

# 1... 2... 3... UNBELIEVABLE!

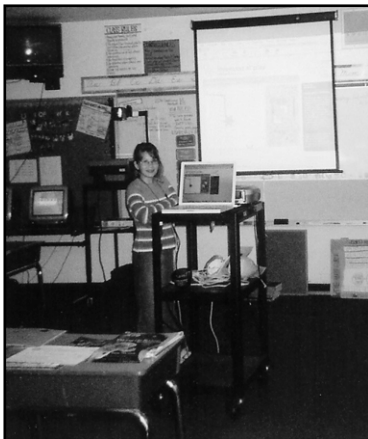
The Art of Classroom Renovation With Technology

Resources gathered by- Ms. Jaszta, Fourth Grade

## Why is the use of technology so crucial in the classroom?

Dr. Lynell Burmark, Ph.D., has published some incredible research about visual literacy. Think about it...

- Each eye has 1,000,000 fibers to the brain while each ear has 30,000.
- Humans process visuals 60,000 times faster than text.
- Word process sequentially while images process simultaneously.
- Images are stored in your long-term memory.
- Color power (which the Internet DEFINITELY has) boosts recall by 80% and increases willingness to read by 80% as well. Learning and retention, in addition, is enhanced by 75%.



Most of the time when I have my students write, I present some sort of technology-related presentation first. To clarify science concepts, I have them visit interactive science websites. When students do not understand math concepts, they can explore the subject with virtual manipulatives.

***Classroom instruction with technology can take place in these forms...***

Webquests, Digital Storytelling, Interactive Websites, Virtual Field Trips, Virtual Classrooms, and Newer, Brighter, and More Spectacular Ways of Researching...

## Websites That Simply Rule The Roost

\* [Seussville \(Especially K-2 and sometimes older, too\)](http://www.seussville.com/)

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

\* [Fossweb Science Explorations \(Grades K-2\)](http://www.fossweb.com/modulesK-2/index.html)

<http://www.fossweb.com/modulesK-2/index.html>

**1**     [Internet4Classrooms.com- Assessment Assistance](http://www.internet4classrooms.com/assistance.htm)

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**2**     [Harcourt School Learning Site](http://www.harcourtschool.com/index.html)

<http://www.harcourtschool.com/index.html>

**3**     [Houghton-Mifflin Kids Place \(Grades 1-6\)](http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hmro6/)

<http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hmro6/>

Find interactive websites for every story featured in your reading book. To review reading words, go for the [E-Word Game!](#)

**4**     [Interactive Skill Builders for Every Grade Level](http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/)

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/>

Get students excited about History, Reading, Writing, Science, and Math with engaging Web-based activities that support cross-curricular learning. There are age-appropriate sites for grades K-5. Teacher guides help you integrate activities into lesson plans and offer extensions for offline enrichment.

*Let's view one sample from each of the grade brackets...*

**5**     [Reading- Building Language For Literacy](http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bll/index.htm)

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/bll/index.htm>

Kindergarten students can have a very engaging time with literacy... starring... Nina The Naming Newt, Leo The Letter-Loving Lobster, and Reggie The Rhyming Rhino.

**6**     [Greg Tang's Mind-Stretching Math Riddles](http://www.scholastic.com/titles/features/tang/)

<http://www.scholastic.com/titles/features/tang/>

Students in grades 1-2 can better learn addition, subtraction, and multiplication strategies using Greg Tang's mind-stretching math riddles.

**7**     [Writing With Writers](http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/index.htm)

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/index.htm>

Students in grades 3-5 can learn about writing biographies, descriptive works, folktales, mysteries, myths, newspaper articles, poetry, speeches, and book reviews by taking on the advice of different noted authors.

**8**      Kindergarten and Grade 1 Websites (Grades K-1)

<http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/resources/gradek-1/index.html>

**9**      Learn To Read (from Starfall) (Grades K-1)

<http://www.starfall.com/n/level-a/learn-to-read/play.htm?f>

This website builds from the basic to the more advanced. No kindergartener visiting this site will feel left out because there are three levels- Learn To Read, It's Fun To Read, and I'm Reading.

**10**      Every Day is Earth Day (Kindergarten)

<http://www.starfall.com/n/holiday/earthday/load.htm?f>

This incredible website pertains to both literacy and science.

**11**      Clifford's Interactive Storybooks (Kindergarten)

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/clifford1/index.htm>

**12**      Carve Pumpkins... The Clean Way (Kindergarten)

<http://www.meddybemps.com/halloween/pumpkino2.html>

**13**      First Grade Webquests (And even some kindergarten) (Grades K-1)

<http://www.nksd.wednet.edu/schools/pearson/staff/krowland/First%20Grade%20WebQuests.html>

The webquests are separated into categories like science, reading, social studies, and fun.

**14**      Read, Write, Think (Grades K-5)

<http://www.readwritethink.org/index.asp>

This is one of the GREATEST sites for reading. There are web resources just for teachers, lesson plans, and unbelievably neat interactive graphic organizers for students to use. There are even websites that teach younger students about

research! **The Letter Generator**, I think back to my 2<sup>nd</sup> grade internship, would have been really neat to use with my students when I taught them how to write letters to others.

**I5**            TIME for Kids (Grades K-5)

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

This site has awesome articles for students to read, and if you teach a younger grade, you can pull a lot from here to help you in preparing for a lesson. (When you click on “Teachers”, you can get reproducibles that go along with TIME for Kids articles.)

**I6**            Monkey Business (Sequencing) (Grades 1-2)

<http://www.cogcon.com/gamegoo/games/monkey/monkey.html>

**I7**            Game Goo (Learning That Sticks) (Grades 1-2)

<http://www.earobics.com/gamegoo/goeey.html>

**I8**            Between The Lions (PBS Kids Stories) (Grades 1-2)

<http://pbskids.org/lions/stories.html>

**I9**            A Math Dictionary For Kids (Grades 1-5)

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

This site has virtual manipulatives for almost any topic in math, ranging from grades 1-5 (and beyond). It is one of the most interactive math sites I have visited. (For first grade, you can find entries on addition, subtraction, smaller, larger, and other topics discussed in math.)

**20**            Math Mayhem (Grades 1-5)

<http://www.learningplanet.com/act/mayhem/index.asp>

This is a very neat site where you get to practice math facts and compete against someone else from... who knows where?

**21**            Wall of Words (Second Grade)

<http://fen.com/studentactivities/WallOfWords/wow19.html>

**22**            Snakes And Ladders (A Hundred Chart Exploration) (Second Grade)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/schools/numbertime/games/snakes.shtml>

**23**            SAT Elementary Math (Second Grade Only)

<http://elementarypgms.brevard.k12.fl.us/Grade2Daily.pdf>

**24**            Create A Graph (Grades 2-4)

<http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/Graphing/>

**25**            EdHeads (Grades 2-5)

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

EdHeads is extremely interactive and offers four main categories- two on simple machines, one on weather, and one on... virtual knee surgery. The interactive website about weather is appropriate for second grade. The Virtual Knee Surgery can be adaptable for fifth grade or students in their second half of fourth grade.

**26**            OLOGY (Grades 2-5)

<http://ology.amnh.org/>

Want to get your students intrigued by the wonders of science? One of the most comprehensive websites out there is OLOGY (from the American Museum of Natural History in New York City).

**27**            Visit ANY Science Museum In The United States (And more...)  
(Grades 2-5)

<http://www.tryscience.org/fieldtrips/fieldtriplocator.html>

This is an interactive map where you can search for science museums and “visit” them virtually via the Internet.

**28**            BRAINPOP (Grades 2-5)

<http://www.brainpop.com>

Register for a free 30-day trial and have your students watch the movies BrainPop has to offer. There are so many science, social studies, and health movies as well as other types of movies. BrainPop offers movies for students in

grades 2-5. It is outstanding enrichment and very clear for the majority of students to grasp! The bright, colorful presentations and the easy-to-understand language keep students engaged. Follow-up quizzes are included.

**29**            Flashlight Readers- A Club For Kids Who Love Books (Grades 2-5)

[http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/flashlightreaders/T\\_landingPage.asp](http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/flashlightreaders/T_landingPage.asp)

This website is interactive and includes a lot of interesting information about these books- *Hoot*, *Chasing Vermeer*, *Because of Winn-Dixie*, *Holes*, and *Esperanza Rising*. For example, *Holes* is very adaptable for grades three and up while *Because of Winn-Dixie* can even go a little younger to the second grade students.

**30**            I Know That! Social Studies Activities (Grades 3-5)

[http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L3?Area=L2\\_SocialStudies&COOK=](http://www.iknowthat.com/com/L3?Area=L2_SocialStudies&COOK=)

**31**            Brain Busters (Grades 3-5)

<http://www.redmond.k12.or.us/patrick/renz/brainbusters.htm>

Your student's minds can be refreshed with a weekly brain buster. I use them with my enrichment math class, yet they are easily adaptable for grades 3-5.

**32**            Cyberchase Math Games (Grades 3-5)

<http://www.pbskids.org/cyberchase/games.html>

**33**            Dragonfly TV Science Experiments (Grades 3-5)

<http://www.pbskids.org/dragonflytv/show/index.html>

Honestly, nothing can get better than science experiments with sample movies you can watch... with narrators who are about the age of your students. There are many animal- and sports-related experiments to keep your students intrigued... and guess what? They meet many of the **Sunshine State Standards!**

**34**            ARGOSCIENCE (Grades 3-5)

<http://argoscience.uwf.edu/index.asp>

This website is intended for intermediate students in grades 3-5. ArgoScience offers standards-based tools and resources for teaching science. Registering is free. After you register, click on standards and you will see a list of the Sunshine State Standards for your grade level. Click on the standards and find

many, many resources to use in your classroom. Even better, click on **Teacher Resources** and make your own website where students can take content quizzes. The quizzes are automatically scored.

**35**            Science Websites For Grades 3-5  
<http://www.floresville.isd.tenet.edu/Elementary/teachers/lsears/sciencesites.htm>

**36**            Grow A Family Tree (Grades 3-5)  
<http://pbskids.org/wayback/family/tree/index.html>

**37**            Book Report Sandwich Station (Grades 3-5)  
[http://www.scholastic.com/kids/homework/book\\_report.htm](http://www.scholastic.com/kids/homework/book_report.htm)

**38**            Tinker Ball (Scientific Exploration) (Grades 3-5)  
[http://invention.smithsonian.org/centerpieces/iap/playhouse\\_tinker.html](http://invention.smithsonian.org/centerpieces/iap/playhouse_tinker.html)

**39**            Discovery.com Brain Boosters (Math Brain Teasers) (Grades 3-5)  
<http://school.discovery.com/brainboosters/>

**40**            GET SMARTER (.org) (Grades 3-5)  
<http://www.getsmarter.org/index.cfm>  
I highly recommend the math safari!

**41**            Poetry Splatter (All ages, up to grade 6-7)  
<http://www.rif.org/readingplanet/gamestation/poetrysplatter/>

**42**            FCAT Express (Fourth Grade Reading) (Grades 3-5)  
<http://fcit.usf.edu/fcat/default.htm>

**43**            “America’s Oldest City” (St. Augustine) Discovered (Grades 4-5)  
<http://www.flmnh.ufl.edu/staugustine/>  
This website helps students to grasp the concept of archaeology.

**44**            Ready Reference (Grades 4-5)  
[http://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/resource\\_centre/reference/ready\\_reference.htm](http://www.palmdps.act.edu.au/resource_centre/reference/ready_reference.htm)

**45**            Exploring Florida (Grades 4-5)  
<http://fcit.usf.edu/florida/>  
Wow! This site is VERY comprehensive and provides resources on almost every topic pertaining to Florida history- explorers and conquistadors, “America’s Oldest City”, Tallahassee, Thomas Alva Edison and the Industrial Revolution, African-American history, Cape Canaveral, and primary source documents. There is also a 3-D section if you have 3-D glasses.

## Happy Web Searching!

Last but not least, you can store links to websites by registering at...  
<http://www.portaportal.com/>