

# TALK NERDY TO ME

## 21st Century Technology

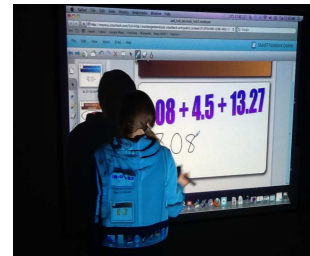
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Angie Summers  
Ritchie Co. TIS

As we have seen in Ritchie County, technology continues to increase the opportunities for teachers to create differentiated material, that in turn addresses students with different learning styles. With a well-defined plan, ALL schools can effectively integrate technology that compliments curriculum and enhances current teaching methods! Ritchie County Teacher have a variety of innovative and interactive technologies to enrich their daily lessons. We currently have SMART Boards in every classroom, SMART Document Cameras in all 3rd-12th grade classrooms and SMART Responders in every school.



IT'S ALL  
SMART!

### SMART Responder Activities

- <http://tinyurl.com/3ongbzig>
- <http://tinyurl.com/baa2bhv>

### ...more SMART Board Activities

- <http://tinyurl.com/6pkttq>
- <http://tinyurl.com/a9tztrv>
- <http://tinyurl.com/39j8o8>

### SMART Document Camera Ideas

- <http://tinyurl.com/yzssngb>

### SMART Board Activities

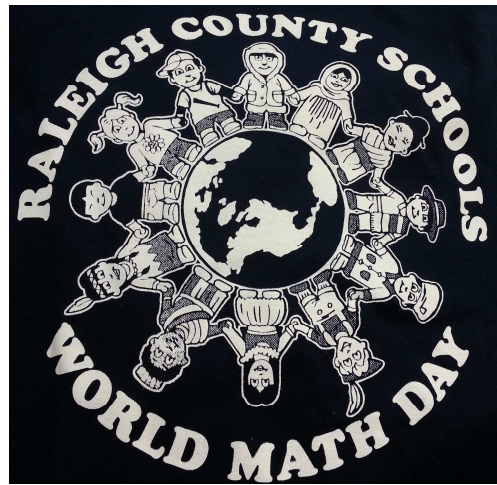
- <http://tinyurl.com/azmuog3>
- <http://tinyurl.com/bj3tmof>
- <http://www.learner.org/>
- <http://tinyurl.com/avvlp4y>
- <http://tinyurl.com/afmjowj>
- <http://tinyurl.com/ajnpnnw>
- <http://tinyurl.com/boamf72>
- <http://tinyurl.com/y9flb4e>

## World Maths Day/VMath Live

By: Erica Pack  
Raleigh Co., SETIS

As many students across the state were flushing ice cubes down the toilet, wearing their pajamas backwards, and doing the snow dance on the evening of March 5, thirty-five students in Raleigh County were actually praying for the snow to miss. These students were special education students from schools around the county preparing to take part in Raleigh County's 2nd Annual Worlds Maths Day on March 6. World Maths Day is part of the World Education Games and is sponsored by Unicef and Samsung. As stated on their website, World Education Games "is an annual global online challenge to get all students (4-18 years of age) excited about learning...last year, over 5 million students were a part of what is now the world's largest online education event."

Students are set up at a computer and compete against other students



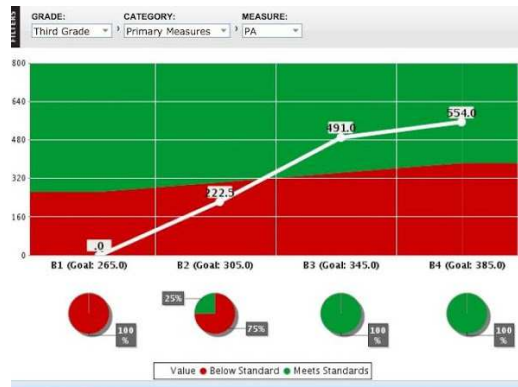
from all over the world in basic math facts. Sadly, the snow did hit and Raleigh County Schools were cancelled, but in 2012, twenty-five students from Raleigh County participated and answered over 2,000 math problems.

Students get practice throughout the year for World Maths Day through the special education math curriculum used for elementary schools. This supplemental curriculum is called

VMath, which is through Voyager Learning. Vmath has an online component called VMath Live, which gives students the same opportunity to compete against others across the globe. Through this program, we can bring geography into the math classroom. A map is set up and whenever a student competes against a student from a "new" country, we put a push pin where that country is located. We can then discuss where that country is located in comparison to where we are, the language of that country, and multitudes of other information.

VMath Live also has activities that can be assigned to the students to practice or review skills they are currently being taught. The students have avatars and can gain points to "purchase" items for the avatar.

Students across Raleigh County have shown great gains from using the supplemental program, VMath and VMath Live. Here is the progress one class has made this school year (right).



World Education Games also sponsors a World Literacy Day and World Science Day. For more information, visit their website at

[www.worldeducationgames.com](http://www.worldeducationgames.com)

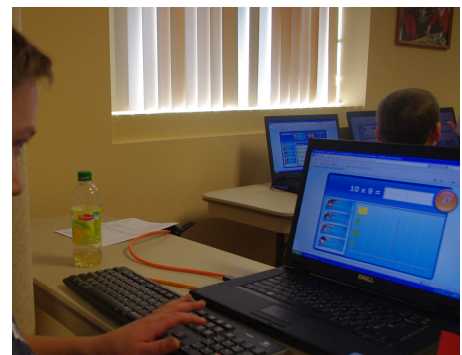
For more information on the VMath curriculum, visit their website at

[voyagerlearning.com/curriculum](http://voyagerlearning.com/curriculum)



Some of the countries represented on Vmath Live and World Maths Day (left).

A student participating in World Maths Day (right).



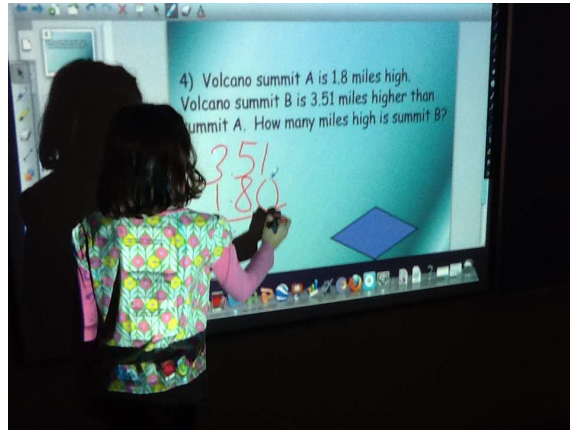
Rey Galindo, Wilsonburg Elementary,  
Harrison County

## Integrating Technology in the Classroom

The mission of the a TIS Team in Harrison County is to increase student achievement by successfully integrating technology in all areas of our curriculum. With this in mind, the Nutter Fort team has collaborated to see that our students are models for the use of technology.

In my class room, I have implemented technology-rich lesson plans to introduce rubrics and a variety of instructional materials.

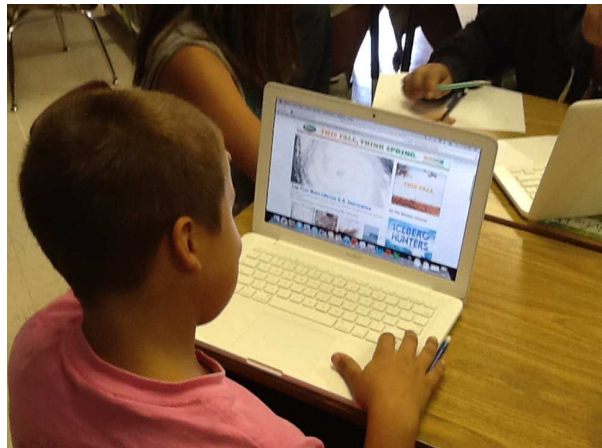
We've promoted the understanding and use of technology in the classroom so much this year that our students want to work during their free time. Their parents are asking why they have become so interested in school! The integration is used across the curriculum which include Language Arts, Reading, Science, Social Studies and even Health.



## Students Challenge Local Weatherman

Armed with their computers and home made weather stations, my students called on Tony J. Amormino, the morning and noon meteorologist at WBOY, to visit our classroom and talk about global weather and how it affects their hometown weather. After a forty-five minute introduction, my students asked Tony if they could see how close they could get to his local weather predictions after two weeks of collecting data on their own. Tony made sure he was on the schedule to come back after two weeks. In the meantime, the students used using their Apple computers and doing research on weather stations, weather.com, data collection, and charts.

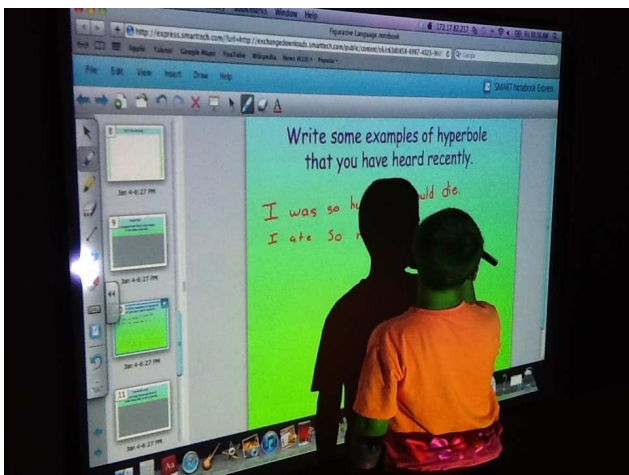
The students collected data for two weeks and then Tony came back to visit and study the data collected by each group. After it was all said and done, the students only missed the expert's predictions by 5 degrees.



## Students Learning to email and Research

At the beginning of the year, I challenged my students to become proficient computer users. As I watched them pecking at the keyboard, however, I realized this was going to take longer than expected, so I challenged them to learn keyboarding skills. They not only stepped up to the challenge, but they went above and beyond. They learned to "work" the poly-vision and are now using their own access email account to send assignments. Currently, they are working on a Civil War Power Point. At this point in the school year, I believe that my students could run circles around any student in any elementary school in the state when it comes to using technology. So far, they have learned Microsoft Word, Excel, Power Point. They are able to do research using the techniques they've learned. I believe they will use their new skills throughout their entire life.

I wish them well!





Rebecca poses with Troy for a quick photo.

## 2013 COABE CONFERENCE

By Rebecca Metzger, Kanawha County SPOKES

The 2013 Commission on Adult Basic Education (COABE) Conference was held in New Orleans, Louisiana, featuring many opportunities to learn about the changes with the 2014 GED Test, workforce developments, transitions into college, and technology. The conference was titled “The Louisiana Literacy Lagniappe”, which in the south means “a little something extra”. Approximately fifteen professionals including West

Virginia Department of Education administrators, Regional Coordinators, RESA staff, and classroom instructors were supported in participating in this training. Members of the [West Virginia Adult Education Association](#) received free COABE memberships, which provides discounts for attending the conference.

The keynote speaker this year was Troy Landry, also known as “King of the Swamp”, from Swamp People on the History Channel. He shared how his mother kept after him to finish school and remembers her staying up at night studying for her GED while he was a teenager. His mother married at the age of 16 and quit school. His father had a fourth grade education and was able to provide for his family because he worked long and hard hours. Troy explained that when he was in school his mother couldn’t help her children with their homework so she went back to school she could help her family. Troy emphasized the value of education and the importance of making sure that life is better for the next generation in our families and community.

*In addition to the opening session, first day workshops provided the following resources/ideas...*

### 21st Century Skills: Free Instructional Websites

[www.teachparentstech.org](http://www.teachparentstech.org) was created by Google employees who were constantly asked tech questions by their family members. They started making short digital explanation on how to perform basic computer tasks such as copy and paste, adjusting the time clock, and taking a screenshot. There are 50+ videos on the site.

[www.connect2compete.org](http://www.connect2compete.org) is a nonprofit organization committed to helping all Americans develop digital literacy by providing access to low-cost computers and broadband discounts. A three year media campaign started on March 21; be on the lookout for public service announcements.

[www.mlots.org](http://www.mlots.org) is a free resource site for teachers sponsored by the Media Library of Teaching Skills. It is basically a video window into the classrooms of other teachers. The videos are authentic experiences, not videos on best practices. They range from 5 to 15 minutes in length.

[www.usalearns.org](http://www.usalearns.org) is a free website and iPhone app for adults to learn English.

[www.tv411.org](http://www.tv411.org) is a website featuring Chef Jamika Pessoa, who teaches math and science through cooking.

<http://bit.ly/XGAJro> is a Delicious stack of resources for ESOL/ESL students by Diana Satin.

### Social Media in Adult Basic Education ( mostly Facebook)

1. Social networking media provides program exposure, capturing future students.
2. Social networking provides an alternative to conduct follow-up with students who graduated the program.
3. It saves money on printing catalogs, brochures, and on mailing both.
4. Social networking allows teachers to share documents.
5. It provides opportunities for civil engagement.



COABE Conference Attendees from West Virginia