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...a service of [The Point](#) - a classroom blogspace from [fcps.net](#)



TIPS - The Technology Feed Vol 7, #2 (October, 2007)

...maintained by Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin, last updated 10/2/2007

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

Monday, October 01, 2007 2:23 PM: Updates, Notes, and Alerts

It's been a very busy month in the Office of Instructional Technology! Thanks to the district technology resource teachers for their contributions to this ever-expanding online technology resource! Here are some new (and newly-updated) things to look for...

- **Announcements** (Julie Gaskin): Julie will be posting important technology grants, initiatives, and application deadlines. Subscribe to this one...it's going to be hot!
- **i-SAFE** (Guyanne Vaughan): Stu's Crew and the Mayor's Youth Council are stepping forward to spearhead school Internet safety training! See it all in Guyanne's blog.
- **The Video-Linked Classroom** (Jeffrey L. Jones): Webcasting goes interactive! Look at this new use of Fayette's Moodle install, I-School!
- **Curriculum Connections** (Diana Hendrix): Look to this blog for a list of possible technology integration ideas!
- **Are You Feeling PAS Tense?** (Rosemary McFarland): Reports from the Predictive Assessment System can be a wonderful resource!

There are also new blogs/entries on STLP, Internet resources, SharePoint technical issues, and the use of KET EncycloMedia! It's a tech-fest!

Don't forget....all of these blogs **will accept your comments and contributions!** Blogs aren't just for reading...they're for connecting, sharing and correcting! Let us hear from you! (Click the link at the bottom of each article to go to the blog involved...click "Comment" below any entry to talk to us!)

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

Internet Safety

Information regarding digital citizenship in our schools.



...from the desk of Leanna Prater

Monday, October 01, 2007 2:55 PM: New Implementation Plan for i-SAFE: Stu's Crew/Mayor's Youth Council

The i-SAFE Program in Fayette County Public Schools will be given a new face this year. **Stu's Crew** along with the **Mayor's Youth Council** wanted to assist and share some new ideas about Internet safety with their middle school peers. Joining **Stu's Crew** and the **Mayor's Youth Council** will be the U.S. Attorney General, County Attorneys, and law enforcement to assist the high school students in initiating a new implementation plan to share with middle school students. According to the U.S. Attorney General, two very important topics dealing with Internet Safety are Predator Identification, and Personal Safety issues. **Stu's Crew** and the **Mayor's Youth Council** will be given training in the core content for these topics. After instruction, high schools students will be given time to develop a presentation which will actively engage middle school students in learning new ways to be safe while using the Internet. Dates and times of these events will be posted in the next issue of TIPS.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16411>

Student Technology Leadership Program

A discussion of STLP activities, issues, and projects in Fayette County Schools.



...from the desk of Julie Gaskin, District TRT

Thursday, September 27, 2007 8:11 PM: Project Idea for any Classroom, Club, or STLP: LET'S GO GREEN !



[The Kentucky Green and Healthy Schools \(KGHS\) Program](#)

is a new, voluntary effort

to empower students and staff with the tools needed to take action and make their school operate at peak efficiency. Schools participate as student's inventory current school operations and environments and implement action plans to improve school health and sustainability.

Inventories include: Energy, Green Spaces, Hazardous Chemicals, Health & Safety, Indoor Air Quality, Instructional Leadership, Solid Waste, Transportation, and Water. All inventories are aligned with the current Core Content for Assessment. These alignments are provided in the Teachers Reference version of each inventory. Technology integration is mentioned in many of the suggestions for improvement projects and may include: Internet research, Excel spreadsheets and graphs, PowerPoint presentations, Word documents, Publisher brochures or feature articles, creating a website, digital imaging, and/or video production. There are five levels of recognition, which is based on

how many inventories and improvement projects a school completes.

After enrolling in this program, schools have the option of participating in KGHS website training and orientation. There is no cost for this training. In addition to this training, the Teacher Reference for each inventory provides suggestions for improvement projects and links to additional resources. Each school is also assigned a business partner and a natural resource partner to assist with more technical aspects of the program. The KGHS program coordinator can answer any questions you may have and provide support. Lastly, there is no time limit to complete this program.

Please visit the web site for complete information:
<http://www.greenschools.ky.gov/>

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16314>

The Video-Linked Classroom

Videoconferencing, Live Streaming, and Internet 2 in Fayette County



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

Monday, October 01, 2007 2:32 PM: Any Port in a Storm - Synchronous Tools on the Cheap!

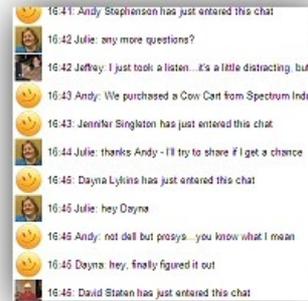
There are a bunch of Internet-leveraging tools out there to allow collaboration across space. Blogs, Wikis, forums, and email are *asynchronous* tools; tools which can be managed and leveraged across time as well. But sometimes, time is a factor. I was contacted Friday by Candy Zaluski, Library Media Coordinator for the district - she had an author who was going to be in town for one day, and she wanted as many students as possible to be able to see him speak, and ask him questions. Needless to say, time was an issue!

Videoconferencing was the first thing we explored, but since we have limited support for that through the district, only a small number of students would have been able to see and ask questions of the author. In the business and higher education communities, meeting services such as **Wimba**, **Microsoft Live Meeting**, or Adobe's **ELluminat**e are usually used. These services provide a synchronous platform by which many participants can see and hear each other, chat with each other, and watch a presentation...all through a web browser. Unfortunately, these services are *not* cheap! (Translation: we'll not be getting them any time soon in Fayette County!)

But we can mimic these services for free using Webcasting (live video streaming through the Internet) in combination with Moodle (soon to be "Fayette's I-School"). Moodle provides space through which a webcast stream can be broadcast. It can also provide a chat environment, where questions can be asked in "real time," with answers viewable through the webcast.

This is the format we use for School Tech Coordinators (STC) Webcasts. With a small variation (they used closed circuit TV instead of a webcast), it is how Edythe J. Hayes Middle School did their Infinite Campus training on Friday, allowing all teachers to work from the comfort of their own rooms and computers. It will also be how we present our author next week!

If you want to do this, all of the tools are available for checkout, and a Moodle space can be created as needed. Let us help you interact with the world!



...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16775>

Intelligent Classrooms

Promoting the use of intelligent classroom tools and connecting them to your content.

...from the desk of Diana Hendrix, DTRT

Thursday, September 27, 2007 1:29 PM: Connections: Integrating Technology Into Your Science Lessons

Are you looking for ways to integrate technology into your science lessons through day 53 of the Curriculum Framework? Look below to find lesson ideas that use various forms of technology!

In the K-1 Classroom: The Big Ideas of Energy Transformations and Interdependence are investigated by studying various habitats.

Lesson Idea: View the EncycloMedia clip on "Habitats: Homes for Living Things." Next, using the SmartBoard, open Kidspiration and use the habitats template to have students drag and drop animals and plants into the appropriate habitats from the clipart library located in Kidspiration. If you do not have a SmartBoard, you could do this same activity in your computer lab with each child using the Kidspiration habitats template.

In the 2nd Grade Classroom: The Big Ideas of Energy Transformations and Interdependence are investigated by studying food chains.

Lesson Idea: View the EncycloMedia video "The Food Chain Mystery." Have each student create a food chain using Kidspiration. They can then export this into Word and describe their food chain.

In the 3rd and 4th Grade Classrooms: the Big Idea of Biological Change is investigated using fossils.

Lesson Idea: A wonderful way to investigate fossils is to use Tom Snyder's software "Fossils". This is a whole group software that also incorporates hands on investigations! Many of the Science Reps. in your buildings have a copy of this software.

In the 5th grade Classroom: the Big Ideas of Energy Transformations and Interdependence are investigated by studying various ecosystems.

Lesson Idea: View the EncycloMedia video "Ecosystems: Nature in Balance." Have students research various ecosystems using the Internet and report their findings in PowerPoint presentations, Movie Maker or PhotoStory3 projects. Visual representations are essential to providing evidence that students grasp the concept of ecosystems interdependence.

If you have any questions on how to implement these ideas with your students, or how to obtain any software that was mentioned, please contact diana.hendrix@favette.kyschools.us.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16514>

Sharepoint - Content Management in Fayette County

A discussion of the district roll-out of the [Fayette County Intranet](#) using Microsoft's Sharepoint Services

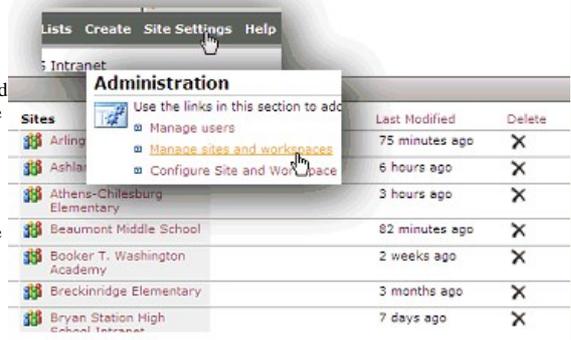


...from the desk of
Jeffrey L. Jones, Site Admin

Monday, October 01, 2007 1:41 PM: The Care and Feeding of your SharePoint Site

At the beginning of every school year, the webmaster, school tech coordinator, and student information system manager has to go through and remove everybody/everything that left or became irrelevant over the summer. That's because the website, email distribution lists, or teacher lists need to be up to date. But also, it makes space for the new information coming in! The same is true for SharePoint. But SharePoint is very different - every site has its own administrator, and so this task is the responsibility of every teacher and staff member with a place on this wonderful resource!

The easiest way to do this is from the site level - the list of sites attached to yours can be found through "Site Settings/Manage sites and workspaces" (see at right). There, you can see all of the spaces attached to yours, and the last time anything changed on it. Since you don't want to remove anything which is active, look at only the ones with no activity for 6 months or more....



1. Go to the site. See who is in charge of it (look in "In Charge of This Space")
2. Send them an email and ask whether they need the space any longer...
 - o If they don't, delete it using the "X". Deleting the space is only possible if no other spaces are hanging off of that one. If there are such spaces, contact the person and ask what to do.
 - o If they do, leave it alone!
 - o If they do, but their responsibilities have changed and they want this content moved, contact us and we'll take care of that.

That's it!

Upgrade/Configuration Problem - Alerts

We've had problems with the "Alerts" process, and many folks are not getting alerts at all. One thing that seems to help is to go to the site for which you want alerts, delete all the alerts you have (click "Site Settings/Manage my alerts" under "Manage My Information"), then go back and re-set your alerts. (Thanks to Matt Hamlyn at Linlee Elementary for this "fix!")

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=1621>

CyberSchool

A list of web activities for the elementary classroom.



...from the desk of
Julie Gaskin,
District TRT

Sunday, September 16, 2007 5:33 PM: Web Activity: Reading



Paw Park Episode 1: Kangaroo Confusion

Curriculum: Reading

Reading Topic: Alphabet recognition

Grades: K - 1

Web site: <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/games/percent>

[Kentucky Program of Studies](#) (Word needed to open documents.)

- Grade 3: [EL-P-FF-S-1 \(a\)](#)

Description: The kangaroos had a great time at the park but some of the kangaroos can't find their mommies or daddies. Click to help lost baby kangaroos find their parents by matching upper and lowercase letters of the alphabet. Letter names are stated to reinforce letter recognition.

Thanks to: [earobics](#) for Game Goo



...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=17580>

Announcements

Technology News

...from the desk of Julie Gaskin, District TRT

Sunday, September 30, 2007 11:10 PM: Vernier/ NSTA Technology Awards

Vernier & NSTA
Technology Award

Science teachers in K-college are invited to apply for one of seven [Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards](#). The awards promote the innovative use of data-collection

technology using a computer, graphing calculator or other handheld in the science classroom. Each award will consist of \$1,000 in cash for the teacher, \$1,000 in Vernier Products and up to \$1,000 toward expenses to attend the NSTA National Convention in Boston, March 27 - 30, 2008. One award is presented at the elementary level, two at the middle school level, three at the high school level, and one at the college level. [Applications](#) are due by **October 15, 2007**.

★ This award was won by [Heidi Anderson](#), AP Biology teacher at Paul Lawrence Dunbar High School, in 2006. Way to go Heidi!

Sunday, September 30, 2007 10:24 PM: Kentucky Teaching & Learning Conference



The [2008 Kentucky Teaching and Learning](#)



Conference will be held March 5-7, 2008, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville, Kentucky. The [application to present](#) is now open. Applications to present must be received by **October 31, 2007**.

The theme, **Student Learning for the 21st Century - Every Child, Every, Day**, provides a unique opportunity for administrators and educators to come and share the most current, relevant, research-based ideas and strategies around targeted topic areas for an appropriate audience of teachers, administrators, and other learners that can be implemented upon their return to districts to positively impact or support student learning using technology as a tool.

The 2008 Kentucky Teaching and Learning Conference will begin with an opening keynote address, reception, and drawing for a cruise on Wednesday evening, March 5. Workshops and concurrent sessions will be conducted Thursday, March 6, and Friday, March 7. Please note that all concurrent interest sessions and workshops are 1.5 hours long. Workshops requiring more than 1.5 hours must be presented in two parts. There will be no Saturday sessions.

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=18376>

Author's / Illustrator's Corner

A web connection to children's authors and illustrators.

...from the desk of Julie Gaskin, District TRT

Saturday, September 29, 2007 1:02 AM: Jan Brett



[Jan Brett's website](#) offers over 4,000 pages of activities, coloring pages, and projects. I especially like the 26 [videos](#) which can be downloaded. Video topics range from how to draw an elephant to clips about her books.

Her [classroom help-a-longs](#) include flashcards, puzzles, word lists, and alphabet tracing pages for manuscript and cursive handwriting. Although the site appears very child safe, please remind students that part of the site is an advertisement for her books and the email page asks for the student's last name, which the student should not supply. Website: <http://www.janbrett.com> .

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=18372>

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...from the desk of

...for more, visit this blog at <https://edtech.fcps.net/blog/blogs.aspx?blogid=16316>



The contents of this website are intended for the enhancement of instruction only. "It's About Kids"