



TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

June 2016uary 2013



A Class Finale They Won't Forget! 18+ Ideas and Resources

“They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.” - Carl W. Buehner

Many teachers will soon say bye to their learners. In the few days you have left with your learners take the opportunity to leave them with fond memories and knowing you believe in them. This may be difficult, especially when your students are restless. However, you still have time to end the year meaningfully by getting students to reflect, express gratitudes, cultivate relationships with their peers, play, and explore the world. Below are tips, resources, and ideas to help you end the year making a lasting impression.

Ideas

Students can:

- reflect by creating digital scrapbooks. Try any of these web tools and apps Buncee, Canva, Tackk, Smore, Biteslides, and Glogster.

- reflect on goals and set some goals for the summer in a vision board or goal poster.
- create a digital magazine or newspaper of their favorite moments and memories. Try Issuu, Flipsnack, these Google newspaper templates, or these resources.
- make a teacher appreciation video, magazine, or slideshow.
- end the year with a short live presentation. Try having them share their passion in a TedTalk, Ignite, or Pecha Kucha format.
- watch and write their own commencement speeches.
- provide advice to future students. Check out this Voicethread of 3rd graders giving advice.
- play and move. Use GoNoodle.com for 5 minute brain breaks in class that get you and the students moving!
- learn outdoors. Check out my presentation with over 10 school ground activities.
- play games or create their own games. Check out my game based resources.
- learn from a guest expert physically or virtually! Skype has a list of guest experts you can find here.
- make a video together, such as lip dubs, a farewell video, or memories video. Find my video projects resources here.
- explore the world with virtual fieldtrips. Try these resources.
- Students can explore the world with Google Cardboard. Get resources, help and ideas in the Google Cardboard Teacher Community.
- connect with other classes virtually. Find classes to do Mystery Skypes here.
- Integrate humor in lessons. Find ideas in my post about integrating humor.
- Let students know you believe in them by writing them a farewell letter like this one or create a goodbye slideshow.

**Challenge: Try one of these resources to end the year meaningfully!
Please let your Technology Coordinator know which one you tried.**

End of the Year SlideShare of Ideas
<http://tinyurl.com/gnqkthx>

Inspire, Amaze, Learn, Change, Grow,



Need a little lift to get you through the day, the week, and propel you through to the end of the school year?

[A Pep Talk from Kid President to You](#)



Flag Day

People across the United States celebrate Flag Day on June 14 each year to honor the United States flag and to commemorate the flag's adoption. On the same day, the United States Army celebrates its birthday. Flag Day falls within National Flag Week, a time when Americans reflect on the foundations of the nation's freedom. The flag of the United States represents freedom and has been a symbol of the country's ideals since its early days. During both events, Americans also remember their loyalty to the nation, reaffirm their belief in liberty and justice, and observe the nation's unity.

Education World

http://www.educationworld.com/holidays/archives/flag_day.shtml

Lesson Plans Page

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

Enchanted Learning

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/flagday/>

Apples4theTeacher

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/flag-day/short-stories/>

A to Z Teacher Stuff

http://www.atozteacherstuff.com/Themes/Flag_Day/



American Eagle Day

American Eagle Day celebrates one of the most recognizable American national symbols - the once-endangered bald eagle. On June 20, 1782, the bald eagle was selected as the emblem of the United States because of its long life, strength and majestic looks.

Celebrated annually on June 20, the observance commemorates the day in 1782, when the bird was added to the official Seal of the United States. On the front side of the Great Seal of the United States, a bald eagle is depicted holding an olive branch in its right talon and 13 arrows in its left. The olive branch and arrows symbolize the United States' commitment to peace and its readiness for war, while the number of arrows - 13 - refers to the original 13 states. This side of the seal is considered the coat of arms of the US and is used on most official US government documents.

Education World

http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/dailyp/dailyp/dailyp160.shtml

Expedition: Education

<http://www.safarisamblog.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/Whats-Your-Wingspan-Activity.pdf>

Eagles: Habitat

http://www.berry.edu/uploadedFiles/Website/Business_Finance/Sustainability/Eagles/_Assets/Documents/Three-Science-Eagle-Lesson-Plans.pdf



Interactive Websites for the Classroom

Quest Garden: This site is a search engine to thousands of webquests. You can search by topic, grade or subject. Webquests can be used on the Smartboard for collaborative problem-solving or can be used in pairs or individually. If the webquest isn't exactly what you need, just use parts of it to create your own.

Creately: Choose from thousands of templates, or create your own graphics on this diagram site. Creately can be used collaboratively in real time, or it can be used

offline, too. It's perfect for building mind maps, flow charts, timelines or any organizational style students want to develop.

PB Works: one in particular is easy to use, and makes for the perfect student writing portfolio. Each student can keep a file with his or her pages, and peers can provide comments. Emails are sent to the teacher showing new additions in green and deletions in red. The wiki can be set up with photographs and instructions so it's almost like a web page for the classroom. Parents can access it with a password, too. It is a true celebration of hard work and documentation of progress!



The Technology Balancing Act: Using Technology to Bring Intentionality and Purpose into the Early Childhood Classroom

Wednesday, June 15, 2016 @ 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm EDT

This webinar will address four hurdles that make appropriate use of technology in the early childhood classroom difficult for many to embrace. We will discuss these obstacles and issues and then look toward solutions or compromise, to create meaningful learning experiences for today's young children.



ASCD Common Core Webinars

ASCD is working on new webinars on Common Core for this fall, but educators can take a look at their archived resources from earlier this year.

<http://www.ascd.org/professional-development/webinars/common-core-webinars.aspx>



Clip Converter is a free online media recorder application, which allows you to record and convert nearly any audio or video URL (YouTube, MySpace, Vimeo...) to common formats and after finishing the conversion you are able to download the file. This free and fast converter allows you to watch your favorite YouTube videos offline on your PC, TV or nearly any other device. Keep students on task and focused on the video that you provide for them.

A screenshot of the Clip Converter web interface. It shows a "Video URL to Download:" field with a "Continue" button to its right. Below this is a "Conversion Format:" section with a "Download" button and several format options: MP3, M4A, AAC, MP4, 3GP, AVI, and MOV. The MP4, 3GP, AVI, and MOV options are highlighted with a dark background.

How to convert and download a YouTube video:

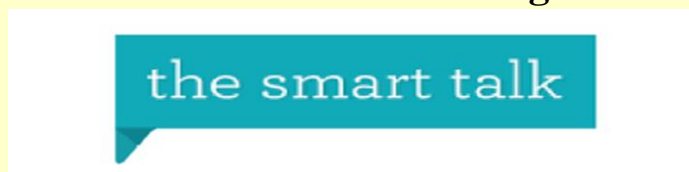
1. Paste your YouTube URL at 'Video URL' and press Continue.
2. Select the format (MP3, MP4, M4A) and the options for the conversion. The default options are for most videos a good setting.
3. Press the 'Start' button at the bottom to start the conversion.
4. This may take several minutes. After the conversion is finished you can download the converted file.



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



Free Online Tool Empowers Families To Set Technology Ground Rules As More Kids Go Digital



LifeLock, Inc., and National PTA® announced a new, free resource for families that helps parents have clear conversations with their children about using technology and agree on ground rules together. Called The Smart Talk, (<https://thesmarttalk.org>) the digital tool is designed to empower families to make smarter, safer choices online and help build the next generation of digital citizens.

The Smart Talk provides an interactive experience that guides kids and parents through a series of questions and conversations about topics such as safety and privacy, screen time, social media, apps and downloads, texting and calling, reputation and respect, and online videos and cameras. After agreeing on healthy limits together, a personalized, official family agreement can be stored on the computer or printed and posted at home.

Source: <http://www.pta.org/about/newsdetail.cfm?ItemNumber=4540>



<http://www.oxfordlearning.com/summer-learning-loss-statistics/>

Between the end of one school year and the start of the next every student risks summer learning loss. With the final bell right around the corner, this is a weighty topic on every parent and educator's mind.

Whether your child loves to read, play outside, or get techy, there are many fun but effective ways to promote learning over the break. Since the summer will be here before you know it, it's a great idea to start planning now what activities you'll use to avoid summer learning loss. Our quick tips can help!

We've taken a look at just how much knowledge students typically lose, and how you can prevent it with some quick tips for summer learning!



Visit the Oxford Learning site for statistics on summer learning lost and activities to prevent loss.

<http://www.oxfordlearning.com/summer-learning-loss-statistics/>

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=6&year=2016&cc=us>

Academic Website



<http://www.gamequarium.org/dir/Gamequarium/>

A fun learning site for teachers and students featuring thousands of free educational games and activities that are organized by subject, topic, theme, and grade.



STEM Fun for Kids Grades K-12

<http://www.exploratorium.edu/explore>

The website of the San Francisco-based Exploratorium is jam-packed with interactive activities, videos, apps, links and more.

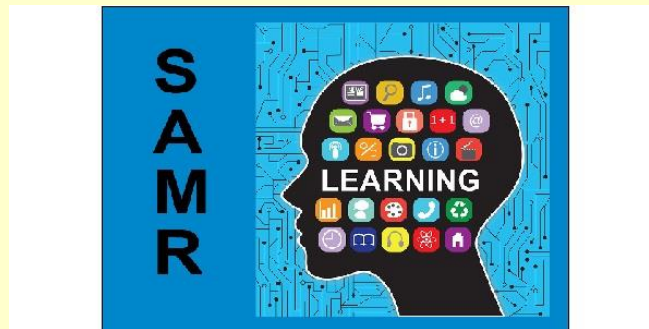


Coding for Kids: Free Websites That Teach Kids Programming

<http://goo.gl/TekGnM>

Every child should learn how to code. Use the summer months to learn code. Don't forget, by 2020 there will be one million jobs in computing that will go unfilled. Just think of the opportunities that will be available to your child if he/she knows how to code! Use any of these free websites below (prices are as of January 2016) from <http://goo.gl/TekGnM>.

Looking to teach your kids code on the go? Coding apps [Daisy the Dinosaur](#), [Hopscotch](#) and [Kodable](#) are all FREE for iPad.



Framework, Template and Infographic

<http://tinyurl.com/jypjm3a>

The template consists of 4 Focus Areas. Each stage of the SAMR model consists of 4 focus areas in the template that support vision, planning, and evaluation in activity and task design.



Does Chromebook Work Offline?

It sure does. You can login and move around without any issues. You can browse and use your locally stored files too. You can remain productive even without internet connection. You can view and edit documents, play songs and watch movies, or edit pictures!

In the perfect world that Chrome OS imagines, you should be saving your files on the cloud. However, it won't hurt storing some PDFs for reading, and some Music or Movies on the SSD card of your Chromebook. All (except an Acer model) Chromebooks use 16 GB SSDs for storage. You will get over 10GB for storing your files. You can use SD cards as well for additional storage.

And then there is a lot more that you can be prepared for. There are apps that work offline, and there is document editing, and there are even games that you can play on a Chromebook even when you are offline. If you are prepared enough, going offline on a Chromebook can be a much better experience.

Visit the site below and find out how to stay productive even when your Chromebook is off the internet!

- 1 Does Chromebook Work Offline?
- 2 What Can I Do On My Chromebook When It is Offline?
- 3 Install Offline Chromebook Apps
- 4 Enable Offline Support for Google Docs on Chromebook
- 5 How do I Edit Word Documents When My Chromebook is Offline?
- 6 Can I Play Games on my Chromebook When It is Offline?
- 7 What About Playing Music and Watching Movies
- 8 Can I Edit Photos on a Chromebook Without Internet Connection?
- 9 More Things To Do When You Are Offline?

Chromebook Story

<http://www.chromestory.com/chromebook/using-offline/>



Google for Teachers: 100+ Tricks

<http://www.teachhub.com/google-teachers-100-tricks>

It's Google's world, we're just teaching in it.

Now, we can use it a little more easily. With classes, homework, and projects-not to mention your social life-time is truly at a premium for all teachers, so why not take advantage of the wide world that Google for teachers has to offer?

From super-effective search tricks to Google for teacher's tools to tricks and tips for using Gmail, Google Docs, and Google Calendar, these Google for teachers tricks will surely save you some precious time when using technology in the classroom. Below is a listing of tips topics. Visit TeachHub for a list of tips for each topic.

Google for Teachers Search Tricks

These search tricks can save you time when researching online for your next project or just to find out what time it is across the world, so start using these right away.

Google for Teachers

From Google Scholar that returns only results from scholarly literature to learning more about computer science, these Google items will help you at school.

Using Google Docs in the Classroom

Google Docs is a great replacement for Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, so learn how to use this product even more efficiently.

Google Calendar

Save yourself some time by keeping track of appointments, assignments, and more with Google Calendar.

Google Chrome Tips and Extensions

If you are using the Google Chrome browser, then you will love these time-saving tips and extensions.

Google Books

Learn how Google Books can save you time and trips to the library with these tricks.

Handy Google Services and Apps

These other Google products will help you save time by offering you everything from alerts to online collaboration to help working with data sets.



ASCD Teacher Impact Grants

Empowering Teachers to Drive Change in Education

ASCD Teacher Impact Grants (TIGs) provide funding and support directly to teachers for promising teacher-led, administrator-supported ideas, programs, or initiatives to improve education. These grants allow teachers to develop and execute projects that can serve as models to be replicated and scaled.

The program provides the flexibility, funding, and evaluation support necessary to meet the unique needs of promising teacher-led projects. The grants cultivate the expertise of teachers and help to position them as leaders driving transformation in schools, districts, and states.

TIG applications are now open. Please click on the link below to submit an application. (Applicants will need to create an account or log in.) The application period will be open from May 16 to June 16, 2016. The application deadline is June 16, 2016 at 11:59 p.m. eastern time.

Administrator's Resource Corner



Join Leadership 3.0: Essential Skills for Innovative Leaders

<http://www.edweb.net/leadership>

Leadership 3.0 is a free professional learning community where school and district leaders collaborate on innovative strategies to help teachers grow professionally, advance student learning, and improve communications with all stakeholders. Leadership 3.0 is for any educator who takes a leadership role in improving K-12 teaching, learning, school culture, and performance.

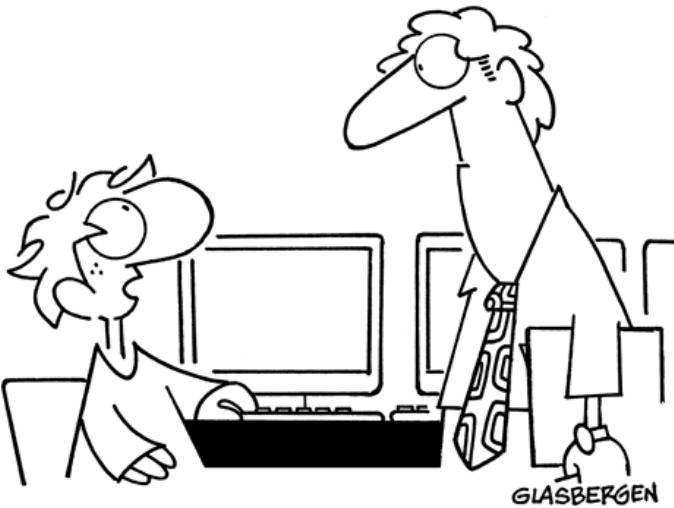
Leadership 3.0 is a place where you can post questions, start discussions, and get feedback from other principals on the issues and challenges you face in adopting these 21st century technology tools.

As a member of this community, you are invited to participate in a series of free webinars, live chats, and online discussions with peers to:

- Expand your personal network with your principal peers.
- Help teachers engage in free online professional development.
- Motivate students by integrating technology into learning.
- Connect with parents and the community.
- Get practical how-to advice on how to get started and which tools to use.
- Learn how to support the responsible use of social media in school.
- You'll have access to all of the recorded webinars, CE certificates (for viewing webinars), presentations, and resources, providing you with an online learning center you can return to at any time.

TECHNOLOGY HUMOR

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glasbergen.com



"I won't be impressed by technology in the classroom until you figure out how to install Google directly in my brain."

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Glasbergen.com



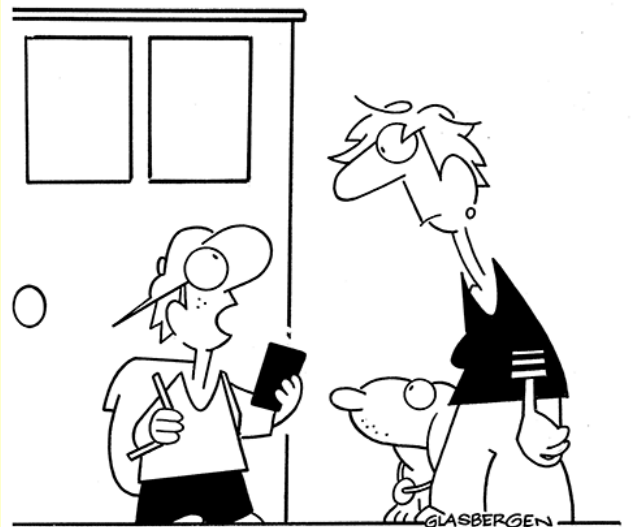
"This year's Pulitzer Prize went to the author of an emoticon sent from a smartwatch."

© Randy Glasbergen / glasbergen.com



"This year, I have six girls named Selfie, four boys named Twerk and twins named Hashtag and Siri."

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"Why am I going to school if my phone already knows everything?"