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...a service of **The Point** - a classroom blogspace from fcps.net



TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 6, #5 (January, 2007)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 1/4/2007

TIPS - the Technology Office newsletter - moved to a blog feed in the fall of 2005, delivering ideas and instructional support for Fayette County teachers through blogs maintained by Technology Resource Teachers in the Office of Instructional Technology. For a look at this e-zine before the fall of 2005, look to <http://teach.fcps.net/tips/>.

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TIPS - The Editor's Desk

Brief musings on the implementation of technology integration in Fayette County Schools...from the Office of Instructional Technology



...from the desk of Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin

Thursday, January 04, 2007 2:01 PM: Real time contacts in an asynchronous world

The wonderful side of using the open Internet is that it wipes away political and physical boundaries between people! Unfortunately, it can't wipe away time zones! That means that connections with other people in other countries face a decision...

- **Meet in real time.** We are currently negotiating a videoconference between French students at TCHS and students in France. Since the interactivity between French-speaking students is worth the hassle, and the time difference is about 6 hours, the time zone boundary would serve as a less imposing boundary than the lack of direct contact through forums or blogs (though they're doing that too!).
- **Meet "virtually" and asynchronously** ("not in real time"). When Katrina Bell (TCHS English teacher) went to Japan as a part of her Fulbright visit, she kept her students up to date with a [blog](#), and her students were able to respond to it anytime they could. As Carolyn Edwards (BSHS art teacher) plans her trip to Australia next week, she will do the same thing. With a 12 hour difference between here and either of these locations, real time isn't really a viable option, so the somewhat less interactive blog/forum format was all that was available. The good news is, Ms. Bell's pictures are still up for all to see, even now that she's back!



What's your goal in connecting? Let your district tech resource teacher know!

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=10067>

The Forum Blog

The Forum Blog (and other e-communication stuff)



...from the desk of Leanna Prater

Thursday, January 04, 2007 9:42 AM: US Regions Project

The US Regions Project is over and though participation was down this year, we still had some great information posted from participating classes!

Here are some postings:

From the Northeast:

One of the major bodies of water around here Massachusetts Bay. The Chesapeake Bay is next to Maryland. The Niagra Falls are in the upper part of New York state. Some of the Great Lakes touch the Northeast states. The Appalachian Mountains begin in the Northeast. Cape Cod is a cape that sticks out into the Atlantic Ocean. By the way, there are big waves in the Atlantic Ocean. There are many forests here. The climate here is temperate. That means it is hot in the summer and cold in the winter, but not too extreme. We think the Northeast region is a perfect place to live!

From the Midwest:

There are many different types of industries in the Midwest Region. Because of all the farming, food processing is important to the Midwest. Because of the supply of coal, iron, and oil in the region, rubber and steel are a popular industry. Electronic equipment is manufactured throughout the region. Pharmaceutical and chemical research is important to Indiana just as automobile and transportation is important to Michigan.

The Midwest Region is known as America's "Bread Basket" because it supplies the majority of the nation's food. Throughout the region, cattle, sheep, chickens, and hogs are raised on large farms. Dairy farms thrive in Wisconsin, Ohio, Iowa, Minnesota, and Michigan. Wheat, potatoes, and sugar beets flourish in Kansas, Nebraska, and the Dakotas. Soybeans and corn grow throughout the whole region.

There are various tourist attractions throughout the Midwest Region. Some of the more popular natural tourist attractions are; The Badlands and Mount Rushmore in South Dakota, The Wisconsin Dells, Mackinac Island and the Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan, the Ozarks in Missouri, and the Indiana Dunes. Some other popular tourist attractions are The Gateway Arch and Branson in Missouri, the Sears Tower and Abraham Lincoln's home in Illinois, and the Tulip Festival in Michigan. Three fun places to go are the Indianapolis Motor Speedway and Museum, The Pro Football Hall of Fame, and finally, home to the world famous Dragster, Cedar Point, in Ohio. There are many other tourist attractions, I've just listed a few.

From Fayette County:

Some bodies of water in Kentucky are: The Kentucky River, which runs through the central and part of our state, Lake Cumberland, The Green River, The Licking River, and the Ohio River, which forms our Northern border. Along the Ohio, there are some big cities including Louisville, Kentucky.

Kentucky has many landforms as well. The most impressive landform is Mammoth Cave, the longest cave in the world.

The climate in Kentucky is fairly mild. We have four seasons and it never gets too hot or too cold. It rains in the spring and fall, it's dry in the summer and winter - usually. This year we are supposed to have a mild winter, but Ms. Humbert's class wants lots of snow!!

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=122>

Website of the week

Thursday, January 04, 2007 10:06 AM: Study Stack- A New Spin on Flashcards

People who surf the web come across some great sites! I plan on posting my finds here.
...from the desk of Leanna Prater

Are you looking for a new spin on flashcards? You should check out study stacks. <http://www.studystack.com>

There are many flashcards created for math (basic facts to geometry terms), science, geography and languages. Some sets include hangman, word searches and matching along with the flashcards.

Here is what the website states:

Using StudyStack

Find data to study or add your own data.

Study and play with data online as flashcards, hangman game, crossword puzzle, matching, or word search.

Study anytime/anywhere by printing data or exporting flashcards to your cell phone, PDA, or iPod.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=696>

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