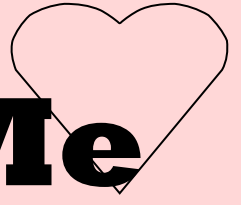


Talk Nerdy to Me



**TIS Class
of 2013**

February 11, 2013

Volume 1, Issue 13

Learn about another Culture:

- ◆ March 3—Girls' Day in Japan
- ◆ March 6—Lantern Day in Beijing
- ◆ March 8—Youth Day in Zambia
- ◆ March 17—St. Patrick's Day in US
- ◆ March 26—Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalaniana'ole Day in Hawaii

FETC 2013



Who wouldn't want to go to Orlando in January? There were more perks to attending this conference than the beautiful 80 degree weather, visiting Epcot, or winning great prizes. It was also a rare opportunity to collaborate with fellow educators. We shared classroom strategies and experiences that have been successful in the past and we learned techniques for inte-

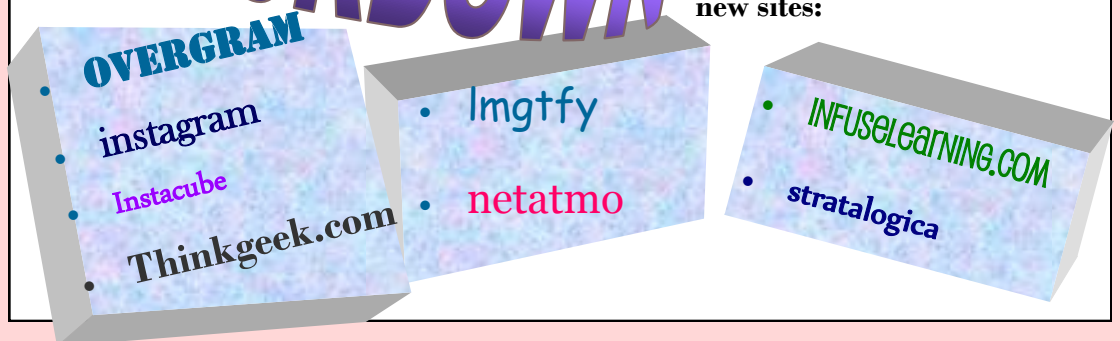
grating new technology into our classroom. The conference offered a wide variety of the latest technologies. Presenters and exhibitors represented 28 countries and all 50 states. There were booths ranging from Google to Schoology to Samsung.

Keeping students engaged has always been a challenge and in today's

world it is even more challenging. Bringing technology into the classroom could be a way to start. Try Sean O'Neil's idea for bringing Twitter into the classroom (Edmodo code CS9305). Enjoy 49 Affordable, Free, and Effective Tech Tools for the classroom (Edmodo code CS7040) as selected by Jason Beach. Or build a Professional Learning Community in Pinterest. It's time to take a risk and try something new!

TECHNOLOGY SMACKDOWN

Test drive one of these
new sites:



Digital Learning Day!

Digital Learning Day is a day set aside to celebrate technology! The celebration took place on February 6, 2013 and was a huge success. Classrooms around the nation participated, and many educators shared their innovative ideas for digital learning through twitter. Edmodo seemed to be among the most popular tools used by teachers, followed by the use of i-pads or tablets. Senator Rockefeller even commended the students at Piedmont Elementary for their participation!

“ Digital Learning Day makes sure to focus on teachers and what they need-specifically, not adding technology as yet another layer to instruction, but learning how to integrate technology in order to transfer classroom practice” (www.eschoolnews.com).

Helpful Websites:

- <http://digitallearningday.org/learn-and-explore/lesson-portals/>
- www.digitallearningday.org
- <http://wvde.state.wv.us/dlday/>

Here are some ideas

"Empowering teachers with technology is a way to ensure students are being provided personalized learning experiences"
 -Kim Tischer—Technology Coordinator
 Greenbrier County

- Try creating a classroom blog and encouraging academic comments.
- Have your students create a persuasive Power Point on why technology is important!

- Use CPS Responders with Acuity!
- Set up an Edmodo account for your students and engage them in higher order questioning.

- Modify a TechSteps and incorporate it into your lesson plans.
- Allow students to choose a technology tool and come up with ideas on how to use it.

Techsteps and Black History Month

TECHNOLOGY=TOOL=POWER

A third grade teacher at Frankford Elementary has worked to incorporate a lesson on Famous Black Americans into the TechSteps "Mini Field Trip." The project has turned out to be quite successful. She has assigned her students a famous black American using the magic hat tool. Next she allowed them time in the lab to research that person in detail. Finally they entered the information into the Power Point template provided with the TechStep lesson and it turned out great. She made sure to incorporate all of the technology skills associated with the TechStep lesson, while still allowing the students to include their own creative fare.



Kickstart a New Product

Fund and follow Creativity



Convert your existing iPhone/iPad devices equipped with the old 30 Pin dock to the new Lightning connector.

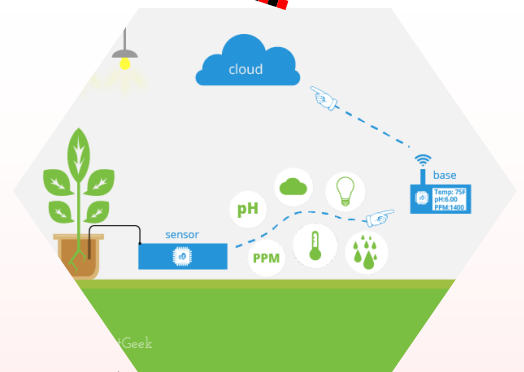
Have you ever had a brilliant idea for a new product but you didn't have the capital to start it up? Or maybe you are just curious about the latest creative ventures being spotlighted today.

At kickstarter.com they do just that. You can search ideas from under-funded entrepreneurs. If you like their idea, you can invest a fairly small amount of money to help them get their business started.

ARE YOUR PLANTS ON 'DEATH ROW'?



An open-source, wireless, Internet of Things Greenhouse monitoring and automation system for your farm or garden. Whether you are a new farmer or an experienced farmer this device will provide important information to help you produce more from your land.



Your own OS on a device.



OS X package manager that installs the things you want that Apple did not.

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Web 2.0 Tools

Edmodo code
FS0196

Resources to Flip
your classroom

Edmodo code
CS7392

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Play Your Way to a New Job



**Jiji from ST Math Integrated
Instructional System**

Whoever said playing games was just for kids? Nigel Nisbett, presenter at FETC 2013 doesn't believe that to be true.

His company, Mind Research Institute, creates math games that are educational and fun.

"Mathematics is the common core toolbox." Students need to see how things work, even in mathematics. That's the intent

behind all of the games created by ST Math; visual models of math skills.

Try one of the free games: KICKBOX or BIGSEED. If you can beat level 10 in either game Mr. Nisbett says to give him a call. He may just want to hire you!

Edmodo code CS7079