**Great Websites for Learning**

**From Lin Kuzmich**

**Updated 9-1-2015**

**General Sites – Cross Content**

<http://edu.glogster.com/> Web 2.0 tool for creating multi-media reports

<http://www.thinkfinity.org/> - great projects and simulations that are rigorous and relevant, tutorials, games, links and resources for educators, parents and students

<https://www.blogger.com/start> - safe site for online conversations

<http://www.gamesforchange.org/> - great games that teach all types of skills

<http://fuse.microsoft.com/kodu.html> - for students to create their own simplistic learning games

<http://voicethread.com/#home> – social networking site for educators

<http://genyes.com/> - students helping teachers use technology, great tutorials for teachers

<http://www.thinkquest.org/en/> - all types of real world projects, possible to collaborate with other students around the world

<http://cyberschoolbus.un.org/> - interactive games sponsored by the United Nations

<http://www.freerice.com/index.php> - Practice skills and earn rice for people around the world who need food

<http://www.wordle.net/> - forming cloud patterns with new words – great vocabulary strategy

<http://kathyschrock.net/googleblooms/> -links Google tools to Bloom’s Thinking levels – amazing tools

<http://www.teachertube.com/> -tons of videos to use in your classes

<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/> - terrific resources for teachers from the Library of Congress

<http://www.classroom20.com/> - just getting started? Great site to help you begin to use Web based tools with your students, a great how to site

<http://search-cube.com/> - Great tool for searching out multi-media and other resources related to common concepts taught at every level.  Great for tutorials, planning, research, re-teaching needs and more

<http://www.khanacademy.org/> - excellent tutorial website for secondary math and science

<http://www.hippocampus.org/> - tutorial multi-media website for a variety of secondary subjects

<http://prezi.com>
An alternative to the traditional presentation of information in a slide format. The site allows for enhanced ability to explain ideas and concepts while expressing creativity and self expression.

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

VUVOX is an easy to use production and instant sharing service that allows you to mix, create and blend your personal media – video, photos and music, into rich personal expressions.

<http://aviary.com>

Aviary is a free online suite of tools designed for editing of images, music, audio, color palettes and effects.

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

A free network that offers a safe and easy way for teachers to post classroom materials, share helpful links and videos, and access homework, grades and school-wide notices for all students.

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

Delicious is a Social Bookmarking service, which means you can save all your bookmarks online, share them with other people, and see what other people are bookmarking.

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

Ode is a print and online publication of positive news about the people and ideas that are changing our world for the better.

[www.photos8.com](http://www.photos8.com) and [www.Pics4Learning.com](http://www.Pics4Learning.com)
Two public domain image sites that are wonderful for student use and free to use.

[www.readwritethink.org](http://www.readwritethink.org)
National Council of Teacher's of English Read, Write, Think site, including lesson plans, student interactive components and a comic creator. The lesson plans push a higher level of rigor.

[www.bie.org](http://www.bie.org)
Buck Institute for Education Project-Based Learning for the 21st Century includes materials, processes and professional development for all levels and subjects. They particularly serve as a great resource when developing standards and projects for Marketing Education.

[www.c-spanclassroom.org](http://www.c-spanclassroom.org)

CSPAN offers a great and ever-evolving website that has an immense archive of video clip materials and lessons that are specifically targeted to civics, government and social studies teachers.

<http://glossary.plasmalink.com/glossary.html>

Provides a glossary of instructional strategies as a resource for all educators. Current number of strategies and methods: 988.

<http://www.silkroadproject.org/>

The Silk Road Project provides a gateway to greater understanding of the world through active educational programs and resources and multidisciplinary explorations of topics inspired by the Silk Road.

<http://www.ipl.org/div/about>

Internet Public Library is a public service organization and a learning/teaching environment. To date, thousands of students and volunteer library and information science professionals have been involved in answering reference questions for our Ask an ipl2 Librarian service.

[Smithsonian’s Galaxy of Knowledge](http://www.sil.si.edu/): The Smithsonian has a digital library, arts, science, lectures, and more.

[Exploratorium Digital Library](http://www.exploratorium.edu/educate/dl.html): Exploratorium offers a variety of collections in gigital media and digitized museum materials for elementary school students and beyond.

[SONIC](http://www.loc.gov/rr/record/Sonicintro.html): The Library of Congress’ Sound Online Inventory and Catalog houses about 2.5 million audio recordings, including unpublished recordings.

[The Internet Public Library](http://www.ipl.org/): Founded by a class of students at the [University of Michigan](http://www.umich.edu/) accredited online degrees program, the Internet Public Library is a full-service library online.

[Stately Knowledge](http://www.ipl.org/div/kidspace/stateknow/): This kid section of the Internet Public Library offers basic facts about the United States, the world, health, music, and much more.

[Electronic Fieldtrips](http://commtechlab.msu.edu/sites/letsnet/noframes/bigideas/b1/): Take field trips online with this site.

[Exploratorium Hands-on Activities](http://www.exploratorium.edu/explore/handson.html): Here you’ll find activities including sport science, a journey to Mars, and cow’s eye dissection.

[GPS Activities & Lesson Plans](http://lovinfifth.com/gps/GPS-activities.htm): This resource will show you how to make GPS and geocaching an important part of your curriculum.

[FreeRice](http://www.freerice.com/index.php): Have your students play this vocabulary game, and they’ll learn while donating food to people in

need.

[Brain Boosters](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/brainboosters/): Discovery Education’s Brain Boosters are challenging mental games.

[Learning Adventures](http://school.discoveryeducation.com/students/?pID=learn): This collection offers multimedia education on sharks, slavery, and more.

[Infoplease](http://www.infoplease.com/): Infoplease combines an encyclopedia, almanac, atlas, dictionary, and a lot more, all in one place.

[HowStuffWorks](http://www.howstuffworks.com/): Your students can find easy to understand information about how anything and everything works on this site.

[MetaGlossary](http://www.metaglossary.com/) MetaGlossary defines more than 2 million terms, phrases, and acronyms.

[Repositories of Primary Sources](http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/iil.htm): This index is a wonderful place to find strong sources for manuscripts, archives, historical photographs, and more.

[Refdesk](http://www.refdesk.com/index.html): Find kid-friendly research resources through Refdesk.

[eHow](http://www.ehow.com/): eHow explains in simple language how you can do just about anything.

<http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/Interactive.htm> lots of tutorials

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html> works for low performing students especially those with literacy or learning problems

<http://www.education-world.com/> - works for low performing students especially those with literacy or learning problems

<http://www.neok12.com/> - games, videos, tutorials, quizzes across grade levels and content areas

**Science Sites**

<http://www.bozemanscience.com/> -tons of great videos and support material for science

<http://phet.colorado.edu/> - tons of great science simulations, most are animated, some control over variables on a few

<http://www.k12science.org/> - Collaborative projects so that students can contribute to on-going science experiments, great source of live data

<http://ginaotto.com/sciencesites.html>

<http://dsc.discovery.com/>

<http://www.ebizmba.com/articles/science-websites>

<http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/science.htm>

<http://www.science.gov/>

<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/> fun mini labs

<http://www.spellingcity.com/high-school-science-vocabulary.html> vocabulary games for science by course, good tutorial website with choices for students like test me, teach me, play a game, etc.

**Math Sites**

<http://vihart.com/doodling/> - musician and artist, Hart’s view of math from a creative and funny lens

 <http://www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/departments/itv/mathdude/> funny and relevant Algebra I video clips

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

Defined as a “computational knowledge engine” with a goal of making all systematic knowledge immediately computable and accessible to everyone.

<http://tutoring.sylvanlearning.com/newsletter/0704/math.cfm>

<http://www.kidsites.com/sites-edu/math.htm>

<http://cte.jhu.edu/techacademy/web/2000/heal/mathsites.htm>

<http://www.coolmath.com/> - wonderful resources from games and tutorials

<http://www.mathnstuff.com/cheat.htm#hs> Great resources for math vocabulary, tutorial, ideas for use of manipulative based learning for math, etc.

<http://www.mathplayground.com/> middle tutorial site for filling in skills and concepts in math that should have been achieved in MS but may be holes an gaps for some students, uses games and fun tutorials

<http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/math.htm> tutorials in game format through pre-algebra

<http://commoncoretools.wordpress.com/> resources that tie to the new CCSS standards coming to your state soon

**Social Sciences**

**History, Geography & Other Social Studies**

**50 States**: (elementary)This website offers a wealth of information about each of the 50 states in the US. Low level facts. <http://www.50states.com/>

**Geodata.gov**: Find useful state, local, links, and federal geographic data on this website. <http://gos2.geodata.gov/wps/portal/gos>

**Maps.com**: This online map store has lots of wonderful games, including a US Capitals map game and a geographic continent map game. <http://www.maps.com/funfacts.aspx?nav>

**Visible Earth**: Show your class unique perspectives of the earth with satellite images from Visible Earth. One of many incredible sites sponsored by NASA. <http://www.visibleearth.nasa.gov/>

**Countries of the World**: Find country studies from the Library of Congress and other authoritative sources through this site. Contains a rich source of worldwide information, culture, history, geography, politics, amazing data that could be used in math or biology as well. <http://www.theodora.com/wfb/abc_world_fact_book.html>

**EyeWitness to History**: Get a look at the ancient world through World War II through photos, voices, documents, and other media on this history site. <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/>

**CIA World Factbook**: The CIA World Factbook has useful information about the countries of the world, including maps and flags. Sort of modern online atlas of the world with additional facts, information and links. <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

**The History Beat**: This site offers loads of history timelines, facts and links on the web. Good for research and finding pictures and media as well. <http://www.searchbeat.com/society/History/>

**dMarie**: dMarie’s time capsules offer a way to look at data for dates from 1800 to 2002. <http://www.dmarie.com/timecap/>

**Dipity** (secondary) is a site devoted to multi-media timelines. It is a great era or theme based way to teach social studies and other time related topics in new way. Students can use it for organizing research and organizing for research or inquiry. <http://www.dipity.com/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/>

<http://www.sldirectory.com/teachf/socsci.html>

<http://michiganepic.org/historythemes/>

<http://www.interact-simulations.com/>

<http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/tools/socst-hs.html>

great high school ideas and resources

<http://jc-schools.net/tutorials/tools/science-hs.html> cool ideas, videos, animation, games, etc.

**Especially for Global Studies:**

Great Units already done: <http://www.worldaffairschallenge.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Global-Issues-in-the-Elementary-Classroom.pdf> Lin sent Kandi and Linda a copy for you already

North Carolina has cool stuff: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/curriculum/socialstudies/elementary/>

National council for Social Studies has great ideas, tools and publications for all levels: <http://www.socialstudies.org/>

Directory of Educational Resources has already sorted goodies: <http://www.alline.org/euro/esocials.html>

**ELA, ELL and SPED**

 **Reading, Writing, Language, Listening and Foundational Reading Websites and Digital Tools**

**The Online Books Page**: This website is home to more than 30,000 free books that you can read online. <http://digital.library.upenn.edu/books/search.html>

**Bartleby** offers lots of different texts online, from novels to reference. <http://www.bartleby.com/>

**Audio Books for Kids**: (elementary) Allow your kids to listen to audio books for free with this site. <http://www.kidsaudiobooks.co.uk/>

**RhymeZone**: In the RhymeZone, you can type in a word to find its rhymes, synonyms, definitions, and more. For older students includes famous documents, Shakespeare and other resources. <http://www.rhymezone.com/>

**Children’s Storybooks Online**: (elementary) This site offers illustrated children’s stories for free. <http://www.magickeys.com/books/>

**Free Classic Audiobooks**: On this site, you’ll find classics like Huckleberry Finn on audiobooks for free. <http://freeclassicaudiobooks.com/>

**Poetry Idea Engine**: The Poetry Idea Engine is a great tool for writing haikus, limericks, and more. One of many excellent resources available online from Scholastic. <http://teacher.scholastic.com/writewit/poetry/poetry_engine.htm>

**Orangoo**: Use this quick online spell check to make sure your text is perfect. <http://orangoo.com/spellcheck/>

**Bibliomania**: Bibliomania offers more than 2,000 classic texts, along with notes, author biographies, and study guides. <http://www.bibliomania.com/>

**Writing Prompt s/Journal Topics**: Check out these topics to assign to your students. <http://www.canteach.ca/elementary/prompts.html>

**Project Gutenberg**: This project has more than 25,000 free books, and over 100,000 titles in its network. <http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page>

<http://www.vocabulary.co.il/ninth-grade-vocabulary-games/> ninth grade and struggling learner, Foreign Language, or ELL vocabulary games for ELA

**Writing Tools**

**Google Docs** from Google: Designed to help create and share work online. Import existing documents, spreadsheets and presentations, or create new ones from scratch. Access and edit from anywhere. The documents are stored securely online. Share changes in real time. Invite people to your documents and make changes together, at the same time.  Great for student groups work, teacher or student blogs and many other uses. Account requires first and last name, email and password. <https://www.google.com/accounts/>

**Letterpop** is a publishing tool that allows users to create beautiful newsletters and flyers.  Create a simple document without an account.  An account will let you upload your own pictures.  Accounts require first and last name, email and password. <http://letterpop.com/>

 **Gliggy** is an online flowchart, webbing and floorplan maker.  Can insert web or personal images. Email and password required. <http://www.gliffy.com/>

**Bubble us** is an online webbing tool.  Very simple to use and save basic brainstorming webs.  Requires a user ID, password and email. <https://bubbl.us/>

**xtimeline** allows users or groups to explore and create timelines. Account requires a login with email, user name and password. <http://www.xtimeline.com/index.aspx>

**Peanut Butter Wiki** is a website where teachers and students can collaborate through a wiki.  Wikis can be created and shared among certain groups or open to the public for viewing and/or collaborating. <http://pbworks.com/>

**Electronic Storybooks** (elementary) is a step by step directions for creating elementary level e books that can be shared and published. Easy to use and includes step by step directions for teachers. <http://olc.spsd.sk.ca/DE/PD/ebooks/samples.html>

**Kidblog** is very simple to use, includes all types of media options, is free, no advertisements and has privacy settings. It was created for education purposes. Teachers have full control options over the blogs. . [www.kidblog.org](http://www.kidblog.org/)

**StoryBird** (Elementary and early childhood) which is free and has artwork that students use to illustrate their stories. I have a list at the office that has a lot of good literacy sites on it and some include features where they can record their voice also. [www.storybird.com](http://www.storybird.com/)

**Links to Graphic Organizers**

**Math:**

 <http://www.sw-georgia.resa.k12.ga.us/Math.html>

 <http://www.region15.org/subsite/dist/page/graphic-organizers-3114>

**Science:**

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/slideshow/graphic-organizers/52539.html>

<http://www.abcteach.com/directory/researchreports/graphic_organizers/>

**ELA:**

<http://www.region15.org/subsite/dist/page/graphic-organizers-3114>

 <http://englishcompanion.ning.com/>

<http://www.nvo.com/ecnewletter/graphicorganizers/>

<http://www.englishcompanion.com/Tools/notemaking.html>

**Social Sciences:**

<http://www.readingquest.org/strat/>

 <http://www.cheney268.com/Learning/Organizers/SocialStudies.htm>

**Free downloads from Various Sources-Cross Content and Grades:**

<http://www.smartdraw.com/examples/software-design/>

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/tv/browse.php?term=351004000000>

<http://www.eduplace.com/graphicorganizer/>

 <http://edhelper.com/teachers/graphic_organizers.htm>

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/graphic-organizers/printable/6293.html>

<http://themes.pppst.com/graphic-organizers.html>

<http://its.leesummit.k12.mo.us/graphic_organizers.htm> (links to other sources)

<http://www.educationworld.com/tools_templates/>

<http://www.thinkport.org/technology/template.tp>

<http://www.azleisd.net/education/components/scrapbook/default.php?sectiondetailid=16464> (Thinking Maps for Smart Boards)

**Great Websites for Project-Based, Simulation, Problem-Based, and Inquiry Learning**

***Directions:* Copy and then paste these sites into your browser.**

**Mixed (Integrated) Topics:**

Jamie MacKenzie's site: http://www.fno.org/ integrated technology ideas and links to other sites

<http://pblchecklist.4teachers.org/> Great source of links to other sites, resources for building assessments for project based learning

<http://www.edutopia.org/php/keyword.php?id=037> There is a newsletter on project based learning from Edutopia, free to educators currently employed in a district.

Lots on interesting units and lessons by content area, some integrated: <http://www.rmcdenver.com/useguide/pbl.htm>

<http://eduscapes.com/tap/topic43.htm> Good links and ideas across content areas and courses

<http://college.hmco.com/education/pbl/index.html> Contains a few well done lessons for science and social studies that incorporate use of technology and media

<http://www.internet4classrooms.com/project.htm> More good resources

Bio Tech curriculum: <http://cse.edc.org/products/curricula/biotech/default.asp>

Simulations: <http://www.icons.umd.edu/staff/website.simulation_overview?id=2>

More Simulations: <http://www.classroominc.org/?page=our_programs&subpage=simulations>

Integrated Math and Science Units: http://www2.imsa.edu/programs/pbln/

Sports, math and physics: <http://www.espnsportsfigures.com/>

**Science:**

Mars for Educators: http://marsrovers.jpl.nasa.gov/classroom/ complete lessons and unit material ready to go with good literacy integration

http://education.usgs.gov/ incredible integrated projects and inquiry lessons

Great resources: <http://www.nsta.org/highschool>

Great chemistry ideas: http://www.chemistryteaching.com/

More great chemistry and integrated science units: <http://www.anachem.umu.se/cgi-bin/pointer.exe?Demonstrations>

**Math:**

NCTM Illuminations site <http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

http://www.nctm.org/ Great links

<http://www.ct4me.net/math_projects.htm> good links and ideas for math based projects

Integrated Units with a math focus: <http://www.goenc.com/search/default.asp?page=1&pagelength=10&searchText=integrated+units&grade=G0&resourceType=R0>

**Social Studies:**

History Alive site <http://www.historyalive.com/resources/onlHistory.aspx>

<http://www.bie.org/pbl/pblhandbook/index.php> Buck Institute for Education, great focus on economics and civics and other areas in socials studies, some of the resources and links applicable across content areas

<http://www.ucalgary.ca/~kmkahler/67910/projectbased/#Project%20Examples> Contains four really good units focused on medieval times, however, could be easily adjusted for era under study

http://www.ncss.org/lessons/ Good lessons in a variety of courses

Source for simulations and units: <http://www.paachawaii.org/highschool/index.htm>

Good resources for economics by level (some freebies, some for purchase): [www.store.ncee.net](http://www.store.ncee.net/)

<http://www.spellingcity.com/high-school-science-vocabulary.html> vocabulary games for science by course, good tutorial website with choices for students like test me, teach me, play a game, etc.

**English/Language Arts/Literacy:**

<http://www.sagrader.com/> Essay grader

<http://www.wired.com/wired/archive/14.06/myth.html> Cool unit on the myth of Superman, teaches several great themes in literature

http://www.ncte.org/ Tons of resources integrating literacy and technology, also integration with other courses. You may need to become a member to access all of the resources.

Integrated English and Social Studies Unit: <http://www.jimcrowhistory.org/amliterature/amliterature.htm> outstanding unit, received national recognition

**Technology Focus:**

http://pblmm.k12.ca.us/ Great ideas and step by sep instructions for multi-media projects, cross content ideas

<http://www.schoolcio.com/registration/login.jhtml?_requestid=274504> Great strategies for technology integration, you need to create a logon

<http://www.techlearning.com/db_area/archives/TL/2003/01/project7.html> incredible links, including one to the George Lucas Center for Educators

<http://www.ncsall.net/index.php?id=160> Great ideas to build into adult focused workforce projects

<http://www.wested.org/pblnet/exemplary_projects.html> Good resources for technology infused lessons for middle and high school students across content areas

**Fine Arts Connections:**

http://teachers.net/mentors/art/ Connections to a variety of Blogs and resources, pick and choose carefully

<http://www.goshen.edu/art/ed/art-ed-links.html> Great links

**Career and Technical Education:**

Excellent site for CATE ideas: http://www.career-connection.org/

Good site for links to other organizations that have materials for use in creating units in arts based careers such as graphic design: <http://www.artschoolreview.com/graphic_design/index.html>

Many free resources and connections between content areas: <http://www.tea.state.tx.us/cte/>

Outstanding integrated business and economics resources (great for Social Studies Economics courses as well): [www.thinkingeconomics.com](http://www.thinkingeconomics.com/)

**Other Notes to Help You Find Ready Made Resources:**

1. There are many websites with units, they have varying quality. It is important to take even the best unit, apply your standards and course requirements and make certain the rigor and relevance level is in the correct quadrant for the desired result.
2. There are other outstanding units by specific topic. Looking up Abraham Lincoln or Cell biology will get different results than just looking for project or inquiry based units. It is worth your time to explore that option.
3. Units can also be found by specific concept, like freedom, pattern in art, systems in science, heroes in English, accumulation in math, etc.
4. Government agencies and professional organizations are a great source of unit materials, problems, and simulations.