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Talk Nerdy to Me

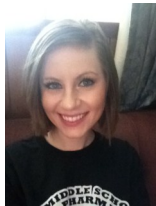
KEEPING WV TEACHERS UPDATED WITH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES

INTRODUCING TIS CLASS 2012-13



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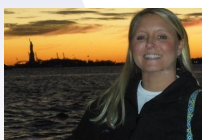
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Back to School: The Perfect Time for techSteps

Over the past decade, technology has grown constantly. Almost every student has a computer or smartphone with online access in their home which offers great resources and possibilities for these students; however, there are negative aspects that come with the positive. Bullying can now be extended into the actual victim's home via online platforms. Students can share too much information online and not use proper online etiquette. As educators, we cannot just wait for students to learn these safe online mannerisms on their own especially since we now use so much technology in our classrooms. Luckily, we have techSteps to help us help students in learning how to be a successful online user. TechSteps offers several resources for cyberbully prevention and cyber-safety modules for students of all ages.

Also, as of July 1st, 2012, a law now requires students to complete the techStep's module(s) on cyber-safety. This is required of all students in grades kindergarten through twelfth grade. Students in grades kindergarten through fifth grades will be required to complete one module on cyber-safety a year. Students in sixth grade through eighth grade will be required to complete 2 modules a year and high school students will be required to complete a total of 8

modules during all four years. Anyone can present these modules to the students whether it is the classroom teacher, a counselor, a media specialist, or even a TIS. It is important that the classroom teacher is still present for the activities. Most of the cyber-safety activities do not even require use of a computer lab, but instead involve classroom discussions. It is imperative that the cyber-safety modules get checked off as soon as students complete them. These activities are only meant to last for 45 minutes to an hour, but can be extended if the students get involved in meaningful conversation.

After completion of the techSteps modules students should know the appropriate way to navigate the internet for their appropriate age. (Examples: Kindergarteners learn why they need an adult to access the internet while third graders learn what information not to give out online and the tricks to look for. Seventh graders learn to think before they click because they can never take anything they do online back and eighth graders learn how to evaluate cyberbullying consequences.) These activities are perfect for beginning of the year activities to go with the acceptable use policy that all students are required to sign. You can access these modules on www.techsteps.com (additional login needed).



The Healthy Marriage/Relationship (HM/R) Education program is offered through Mission West Virginia, Inc. (MWV) and its THINK (Teaching Health Instead of Nagging Kids) initiative. The purpose of this project is to strengthen and stabilize healthy relationships in the Appalachian region by providing relationship and marriage education and job and career advancement services to single individuals (parent or legal guardian) and high school youth. MWV partners with Rainelle Medical Center to deliver healthy marriage and relationship education and awareness to 9 counties in WV through the U.S. DHHS.

The high school and adult curricula offer participants many hands on opportunities to determine differences in good vs. bad relationships, conflict resolution, decision making, setting goals, and communication skills to name a few topics. As 21st Century teachers, MWV Educator/Case Managers utilize all the latest instructional tools including videos, music and smart board technology in presenting the lesson plans. The high school component incorporates lessons on financial literacy as well. Additionally, the HM/R program assesses individual

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WVSTC12 Conference was a GREAT success!

A total of 628 people attended and participated in the conference from the comfort of their favorite internet-connected computer. 963 people actually registered, which is a 66% participation rate, far above the 40% statistically predicted for such an event. Sessions were offered by experts from all over the country: Virginia, Arizona, New York, Kentucky, South Carolina, Colorado, and of course West Virginia. Topics included, but were not limited to: STEM, Blended Delivery, techSteps, Smithsonian History Explorer, eBooks, iPad Apps, Skype, Prezi, SMART, Cyber Safety and on and on and on!!!! If you missed out you can still be part of the learning! All registered participants are asked to view on-demand sessions through the INXPO site until September 9, 2012. After that time, or if you never registered for the virtual conference, you can access the recorded links at <http://tinyurl.com/WVTC>

CURIOSITY IN SPACE

On August 5, 2012 after a 352,000,000 mile trip, NASA successfully landed its new rover, Curiosity, onto the surface of Mars. The new rover is appropriately named as the meaning of 'Curiosity' is the desire to learn. NASA scientists and students alike are very similar in that they have curiosity or this desire to learn when it comes to the unknown. Luckily, NASA realizes this and has created a wonderful resource website just for students of every age group and also a separate page just for teachers.

Students and teachers can view the current progress that Curiosity has made and also any other NASA related news story by going to: <http://1.usa.gov/Terz4f>. On the site students in grades K-4 can watch a video that answers one of the most popular questions of that age group, "Is Mars really red?" They can also determine what to pack on a space flight and also can play a game that requires them to find words that describe comets. Students in grades 5-8 can take a virtual trip to Mars and access information that allows them to send a rock from

home to NASA scientists for comparison to Mars rocks. Students in grades 9-12 can study the dust devils that form on Mars surface and access homework help resources. Teachers have access to a tool that I find most helpful, a 'DIY podcast' tool that allows you to use NASA e-clips and audio. Teachers can allow students to create their own podcasts on their chosen



space-related topics. A direct link to the podcast maker is as follows: <http://1.usa.gov/S1GU5V>. Below is a sample activity that can be done with students:

STAYING FIT IN SPACE

Content: Physical Education and Science

Purpose of Activity: To find out why astronauts can lose up to 20% bone mass in as little as 5 days in space and to determine ways that they can prevent this loss of bone mass.

Suggested Grades: 5-8

Materials: Each group of students needs a laptop (opened to <http://1.usa.gov/MiE8Lq>), microphone, and headphones.

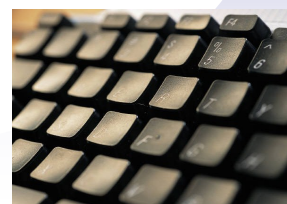
Activity: Each group of students will work together to build their own podcast explaining why astronauts lose bone mass and then propose solutions as to how to prevent the loss of bone mass. Students will be required to write a production script prior to recording making sure every person in the group has their own speaking part. In their podcast the must include at least 1 video clip (and no more than 3) and at least 4 NASA images.

SHARE MY LESSON

Most teachers have one or two extremely great lesson plans that are masterful, meaningful, standard-based which promote student learning and achievement. We want to share it. In the same respect, we have lessons we know don't work and try to fix them time and time again. However, we just can't quite master it and we really want others to share what has worked. Luckily for us, www.sharemylesson.com

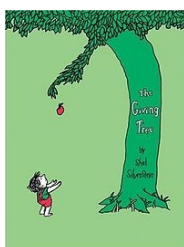
provides a great place for us to share our great lessons and see lessons that other teachers are passionate about—*for free*.

This website also provides separate pages for math and reading/English lessons that align with common core standards. This will provide a great resource for teachers that are struggling to adapt to the new standards. With online collaboration, that lesson that bombed can be transformed to a lesson that rocks and Share My Lesson is a tool for us to find the next great lesson.



Character Building Through Books

The beginning of the school year is an excellent time to incorporate character building activities into your classroom. In the elementary classroom using books as a basis increases students reading and critical thinking skills as they investigate the themes presented with the accompanying activities.

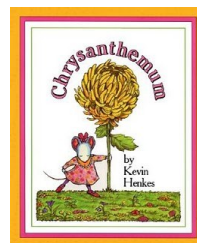


The Giving Tree resources found here:

<http://bit.ly/PjxORK>

1973 Movie spoken by Shel Silverstein:

<http://youtu.be/1TZCP6OqRIE> (you could show this on your projector or SmartBoard)



Chrysanthemum resources: <http://bit.ly/NRZyfQ>

SMART Product Review

SMART products are innovative, easy to use and proven to enhance learning for students. They are also designed to be integrated, modular and evolving. This means the SMART products you choose today work together, can be easily adapted to your classroom needs and will continue to work for you as your technology requirements change in the future. Ease of use ensures teachers can quickly start using SMART products and experiencing the benefits they bring to teaching and learning. Do you need additional training? Consider attending a training—see [page 4](#) for details on an upcoming one!

Need to review a manual for setup, document camera or responders? They can be found here: <http://bitly.com/bundles/sadkins2009/1>. There was a session at the recent WV Virtual Technology Conference on SMART Notebook 11—watch the session by accessing the conference at <http://tinyurl.com/WVVTC>

Got a Technology Question?

Does your school have a TIS (Technology Integration Specialist)? If so, that should be your “go to” person for technology help. But if you don't—what do you do? It's Mark Moore to the rescue! Mark is a coordinator with the Office of Instructional Technology and maintains a collection of video answers for common technology related questions. Check them out here <http://bit.ly/PJC3WU>.

Upcoming Opportunities

\$10,000
\$10,000
\$10,000
\$10,000



Thought that might get your attention!

Is your teaching global, blended, real, technological, and student centered? If so, you could win \$10,000. The **21st Century Contest** will be held again this year with \$10,000 prizes being awarded to the two individuals that can best demonstrate you and your class implementing change and the quality of that change. Details, deadlines and contest rules are still being finalized so keep your eyes open for more details. Info on the 2010 and 2011 winners as well as any new information concerning the 2012 contest can be found at <http://bit.ly/bXKrr>.

**Note: Submitting a PowerPoint of information will not win you \$10,000. Start thinking outside the box!



The 2012-13 year brings the rollout of NexGen Standards for 1st, 4th, 5th and 9th grades across the state. Are you a teacher looking for more resources?

Check out math resources here: <http://bit.ly/Oh83IE>.
Reading and Language Arts here: <http://bit.ly/Tg4RqE>

iConnect: 2Elevate,
2Educate, 2Empower

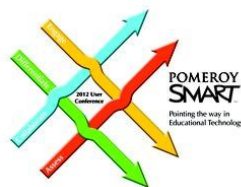


Monday, October 22 to
Wednesday, October 27, 2012

Stonewall Resort

More information:
<http://bit.ly/Paf8pZ>

Pomeroy's 3rd Annual



Saturday, October 27, 2012
West Side Elementary
Charleston, West Virginia

REGISTRATION
is already
OPEN!

Link for participants:
<http://bit.ly/Rd84fi>
Link to be a presenter:
<http://bit.ly/MupHUT>



Access the recorded
sessions:

<http://bit.ly/HROZ9C>



Online, free conference
October 3-5, 2012

<http://bit.ly/HZepkU>



Online, free conference
October 22-25 &
October 29-November 2

<http://bit.ly/13Rzf5>



Online, free conference
November 12-16
<http://bit.ly/b4NR3r>



Check out all the great resources at the [Responsive Classroom](http://bit.ly/SBgCfi). Nice article on bullying prevention.
<http://bit.ly/SBgCfi>

T.H.I.N.K.

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personal needs to direct participants toward necessary support services.

Mission WV also offers two pregnancy prevention programs through THINK. The U.S. DHHS funded Teen Pregnancy Prevention (TPP) program uses evidence based curricula to help create an environment within communities that supports adolescents in making healthy choices for their future and to prevent teen pregnancy and communicable diseases. The WV DHHR funded Personal Responsibility Education Program (PREP) offers quality, evidence-based programming to West Virginia youth in four group homes in two counties in WV to reduce the pregnancy and promote healthy life skills among youth in foster care.

For more information, contact Torri Childs at 304-562-0723, online at missionwv.org/think, or visit us on Facebook at facebook.com/thinkkw