using Photoshop to create impressive graphics.

Choose your own colors to make it your own!

100 Terrific Twitter Feeds for Teaching Advice

<http://tinyurl.com/twitterteachingadvice>

Twitter is the popular online social networking site that millions of people are using to share current events and news. Twitter is also a great resource for teachers to gain tips, advice, new resources and more about technology, early childhood education, special education, classroom management and more. Here you'll find 100 great sites for educational advice. Link to the ones that best meet your educational needs!

A Teachers Guide to Web 2.0 at School

<http://tinyurl.com/teacherweb2>

This quick slide show explains Web 2.0 and the value of it to teachers in just a couple of minutes. If you've been hesitant to begin using Web 2.0 at your school, this slideshow may be helpful to you.

Learner.org

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

Thousands of valuable resources designed to expand your expertise in teaching the arts, literature, math, foreign language, and history are available free at learner.org. You'll find workshops and courses, videos on demand, interactive activities, classroom resources, forums, and more. All materials can be accessed free at the Web site or if you'd like your own copies, you may order materials. This award-winning library of professional development materials was created by Annenberg Media.

New Teacher Survival Kit

<http://www.discoveryeducation.com/survival/index.cfm>

Discovery Education has put together a wonderful resource for new teachers to find creative teaching ideas, time-saving tips, classroom design ideas, tutorials, lesson planning tips, classroom management techniques, and much more.

Need teacher training? We can help!

ALTEC Professional Development



Listed below are the online and onsite sessions we currently offer:

ONSITE SESSIONS

An LCD Projector in the Classroom
An Interactive Whiteboard in the Classroom
The Power of Video-based Learning
Math Illustrated: Using Geometer's Sketchpad
Advanced Microsoft Office
Creative Thinking Skills Using Handhelds
Strategic Technology Planning

Technology Integration Academy
Podcasting: Educational Applications
Custom Staff Inservice Days

ONLINE SESSIONS

Online Project Based Learning
Online Inspiration, Kidspiration, Kidpix
Online Interactive Whiteboard Intensive
Online Annenberg Math Resources
Online Microsoft Access

Please visit the ALTEC Professional Development Web site at <http://pd.altec.org> for com-

Blogs to Bookmark

Use blogs to stay informed about education policy, technology, and teaching.

While blogging began with individuals using the Web to share ideas in an online diary sort of format, more and more federal agencies, education experts, and experienced professionals are using blogs to share news, ideas, host discussions, and take a closer look at what's going on with education. With millions of blogs to choose from we decided to do some research for you to find some blogs that educators find informative and helpful.

Infiinite Thinking Machine (ITM)

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

ITM was created to help K-12 teachers and students succeed in the 21st century classroom. The site provides hundreds of innovative instructional methods, interviews with leading experts, dialogue and discussion, videos, an Internet TV show, and great teaching resources.

Top 101 Best Web Sites for Teachers

<http://www.assortedstuff.com/top101/>

You will find well over 100 great sites for teachers on this site that is now in its 13th year. The site was created by an Instructional Technology Specialist in Virginia. The sites are divided into 10 categories including: around the world, general resources, information & current events, literacy & language arts, projects & activities, science & mathematics, strictly elementary, the fine & performing arts, US history and government, Web guides & directories. Each link includes a de

tailed description so you can decide whether the site is a resource you should examine more closely.

Dynamite Lesson Plan

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

Dynamite Lesson Plan was created by a published author who teaches 4th grade in California. He began the blog two years ago and named it after an invaluable piece of teaching advice he had received years before: "The best classroom behavior management is a dynamite lesson plan." This blog was created to share and explore ways to create dynamite lesson plans, share excellent resources, and discuss creative ways to solve common classroom issues.

Politics K-12

<http://blogs.edweek.org/edweek/campaign-k-12/>

This blog is a great way to stay informed about education policy, stimulus funding, federal politics, and national and state education

news. You can also follow blog posts on Twitter so that you can check back and read the full article when you see a headline that interests you.

I Want to Teach Forever

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

This blog is full of terrific lesson plans, teaching ideas, links to high-quality online resources, links to videos of creative lessons, presentations and innovative teaching ideas. The author taught social studies and math for several years and includes many great resources for math, social studies, and science teachers.

The Cool Cat Teacher Blog

<http://coolcatteacher.blogspot.com/>

Cool Cat Teacher is full of the latest education news, great presentations, innovative teaching tips, important discussions, project and lesson ideas, links to videos, other cool blogs and much more!

Blog by Carol

<http://cooper-taylor.com/blog/>

Read about all things e-learning and e-teaching at this blog that has great advice for distance learning, teaching, and online resources.

The author has won awards for computer-assisted learning, holds post-graduate degrees in e-learning and e-teaching, and she has been working with computers since the release of the Commodore 64.

Edublogs

<http://edublogs.org/>

You may be ready to create your own blog and begin sharing your creative teaching ideas with other educators. You may be interested in creating a classroom blog to post study materials and class discussions, or even a school newsletter. Edublog is a free blogging resource for teachers and students. Create your own customized blog complete with podcasts, video, photos, and more.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As you may know, the 4Teachers.org online resources were developed with money from a U.S. Department of Education grant that began in 1995 and continued until 2005. Since funding ended in 2005 we have been working on ways to keep the 4Teachers resources operating smoothly and, just as important, updated to meet the needs of 21st century users.

You can pledge your tax-deductible donation of \$10, \$25, or more through the University of Kansas Endowment Association. When you donate, you can choose to support a specific 4Teachers tool, or your gift can work to improve all of the 4Teachers resources.

Please visit the 4Teachers Support page at <http://4teachers.org/support> for more information. Thank you for your continued support as we strive to make the 4Teachers tools the most valuable resources they can be.



Conference Calendar

Don't miss these
upcoming conferences!

MITC 2009

MORENet Instructional Technology Conference

Date: October 18-20, 2009

Location: Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO

Web site:

<http://www.more.net/conferences/mitc/>

Kansas Association of Teachers of Mathematics Conference

Date: Friday, October 23, 2009

Location: Hays High School, Hayes, KS

Web site: <http://katm.org/joomla/>

KSDE Assessment Conference

Kansas State Department of Education

Date: October 26-27, 2009

Location: Maner Conference Center,
Topeka, KS

Web site:

<http://conferences.ksde.org/Default.aspx?tabid=2708>

2009 T+L Conference

Technology and Learning Conference

Date: October 28-30, 2009

Location: Colorado Convention Center,
Denver, CO

Web site: <http://www.nsba.org/tl/>

NSDC Gateway to Learning National Confer- ence

National Staff Development Council

Date: December 5-9, 2009

Location: America's Center, St. Louis, MO

Web site: <http://www.nsd.org/conference09/>

ALTEC PROVIDES SERVICES TO SUPPORT YOUR EXISTING PROJECTS

If you have an existing or proposed project, ALTEC can develop and host your Web site, support your online community with discussion boards, set up your video conference, or custom-design a software application to meet your needs. Propose stronger projects and programs using ALTEC's over 15 years of expertise in educational technology, special needs, professional development, and evaluation. Please call us at 785 864 0699 to set up a free consultation. We're happy to assist you with all your technology needs.

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