



# TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

October 2016 y 2013



## Challenge Students With Our Newest Feature

We're thrilled to announce the beta launch of our newest feature, the Challenge! The auto-graded, mobile-ready Challenge is designed to help measure students' understanding of a given topic and provide different ways for them to apply what they've learned. Right now, the Challenge accompanies more than 50 cross-curricular topics, including everything from the Bill of Rights and Hybrid Cars to Moon Phases and Titanic. (Look for its mountain peak icon to the right of the movie player.)

Each BrainPOP Challenge is a set of relevant activities that emphasizes cognitive skills: concept mapping, diagram labeling, matching, multiple response, sequencing, and Venn diagramming. You'll find four of those six tasks in each Challenge, depending on the topic at hand. Students can submit completed tasks for feedback, via My BrainPOP.

The BrainPOP Challenge is an interactive exercise that tests student knowledge of a BrainPOP topic. Each topic has a Challenge that contains four of eight possible tasks. To help you make the most of the BrainPOP Challenge, we've provided tips for each type of Challenge task, including Learning Objectives, Implementation Tips, and ELL Strategies.

Ready to get started? BrainPOP Educators' Challenge Teaching Resources offers a range of ideas, tips, and best practices - including strategies for differentiating and supporting your students' varied needs. For general tips and strategies for supporting students, review Differentiation Support for Challenge Tasks.

# MIND YOUR STEP

Understanding your digital footprint

Everything you post online contributes to your 'digital footprint'. What you think you're sharing with your friends may also be viewed by complete strangers – including future employers, workmates and landlords.

**Once it's online, it could be there forever!**

So put your right foot forward and clean up your digital footprint.



1. Australian Communications and Media Authority, (2013). Live, post, share: Young Australians' experience of social media (Quantitative Research Report). Canberra:ACMA.



Columbus Day is the celebration of Christopher Columbus's landing in America in 1492. In the U.S., it is observed on the 2nd Monday in October. Although Columbus was not the first explorer to set foot in the Western Hemisphere, his landing at San Salvador Island in what is now the Bahamas was very important. It opened the way for the settlement of America by Europeans. Columbus Day became a legal holiday in the United States in 1892.

### Lessons and Resources

BrainPop

<https://educators.brainpop.com/bp-jr-topic/columbus-day/>

TeacherVision

<https://www.teachervision.com/history/lesson-plan/3024.html>

Education World

[http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_lesson/lesson081.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson081.shtml)

[http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_curr/curr167.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/curr167.shtml)

Scholastic

<http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plan/my-first-biography-christopher-columbus-teaching-guide>

Lesson Plans Page

<http://lessonplanspage.com/columbusday-htm/>

TeacherVision

<https://www.teachervision.com/columbus-day/teacher-resources/6607.html>



## National Cyber Security Awareness Month

October is National Cyber Security Awareness Month which is an annual campaign to raise awareness about cybersecurity. We live in a world that is more connected than ever before. The Internet touches almost all aspects of everyone's daily life, whether we realize it or not. National Cyber Security Awareness Month (NCSAM) is designed to engage and educate through events and initiatives to raise awareness about cybersecurity, provide them with tools and resources needed to stay safe online.

Schools are a primary place where bullying can happen. Helping to establish a supportive and safe school climate where all students are accepted and knowing how to respond when bullying happens are key to making sure all students are able to learn and grow. There are many tools on StopBullying.gov specific for teachers, administrators, and other school staff

### Educators Resources

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/what-you-can-do/educators/index.html>

Parents play a key role in preventing and responding to bullying. If you know or suspect that your child is involved in bullying, there are several resources that may help.

### Parent Resources

<https://www.stopbullying.gov/what-you-can-do/parents/index.html>



### Stop.Think.Connect. Parent an

<https://www.dhs.gov/publication/stopthinkconnect-parent-and-educator-resourcesd>

### Educator Resources

When your child wants to go over to a new friend's house, you probably ask questions. Who else is going? Will the parents be home? We should be having the same discussion

with our kids about their Internet use. Which websites are okay to visit? What kind of information is acceptable—and more importantly, what is not—to share online? find resources and materials to help you start the discussion with your kids or students.



## Photos for Class

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

Teachers have told us they need a place to access safe images that are available to be used in the classroom and for educational purposes. Plus, they want accurate image citations. We've heard you and created "Photos For Class" to meet your needs for images!

Age Appropriate Images - All images are appropriate for the school setting, thanks to Flickr SafeSearch and our proprietary filters - [Read More](#)

Automatic Citation - Downloaded images automatically cite the author and the image license terms - [Read More](#)

Creative Commons - All photos shown are, to the best of our (and Flickr's) knowledge, licensed by Creative Commons for public use

- See more at: <http://www.photosforclass.com/#sthash.BMF6MZCa.dpuf>



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

LessonPaths' online learning platform allows anyone with a passion for what they do to curate websites, videos, blogs, and more into Learning Playlists.

So instead of searching alone, people all around the world can work together to show off what they know and learn from each other.

Everyone deserves the chance to discover their talents. And nobody should be kept from realizing their potential because they don't have access to a good education, mentors, and other curious minds.

At LessonPaths, we're fueled by the belief that education is a basic human right, and we aim to organize the highest quality information on everything worth knowing by bringing out the expert in everyone.

Lesson Paths



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



<http://www.shakeuplearning.com/blog/back-to-school-with-google-chrome-the-complete-guide/>

## PARENT'S Corner!



### Get Schooled on the Math Concepts Your Child Will Learn This Year

With school back in session, now is the perfect time to review the major math concepts your child will learn from preschool through to eighth grade. Seeing your child's year at a glance, and having a sense of the most emphasized math ideas your child will encounter this school year, can really help you plan different math activities at home and know where to spend the most effective time supporting your child with their school work. Each of the reviews linked to below, highlights about four major math lessons, and share activities for you to do at home with your child.

<http://tinyurl.com/jj9q279>

girls who  
code

Girls Who Code is debugging the gender gap in tech by providing FREE computer science education to girls in 6th-12th grade across the United States. We are proud to be partners in this movement and would love for you to host a Club at your school to support our female coders. Click here for the information <https://goo.gl/kPMNuc>

Additionally, Girls Who Code is offering an amazing opportunity to Facilitators that do not have a technical background. You can join the Technical Training & Support Pilot Program found here <https://goo.gl/GpuiQ5> and facilitate your own Club! Girls Who Code has prepared a training on the Core4 Computer Science Concepts taught in Clubs exclusively for our pilot participants to prepare you to lead your Club members through the activities in the curriculum.



<http://www.netsmartz.org/InternetSafety>

## Basic Internet Safety

The Internet has drastically changed the way that children interact with the world. They have access to in-depth knowledge, tools to express their creativity, and people from all over the world. Yet along with offering a fascinating, new way to connect with the world, the Internet also offers new risks:

- Cyberbullying
- Exposure to inappropriate material
- Online predators
- Revealing too much personal information

Learning to recognize the warning signs of these risks will allow trusted adults to intervene and lessen potential negative impacts. By acting as a resource, parents and guardians can help make the Internet a safer place for their families. As a parent or guardian, you should stay well-informed about current issues to understand what your children are experiencing on and off the Internet. If they are social networking, instant messaging, using webcams, or blogging, help them use these tools safely by learning how to use them yourself. Children whose parents and guardians regularly talk to them about personal safety are more likely to exhibit responsible behavior on their own.[1] NetSmartz invites you to learn about the issues surrounding your children's online lives. Then use the discussion starters to help you begin a dialogue about safety with your children.



# Tech Tools: Decoding the Lack of Parent Engagement with FreshGrade



<http://tinyurl.com/jb5qqem>  
<https://www.freshgrade.com/>

Technology has given us an amazing degree of omniscience. That is, except for in our classrooms, where many parents have virtually no line of sight into what lessons and activities their child is engaged in – let alone what skills and subjects he or she may be struggling to master. Despite the growing body of research pointing to the critical need for parents to be involved in their child’s learning process, many teachers are struggling to narrow the gap separating parents from the classroom.

This is the challenge FreshGrade is cracking in classrooms worldwide. An online platform that media outlets like the Wall Street Journal have called the “Facebook for Classrooms,” FreshGrade is making classroom learning as visible to parents as everything else in their lives. Except, unlike Facebook, FreshGrade goes beyond a simple newsfeed of student learning activities and achievements by inviting parents to become an active participant in their child’s learning journey.

FreshGrade gives parents a window into the classroom—a powerful strategy to ignite parental involvement—by connecting them in real time through the use of digital portfolios and assessment tools.

Using its suite of apps, teachers and students can capture, document and communicate examples of student learning—including videos, pictures, audio recordings, links, documents and notes—and upload them to an online portfolio where they can be accessed by parents, students and other teachers. Teachers can also map learning objectives to assessments and activities to ensure lessons are focused and early intervention strategies can be created for struggling students.

With FreshGrade, parents are armed with a secure channel to view, comment on and upload content to the student portfolio at any time during the day. They also receive push notifications when the portfolio has been updated. This consistent access to new information that details a child’s progress has generated more than one million FreshGrade users across 70 countries and in all 50 U.S. states.



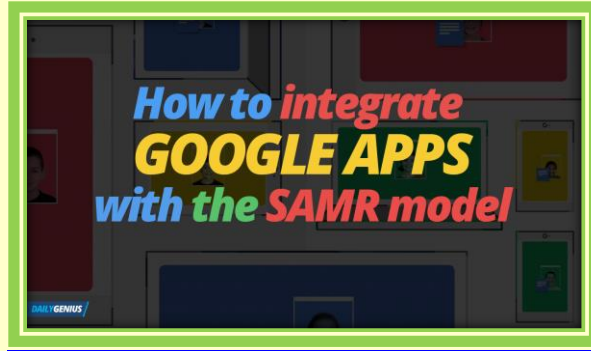
<http://www.apple.com/education/teachers/?CID=mkts-edu-appleteacher-ade#teacher>

We designed the Apple Teacher program to help you build skills and stay inspired. You'll discover new ways to enhance creativity and productivity by unlocking the magic of iPad, Mac, and built-in apps. You'll get news and fresh ideas, featuring real stories, product tips, and great educational apps. And after completing online quizzes, you'll receive an official Apple Teacher logo that you can share with the world.

This week Apple announced Apple Teacher a new program created to support and celebrate educators teaching all levels and subject areas. The Apple Teacher program provides a self-paced learning experience for educators. It includes tips, inspiration, news, and learning materials to help teachers discover the power of Apple tools in the classroom.

Even if your school isn't one-to-one, a better understanding of both the Mac and iPad can help you make the most of the devices your students have access to. From GarageBand to Pages, the tools in the Apple ecosystem can be tailored to all grade levels and subject areas.

We designed the Apple Teacher program to help you build skills and stay inspired. You'll discover new ways to enhance creativity and productivity by unlocking the magic of iPad, Mac, and built-in apps. You'll get news and fresh ideas, featuring real stories, product tips, and great educational apps. And after completing online quizzes, you'll receive an official Apple Teacher logo that you can share with the world.

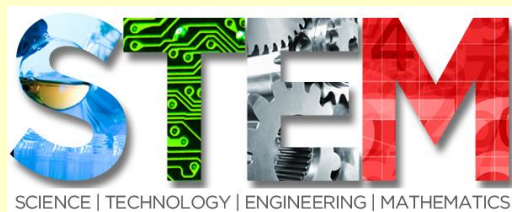


<http://dailygenius.com/integrate-google-apps-with-the-samr-model/>

Bringing high-quality (and free!) Google Apps into the classroom is a popular trend these days in education technology. Whether you're using the all-new Google Classroom to simply working on using Google Calendar to track your field trips, there is a lot to think about.

But what happens when you want to take your Google-ization of your classroom to the next level of learning? More than likely, you are familiar with the SAMR model. That is the 'Substitution, Augmentation, Modification, and Redefinition' framework that is built to help use technology for improving learning.

## 5 Ways Parents Can Support STEM Learning



As a teacher the role we play in getting my students excited about science, technology, engineering, and math is really clear. As a parent, one might think that role is a little less defined, but it really shouldn't be. Whether we have had positive or negative experiences with math and science, we have to put on a happy face and really dive into with our kids. We have a huge impact on our own children's success in those fields and as the world continues to evolve, it will be increasingly more important that future generations are able to think critically and solve problems persistently and empathetically.

Science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education is becoming more and more important - and with good reason. These are necessary skills in

today's tech-savvy world, and they represent a pathway to some of the most in-demand jobs that our economy has to offer. How can you help encourage (or spark) an interest in these fields with your child? You don't have to be a rocket scientist, surgeon, or coding guru to do it! Take a look at five simple tips to engage your child in STEM learning outside of the classroom.

<http://gettingsmart.com/2015/10/5-ways-parents-can-support-stem-learning/>

## FREE WEBINAR



<http://home.edweb.net/webinar/bringing-social-media-classroom/>

### What's The Fuss All About? Bringing Social Media Into The Classroom

Wednesday, October 5, 2016 @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm EDT

This webinar will define social media and explore a variety of tools that will allow you to communicate with others in your learning community and reach out to other learners or experts from around the world. This webinar will benefit technology coaches, teachers, librarians, and educators at all levels.



Did you know that Google others? Yep! Google is known for to working with third-party Classroom is no exception. Are



Classroom plays well with making their applications open applications, and Google you using Google Classroom? I

have put together a list of 35 Apps that Integrate with Google Classroom, making it even easier to create lessons and announcements with your favorite apps and resources. Last summer, Google opened the API for Google Classroom which means that other applications could connect or integrate more seamlessly with the platform.

<http://www.shakeuplearning.com/blog/20-awesome-apps-that-integrate-with-google-classroom/>



## **From Failure to Promise k-12 Educators' Grant**

<http://www.fromfailuretopromise.com/educators>

\$500.00 Mini-Grants

How would \$500 help you move students/youth "From Failure to Promise" in Literacy, Math, Science, or Technology?

Dr. C. Moorer has written his inspirational story of flunking out of college to becoming an engineer, consultant, and ultimately a university professor to stimulate the minds and drive the ambitions of readers of all ages.

Now, your school/organization has the opportunity to receive a \$500 grant to create new and innovative ways to use the tenets of "From Failure to Promise: An Uncommon Path to Professoriate" , to motivate, energize, and catapult your K-12 students/youth to reach their full promise in literacy, math, science, or technology.

To support educators, Dr. C. Moorer & Associates, Inc., will award several \$500 mini grants in 2017 to community-based organizations, libraries or schools with creative ideas for adopting and using "From Failure to Promise" in their curriculum.

Who can apply?

Educators (kindergarten through grade 12) and youth-group leaders are encouraged to apply.

**The Application Form for 2017 grants will be open on October 1, 2016.**

## Administrator's Resource Corner



### Be a School Leader: The 16 Best Resources for School Administrators

The role teachers play in the educational system is significant and vital, but if teachers are the heart of the operation, administrators are the bones. You support teachers, forge relationships with students and the public, and strive to create a school environment that is beneficial for everyone who walks through the doors. How can you take your role to the next level and become an even more effective administrator? The following resources may be just what you need.

You perform a delicate balancing act. You must stay within a budget, help teachers get the tools and support they need, and connect with parents when issues arise. How can you have strong relationships in every aspect of your professional life? Here are some places you can turn to for help:

<http://www.edudemic.com/school-leader-16-best-resources-school-administrators/>

# TECHNOLOGY HUMOR

