



TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

May 2016 January 2013



Teacher Appreciation Week 2016: 2nd - 6th May
May 3rd: Is Teacher Appreciation Day

National Teacher Appreciation Day, also known as National Teacher Day, is celebrated on Tuesday of the first full week in May. This day is part of Teacher Appreciation Week which is the first full week in May of each year.

Teachers play a critical role in educating and shaping our children: the future leaders of our country. They are kind, patient, hard-working, dedicated and understanding professionals that mold our children's lives in a positive direction. We entrust our children with the teachers and they affect their lives on a daily basis.

1953 In 1944 political and education leaders discussed the need for a national day to honor teachers. In, Eleanor Roosevelt persuaded the 81st Congress to proclaim a National Teacher Day. Congress declared March 7, 1980 as National Teacher Day. The National Education Association continued to observe Teacher Day on the first Tuesday in March until 1985, when the National PTA established Teacher Appreciation Week as the first full week of May. The NEA Representative Assembly then voted to make the Tuesday of that week National Teacher Day. National Teacher Day is an "unofficial" National holiday.

NEA Celebration of Teachers

<http://www.nea.org/grants/teacherday.html>

Presidential Proclamation

<http://tinyurl.com/gsggqnw>

Why Teachers Deserve our Praise and Support

http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/2015_TAW_Infographic_v6.pdf

Free Stuff! 50 Teacher Appreciation Week Deals and Discounts

<http://teacherpop.org/2015/05/free-stuff-50-teacher-appreciation-week-deals-and-discounts/>

Free Stuff

<http://www.gobankingrates.com/personal-finance/9-teacher-appreciation-week-freebies-deals-discounts/>

2016 Freebies

<http://truecouponing.com/teacher-appreciation-freebies/>



On May 5, 1862, the Mexican army defeated the French army at the Battle of Puebla. This single military battle signified defeat of a European colonial power, and a victory for the Mexican people. This single battle was the roots of Cinco de Mayo. Cinco de Mayo is not the celebration of Mexican Independence which is celebrated on September 16th. What Cinco de Mayo has come to be, is much more than one battle in the colonial history of Mexico. Rather, it has come to signify Hispanic and Mexican pride and a time to celebrate the rich culture.

Today, this holiday is celebrated by Mexicans, and especially the Hispanic community in the U.S. It is a time of song, dance, and in general a time to be proud to be of Hispanic descent.

Lessons and Resources

Teachers First

<http://www.teachersfirst.com/holiday/cinco.cfm>

Education World

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/01-1/lp234_01.shtml

Scholastic

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/globaltrek/destinations/mexico.htm>

Teachnology

<http://tinyurl.com/zznax9f>

A to Z Teacher Stuff

<http://tinyurl.com/jcydasa>

The Teacher's Corner

<https://seasonal.theteacherscorner.net//cinco-de-mayo/>

The Definition Of Digital Citizenship

Digital Citizenship

“The quality of **habits, actions, and consumption patterns** that impact the ecology of **digital content and communities.**”



TeachThought.com

As more and more students interact digitally-with content, one another, and various communities-the concept of digital citizenship becomes increasingly important. Read more....

Teach Thought

<http://tinyurl.com/z72mzce>

Safe and Secure Online

The Center for Cyber Safety and Education conducted a study of kids in grades 4-8 to better understand their internet usage behavior and the extent to which they engage in age inappropriate or dangerous behaviors online. This graphic represents some of the highlights of the findings. Here's what kids in grades 4-8 reported:

https://safeandsecureonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Internet_usage_summary.pdf

The Center for Cyber Safety and Education, in partnership with (ISC)2 and Booz Allen Hamilton, contracted Shugoll Research to conduct research with US children in 4th to 8th grades, and their parents, to better understand children's Internet usage behavior and the extent to which they engage in age inappropriate, or even dangerous, behavior while using the Internet. Specific research objectives were to:

- Assess children's use of the internet other than for homework/schoolwork
- Identify the types of electronic devices children have access to and use of
- Determine where children use the internet without adult supervision
- Determine if children have been taught to use the internet safely

- Determine if children have used the internet in ways that parents would not approve
- Assess the types of websites/apps that children visit and their activity on those sites/apps.
- Determine children's online and offline interactions with strangers

Below is the link to the executive summary of the main findings and the detailed version of the complete findings.

<https://safeandsecureonline.org/childrens-internet-study/>



Memorial Day, an American holiday observed on the last Monday of May, honors men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971.

Since the earliest ceremonies in small American towns following the Civil War, we have gathered on Memorial Day to honor and remember those who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation. As in those early days of laying wreaths and placing flags, our national day of remembrance is often felt most deeply among the families and communities who have personally lost friends and loved ones.

Americans take a moment to remember the sacrifice of our valiant military service members, first responders and their families. Memorial Day is a day of both celebration and grief, accounting for the honor of our heroes and reflecting on their tragic loss.

Throughout America's history, hundreds of thousands of our fellow citizens have died bravely serving our country. The numbers of battle deaths speak to the sacrifices our soldiers and their families have made.

Battle Deaths

American Revolution (1775-1783)	4,435
War of 1812 (1812-1815)	2,260
Mexican War (1846-1848)	1,733
Civil War (1861-1865)	140,414 (Union); 74,524 (Confederate)
Spanish-American War (1898-1902)	385
World War I (1917-1918)	53,402
World War II (1941-1945)	291,557
Korean War (1950-1953)	33,686
Vietnam War (1964-1975)	47,410
Gulf War (1990-1991)	147
Afghanistan War (2001-present)	2,357 (as of May 1, 2015)
Iraq War (2003-2012)	4,490



<https://www.getepic.com/>

A Free Reading Resource for the Classroom

Thanks you, Mrs. Kusum Jethwa, Pre K teacher at Heywood Avenue for sharing this awesome resource.

“Epic!” - it’s like a Netflix for children's eBooks with thousands of high-quality books.

Epic! provides an unlimited selection of eBooks that can be instantly discovered, read and shared with friends. Personalized for each individual reader, Epic! is the only place to access thousands of high quality, curated children's books without the need to purchase or download them one by one.

Beautifully designed for mobile and featuring fun, game-like elements, Epic! provides kids with a personal library they can take anywhere. In a world of unlimited screen time, Epic! is a smart alternative to games and videos. Epic! is available on all iOS and Android devices. “Epic!” - it’s like a Netflix for children's eBooks with thousands of high-quality books. Epic is free for educators.



Coding in the Common Core

There's been significant talk about "coding" lately -- from the second annual "Hour of Code" event hosted in December by Code.org, to countries like Denmark and England incorporating computer programming into their curriculum. Here in the U.S., there are several ways in which computer programming activities support the Common Core State Standards.

Common Core Integration and Best Practices can be found at the website link below:
<http://www.edutopia.org/blog/coding-in-the-common-core-tara-linney>



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

Curriculet lets teachers integrate multimedia components into electronic books to support student learning as they read a text. Embed a layer of questions, quizzes, and rich media annotations into any reading assignment. These items can include video snippets of teachers explaining parts of a text, quizzes to check comprehension, vocabulary, and other items that might have once been available separately or not at all.

Instructors place questions, quizzes and other media directly into the texts their students are reading, precisely where students should interact with the material.



<https://kids.usa.gov/teachers/calendar/may/index.shtml>

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Kids & Tech: 10 Tips for Parents in the Digital Age

In a world where children are "growing up digital," it's important to help them learn healthy concepts of digital use and citizenship. Parents play an important role in teaching these skills. Here are a few tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) to help parents manage the digital landscape they're exploring with their children.

<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/Tips-for-Parents-Digital-Age.aspx>

2016 Monthly Fun Facts Calendar



Click on the link below to find fun activities on holidays, events, and celebrations. There's something worth celebrating every day!

<http://life.familyeducation.com/calendar/printable/58376.html?month=5&year=2016&cc=us>

Academic Website



<https://quizlet.com/teachers>

Quizlet believes learning is more powerful when it's a shared experience—connecting with others learning the same thing. Quizlet is a place where everyone can share knowledge in any subject, at any level and gain confidence as a learner.

Our tools are designed for the digital age, not just replacing paper predecessors (flashcards, matching games, etc), but using the best of new mobile and audio technologies to create new kinds of learning tools and games. And beyond tools for practice and recall, we've also added tools that focus on longer term learning and mastery for every level learner.

The game asks students to compete in teams to answer questions from any of Quizlet's 100 million sets of study questions. Teachers select the questions and view the results on their screen. The game is available for free on computers and tablets.

Teacher's Testimony

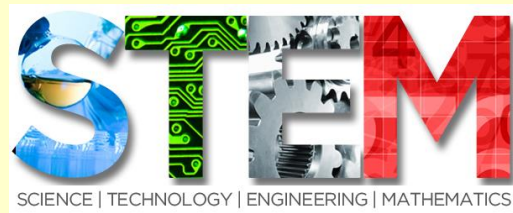
<http://tinyurl.com/jamafhx>



30 Apps in 60 Minutes Webinar

this session, participants will discover apps that change the way students and teachers think about learning. The presenter will feature apps that promote essential 21st century learning skills - critical thinking, collaboration, communication - and apps that fuel creativity.

<http://home.edweb.net/webinar/30-apps-60-minutes/>



National Geographic

STEM Education

Fostering 21st Century Skills Through Integrated STEM Resources

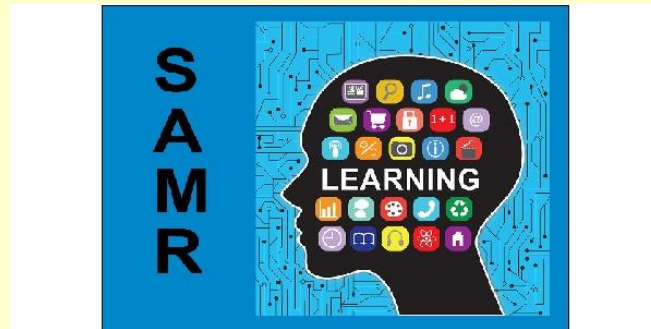
http://education.nationalgeographic.org/stem-education/?ar_a=1



<http://thefoos.com/coding-resources-for-you>

The Foos is the most fun way for kids to learn coding and computer science. Our curriculum is based on research from MIT and Exploring Computer Science and we've mapped it to Common Core standards. Kids play and learn to code!

Even if you don't have a classroom full of future computer programmers, learning the fundamentals of coding provides students with skills that will serve them well in virtually any career they choose. Plus, there are few things that ignite and excite a room full of learners like a coding class.



Evaluating Lesson Plans Using SAMR

<https://www.sophia.org/tutorials/evaluating-lesson-plans-samr>



10 Important Chromebook Tips Every Teacher Should Know

If you are using or planning to use Chromebook in your instruction, the tips below are definitely worth your attention. These are instructions to help you make the best of your Chromebook in terms of how to search for and find educational apps to use on it, how to customize its settings to suit your own teaching purposes, how to save files to Google Drive and edit and share images using Chromebook's built-in editor, how to add users and control who can use your Chromebook and several other tips that are integral to an effective integration of this device in your class

<http://www.educatorstechnology.com/2015/10/10-important-chromebook-tips-every.html>



The Best Chrome Extensions for Google Drive



These browser add-ons will make you even more productive using Docs, Sheets, and Slides. With a plug-in architecture, it's got plenty of add-ons and extensions available in the Chrome Web Store. Naturally, a lot of these work directly with Google Drive. Here's a look at the extensions you should consider.

AbleBits

This developer has not one but about eight amazing add-ons for Google Sheets, including a duplicate remover, merge sheets, merge values, advanced find and replace, random number generator, and more. You pay for these same extra for Microsoft Excel, so enjoy the cost of free.

Checker Plus for Google Drive

Checker Plus is a must for its extensions that work with Gmail, Google Calendar, and of course, Google Drive. From a single icon on the Chrome toolbar you get full access to every file you have stored on Drive—plus your images on Google Photos as well. There's no faster way to search and browse your files without going to Drive site itself.

AbleBits

This developer has not one but about eight amazing add-ons for Google Sheets, including a duplicate remover, merge sheets, merge values, advanced find and replace, random number generator, and more. You pay for these same extra for Microsoft Excel, so enjoy the cost of free.

Save to Google Drive

It's not always as easy as it should be to add to Google Drive—especially if you see something online that needs storing. This extension can stick the content of an entire webpage or just individual elements like texts and images, directly into your Google Drive for later access.

DocuSign

You may already know DocuSign as a primo way of signing electronic documents. This extension brings that signing function fully into Google Docs (and Gmail). With the extension alone, you get free unlimited signings if it's just you.

Explore the link below for a complete list of the best Chrome extensions.

<http://www.pcmag.com/article/343780/the-best-chrome-extensions-for-google-drive>



Learning & Leadership Grants

Our Learning & Leadership Grants support National Education Association (NEA) members who are public school teachers, public education support professionals, and/or faculty and staff in public institutions of higher education for one of the following two purposes:

Grants to individuals fund participation in high-quality professional development experiences, such as summer institutes, conferences, or action research Grants to groups fund collegial study, including study groups, action research, lesson plan development, or mentoring experiences for faculty or staff.

<http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/learning-leadership-grants/>

ASM International

The ASM Materials Education Foundation awards 20 grants of \$500 annually to help K-12 teachers bring the real world of materials science into their classrooms. "Living in a Material World" grants recognize teacher creativity. The purpose of these grants is to enhance awareness of materials science and the role that materials scientists play in society.

<http://www.asminternational.org/foundation/teachers/teacher-grants-k12>

Administrator's Resource Corner



The Administrator's Role in Technology Integration

Entire Article can be found at:

http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech087.shtml

The most effective way school administrators can promote technology use is to themselves be knowledgeable and effective users of technology," says Betty Kistler, computer technology coordinator at Tuckahoe School in Southampton, New York.

"Principals play a big role in setting the climate of a building," agrees Cathy Chamberlain, a technology consultant in the Oswego (New York) City School District. "Teachers who are on the fence -- or think they don't have time to get involved with technology -- think twice when they sense a positive attitude on the part of the administration.

MODEL! MODEL! MODEL!

"Administrators need to model, model, model," stresses Marcia Reed, media center coordinator at St. Pius X School in Toledo, Ohio. "They can do that by using technology for administrative functions and by knowing how to use the hardware and software they expect teachers to use."

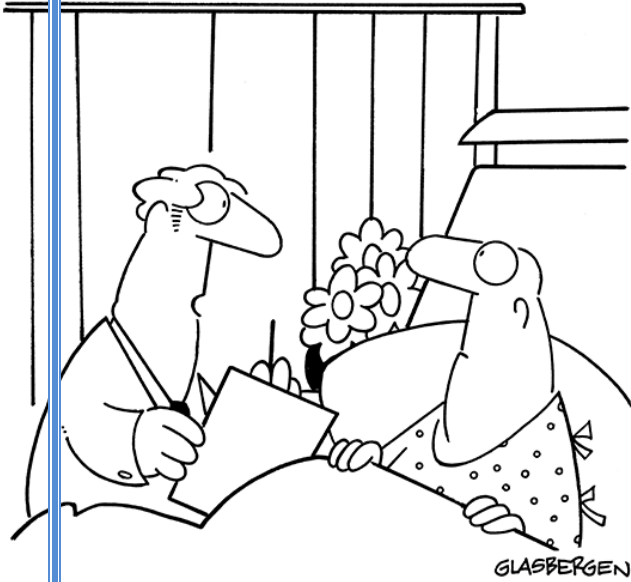
ENCOURAGE AND SUPPORT!

School administrators, according to Fred Holmes, Webmaster at Osceola (Nebraska) Public Schools, can easily promote technology integration. They can encourage teachers' curiosity about what can be done using technology, provide incentives for teachers to attend workshops and conferences, persuade teachers who use technology in the classroom to model that use for others, set up a mentoring system so teachers have someone to go to for help and ideas, and provide time for teachers to experiment with technology.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/tech087.shtml

TECHNOLOGY HUMOR

© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com



"Your new pacemaker comes with Pandora so you can always have a song in your heart."

© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com



"Opportunity texted me, tweeted me, linked to me, friended me, blogged me and spammed me. I was expecting it to knock!"

© Randy Glasbergen
glasbergen.com



"Mom, if Heaven is real, give me a sign. Post your location and a selfie on Facebook."

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www.glasbergen.com



"My dad runs an Internet company and my mom is a website designer. My name is www.illiam!"