



TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

September 2017/2013



What to Do in Week One?

By Rick Wormeli

How to open the door to a successful teaching-learning dynamic?

<http://tinyurl.com/hwps24v>

Although we can build positive relationships throughout the school year, the first weeks are crucial. They set the tone and conditions for the year ahead, creating a more effective teaching and learning enterprise for everyone. James Comer, professor of child psychiatry at Yale University, often declares, "No significant learning can occur without a significant relationship." This connection is especially powerful for students who struggle.

Teachers need to ensure that they:

- Make Sure Students Feel Safe
- Know Your Students Well
- Practice Empathy
- We're In This Together

Selected Things to Know About Your Students

- Socioeconomic status
- Family dynamics
- Nationality
- Student's transience rate
- Parents' jobs
- Home responsibilities

After-school work schedule
Previous school experiences
Religious affiliation
English language learner status
Technology access and proficiency
Personal interests (sports, music, television, movies, books, hobbies, other)
Physical health/maturity
Behavior/discipline concerns
Social-emotional learning strengths and challenges
Existence of Individualized Education Plan
Challenges such as Tourette syndrome, Asperger syndrome, ADHD
Vision or hearing problems
Gifted/advanced learner
LGBT identity and transitions
Leadership qualities
Multiple intelligences
Myers-Briggs personality profile

Read entire article: <http://tinyurl.com/hwps24v>

A special thanks to Mrs. Onywaonwu for sharing this article.

BACK TO SCHOOL 2017: FREE RESOURCES



<https://sharemylesson.com/backtoschool>

Prepare for Back to School and Beyond

Explore Share My Lesson's very best resources to make your Back-to-School season a bit easier. We've got something for everyone, from classroom teachers to paraprofessionals and school support staff to community members and parents. These specific collections have free preK-12 back-to-school lesson plans, worksheets, new ideas, classroom activities, blog articles and professional development webinars.



We think you'll find these blogs perfect for Back to School. They include tips, strategies and inspiring stories to help you get your year off to the perfect start! For more blogs on other topics... <https://sharemylesson.com/blog>



Looking for great advice for Back to School and earn free PD credit at the same time? Share My Lesson "On-Demand" webinars will be the perfect fit to get you motivated for the new the new school year. <https://sharemylesson.com/collections/back-school-professional-development-webinars>



<http://tinyurl.com/y9lcb2bd>

Discovery Education has exciting new enhancements for back to school that facilitate collaboration, creativity, and student engagement, all while saving teachers time.

Experience the fresh, new look and feel.

The streamlined design minimizes distractions, bringing content to the center of your experience. Now accessible from any device.

Find what you need, focus on what's important.

The most highly used filters in Advanced Search have been relocated directly into the General Search for quick and easy access. Side navigation expands when you need it and contracts when you don't.

Assess progress with real-time student data.

The new Assessment Builder offers an extensive collection of Technology Enhanced Items (TEIs) and formative assessments.

Learn & Connect in the New DEN Online Community.

Rich conversations are happening in the DEN Online Community, easily accessible through the navigation bar.

Explore More Resources to Help You Grow.

The Professional Learning Center (PLC) provides easy access to thousands of instructional strategies, self-paced modules, and step-by-step guides.

2017 GLOBAL COLLABORATION DAY

September 21, 2017



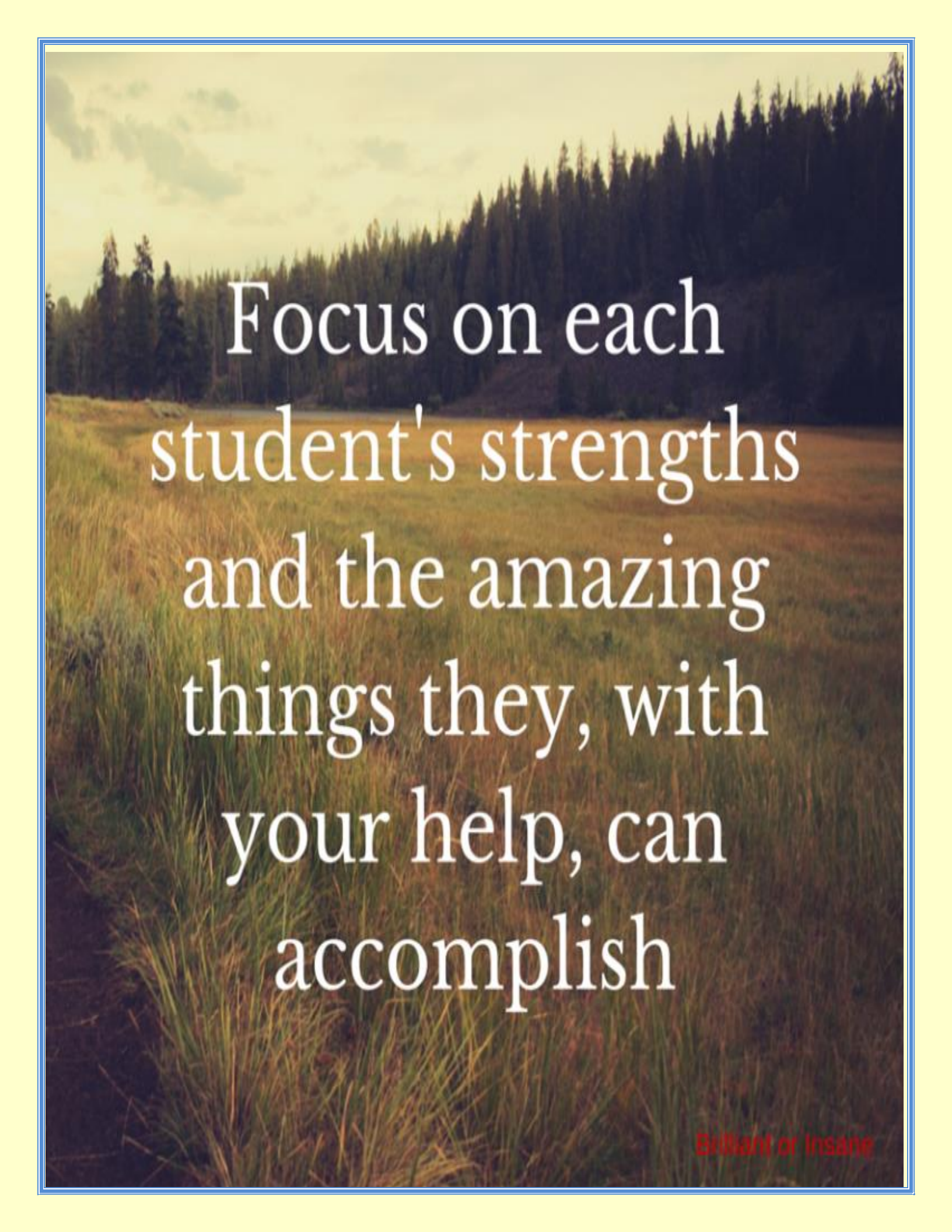
This is a series of online events taking place on or around September 21, 2017, depending on your time zone. Register here to receive the full schedule of Global Collaboration Day events. If you want to HOST an event for Global Collaboration Day, follow the directions on our website.

Students, teachers, and organizations will get online to celebrate global collaboration on September 21st, 2017, as back-to-school season begins in the northern hemisphere.

On this day (and beyond), experienced global educators and other professionals will host connective projects and events and invite public participation. The primary goals of this whole day event are to demonstrate the power of global connectivity in classrooms, schools, institutions of informal learning and universities around the world, and to introduce others to the tools, resources, projects, and networks that are available to educators today.

Registration Link

<http://tinyurl.com/y9w4er4>

A landscape photograph showing a field of tall grass in the foreground, leading to a dense forest of evergreen trees in the background. The sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. The overall tone is somewhat muted and naturalistic.

Focus on each
student's strengths
and the amazing
things they, with
your help, can
accomplish

During National Hispanic to October 15) we made and the important Latino Americans to the their heritage and Today, 55 million people population are of Hispanic represents a significant registered the Hispanic 13% of the total U.S.



Heritage Month (September 15 recognize the contributions presence of Hispanic and United States and celebrate culture. or 17% of the American po or Latino origin. This increase from 2000, which population at 35.3 million or population.

Hispanics have had a profound and positive influence on our country through their strong commitment to family, faith, hard work, and service. They have enhanced and shaped our national character with centuries-old traditions that reflect the multiethnic and multicultural customs of their community.

Hispanic Heritage Month, whose roots go back to 1968, begins each year on September 15, the anniversary of independence of five Latin American countries: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. Mexico, Chile and Belize also celebrate their independence days during this period.

Resources

Fact Monster

<https://www.factmonster.com/hispanic-heritage-month>

Historic Places

<https://www.nps.gov/hispanicheritage/teachers.html>

NEA Grades K-5

<http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/hispanic-heritage-month-k-5.html>

NEA Grades 9-12

<http://www.nea.org/tools/lessons/hispanic-heritage-month-9-12.html>

Scholastic

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/collections/teaching-content/bring-hispanic-heritage-month-life-collection-resources/>

24 Great Ideas

<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/24-great-ideas-hispanic-heritage-month/>

Lesson Plan Page

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

TeacherVision

<https://www.teachervision.com/hispanic-heritage-month>



<https://www.loc.gov/>
<http://www.loc.gov/teachers/>

Head Back to School with the Library of Congress

The Library of Congress offers great tools for teachers to use top-notch primary resources in the classroom. You'll find teacher information that's packed with activities, lesson ideas, source material and more to get your new school year lesson planning started right.

The Library of Congress offers classroom materials and professional development to help teachers effectively use primary sources from the Library's vast digital collections in their teaching. Created by teachers for teachers, these ready-to-use materials provide easy ways to incorporate the Library's unparalleled primary sources into instruction.

Find Library of Congress lesson plans and more that meet Common Core standards, state content standards, and the standards of national organizations. Discover quick and easy ways to begin using primary sources in your classroom, with teachers' guides, information on citing sources and copyright, and the Library's primary source analysis tool.

The Library's online collections of primary sources offer students countless opportunities for exploration and can help them build their critical thinking skills and support them as they create new knowledge. The Library's program for K-12 educators offers teaching tools and professional development that support this work, all available for free at our portal for educators.

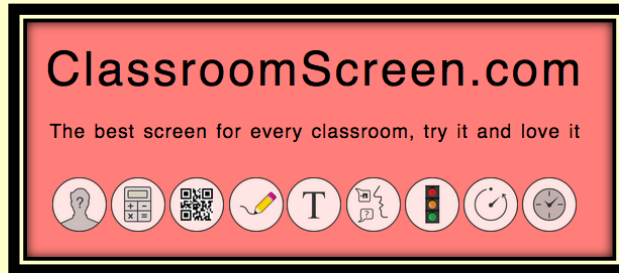
You can also find resources for teachers on the Library's YouTube channel, and via our Twitter account for teachers, @TeachingLC.

The Ultimate Cheatsheet for Critical Thinking

Want to exercise critical thinking skills? Ask these questions whenever you discover or discuss new information. These are broad and versatile questions that have limitless applications!



Who	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... benefits from this? ... is this harmful to? ... makes decisions about this? ... is most directly affected? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... have you also heard discuss this? ... would be the best person to consult? ... will be the key people in this? ... deserves recognition for this?
What	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... are the strengths/weaknesses? ... is another perspective? ... is another alternative? ... would be a counter-argument? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... is the best/worst case scenario? ... is most/least important? ... can we do to make a positive change? ... is getting in the way of our action?
Where	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... would we see this in the real world? ... are there similar concepts/situations? ... is there the most need for this? ... in the world would this be a problem? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... can we get more information? ... do we go for help with this? ... will this idea take us? ... are the areas for improvement?
When	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... is this acceptable/unacceptable? ... would this benefit our society? ... would this cause a problem? ... is the best time to take action? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... will we know we've succeeded? ... has this played a part in our history? ... can we expect this to change? ... should we ask for help with this?
Why	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... is this a problem/challenge? ... is it relevant to me/others? ... is this the best/worst scenario? ... are people influenced by this? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... should people know about this? ... has it been this way for so long? ... have we allowed this to happen? ... is there a need for this today?
How	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... is this similar to _____? ... does this disrupt things? ... do we know the truth about this? ... will we approach this safely? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... does this benefit us/others? ... does this harm us/others? ... do we see this in the future? ... can we change this for our good?



www.ClassroomScreen.com

Classroomscreen.com: A Web Tool Teachers and Students will LOVE. Easy way to turn your browser into an interactive board. Digital spotlight, timer, calendar, random name picker, drawing tools, work symbols, text area, QR generator and more are all tools included in this free web tool.

Classroomscreen.com is a FREE web tool that launched this past March. Laurens Koppers, a teacher from the Netherlands, created this tool to utilize the digiboard in their classroom to help students focus on their work.

How classroomscreen.com works:

Launch your web browser and visit classroomscreen.com. Project it on a screen in your classroom. Your browser turns into an interactive board and has the capability to display various tools that you and your students will LOVE.



<http://tinyurl.com/ycuydxpu>

KQED Education is a hub for learning and engagement for educators and students. With a focus on amplifying youth voice, making media, civic participation, and richer learning, we provide free standards-aligned content and resources educators can trust.

Professional Learning

KQED has courses and standards-aligned curriculum resources to build teachers' media literacy and boost student engagement.

Lessons: Teach with Media

Projects, activities, and focused cross-curricular content to encourage student participation through media-making and collaboration.

Videos & More

Best-in-class, trusted content, interactives, and project ideas that encourage students to ask questions, investigate, make, share, and reflect.

Engineering for Good

This three-week, NGSS-aligned, project-based learning unit gives middle school students hands-on experience with the engineering design process.

Lowdown

Visit weekly to find new activities that encourage students to engage with and respond to current events.

KQED Teach

Created to advance and inspire teacher innovation, KQED Teach offers a collection of hands-on professional learning opportunities all focused on the new Media Literacy.



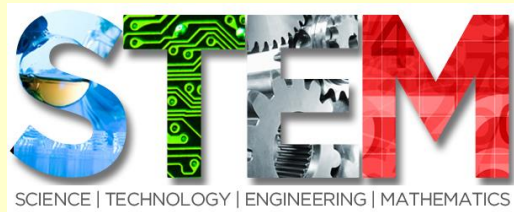
A Parents Checklist

What Parents Can Ask and Do to Help Children Thrive at School

<https://www2.ed.gov/documents/family-community/parent-checklist.pdf>

As a parent or caregiver, you have a key role in your child's education—you can help bridge your child's transition from home to school, and give him or her the best chance at success in learning and in life. While your child's education begins at home, this tool provides you with a set of questions to ask, and important issues to consider when approaching your child's teachers, principals and counselors about his or her

development. As a parent or caregiver, it can be hard to know how to support your child's learning, but asking your child's educators the right questions is a good place to start.



STEM LEARNING BEGINS AT HOME

Nurturing STEM skills before students step into the classroom.

Today, we expect students to be inspired by the ideas of STEM, many times without providing any context or connection to their lives. Teachers often struggle to show their students the importance of developing STEM skills for their future careers, as students struggle to see the connections to their own current and future realities. STEM skills need to be nurtured and cultivated, starting before students set foot in a classroom. Problem solving, critical thinking, communication and collaboration, creativity, curiosity, and adaptability all should be developed early in a student's life. What it all comes down to is that STEM starts at home. Read more...

http://www.discoveryeducation.com/feeds/www/media/images/DE_STEM_home.pdf



<https://www.alice.org/>

Alice is used by teachers at all levels from middle schools (and sometime even younger) to universities, in school classrooms and in after school and out of school programming, and in subjects ranging from visual arts and language arts to the fundamentals of programming and introduction to java courses.

Alice is a free gift to you from Carnegie Mellon University. The Alice Project is dedicated to making Alice a widely accessible tool around the world for growing the diversity and access to early computer science education. Thanks to our donors we continue to be able to fulfill this mission with both our software and supporting materials.



3 Chrome Extensions that Make Google Classroom Even More Awesome!



<http://www.shakeuplearning.com/blog/3-chrome-extensions-make-google-classroom-even-awesome/>

Use These Chrome Extensions to Enhance Your Google Classroom Experience!

As a lot of us are gearing up for the start of school and beginning to set up our classes in Google Classroom, I thought it was a great time to share three Google Chrome extensions that can make your experience better for you and your students.

Google Classroom + Chrome = Match Made in Heaven!

Consider Google Chrome the learning environment for all things Google. Not only is it a safe and secure browser, but it will enhance your experience with Google Classroom. Below are three Chrome Extensions that can make Google Classroom even better for teachers and students.

1. Share to Classroom

The Share to Classroom Chrome Extension, made by Google, is designed to save time in the classroom. “The extension allows you to push web pages to any of your Classroom classes, so they open instantly on your students’ computers. With this extension, you can get your students on the right page, quickly and reliably every time. You can also post announcements, create assignments, or save web pages to post to Classroom later.” [Read more...](#)

2. G Suite Training

The G Suite Training extension is FREE training ON DEMAND for teachers and students, and this includes just in time training on Google Classroom. For the teacher, this means you can get help and get your questions answered on the fly as you work inside Google Classroom (see screenshot below). These are not just tutorial videos; this is interactive training that will walk you step-by-step through each task or process.

[Read more....](#)

3. Alice Keeler’s Classroom Split

This extension is designed with the student in mind. It allows students to evenly split their Chrome windows so they can view the directions for the assignment side-by-side with their work.

Students can right click on the Chrome extension and choose “Options” to change the default destination from the Google Classroom assignments page to another URL.

[Read more....](#)



**The First Day of Google Classroom: FREE Resources from Google
Set up your school year for success!**

<http://www.shakeuplearning.com/blog/first-day-of-google-classroom-tips-tricks-resources-firstdayofclassroom/>

Wow! Google Classroom just keeps getting better and better! Over the last few weeks, Google has released some amazing updates and resources to help teachers and students improve their Google Classroom skills and use.

One of the newest resources is called First Day of Classroom, and it can be found in the Google for Education Training Center. These are FREE resources from Google. Check out the tutorials, downloadable guides, tips, tricks, and more!



18 Updates to Google Tools That You Might Have Missed This Summer

<http://tinyurl.com/ycyedmb6>

During the summer Google added bunch of new features to Google Classroom, Google Forms, and other tools that teachers and students use throughout the year.



I Love My Librarian

Librarians touch the lives of the people they serve every day. The I Love My Librarian Award encourages library users to recognize the accomplishments of exceptional public, school, college, community college, or university librarians. We want to hear how you think your librarian is improving the lives of the people in your school, campus or community.

<http://www.ilovelibraries.org/lovelibrarian>

NEED SOME FUNDING?

Have a brilliant idea that needs funding? We award \$1,000 grants every month. It couldn't be simpler! Your idea is yours alone. We don't want a stake in it. We just want to help you make it happen!

<http://www.awesomefoundation.org/en>

First Energy STEM Classroom Grants

FirstEnergy proudly supports classroom projects and teacher professional-development initiatives focusing on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education grants of up to \$1,000 to educators at schools.

https://www.firstenergycorp.com/community/education/educational_grants.html#gs.c.tab=0

Administrator's Resource Corner



It's Back-to-School Time for Administrators, Too

Education World has gathered great resources from our archive that offer advice, tips, and resources all principals should have at their fingertips. Included: Fund-raising ideas, recess success resources, parent involvement strategies, and much more.

We have divided the resources into five categories:

- Preparing for the first day
 - Motivating teachers
- Planning for professional development
 - Involving parents
- Achieving technology success

Browse through the headlines in each section, and find great resources that will reduce stress and improve school quality.

http://www.educationworld.com/a_admin/admin/admin231.shtml



The Importance of Teaching Students About Cyber Security Teachers Have a Great Opportunity to Help Students Learn About the Dangers of Cyber Crime

The Internet is a huge part of everyone's lives today, including children's. And if mature, intelligent, sometimes even tech savvy adults can fall for scams online, we can be most certain that a child full of curiosity, but limited in maturity and awareness, can fall victim to the dangers of the internet. It's important for parents to be open with their kids about online safety, but it's also helpful if teachers get involved in the conversation.

Kids take technology classes, surf the web for school projects, and obviously use the Internet in their free time for all kinds of things, so it's a good idea for teachers to include some cyber security talk in their lessons.

The reality is that cybercrime has become more of a threat than traditional types of crime. Crimes like burglary, larceny theft, and even violent crime have significantly declined in the last ten years because criminals have found a new way to break into our homes through our screens, giving them access to much more than what's physically in our houses or our pockets.

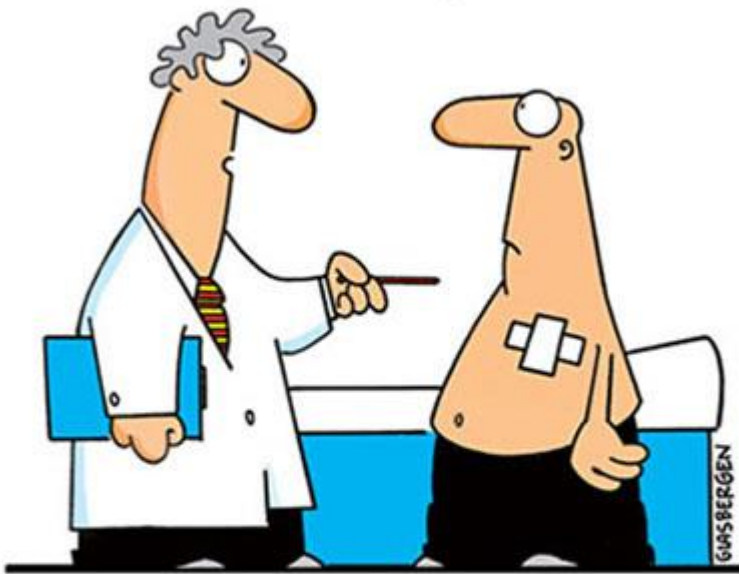
On top of theft, we also have predators to worry about. Read more.....

<http://www.emergingedtech.com/2017/05/teaching-students-about-cyber-security>

TECHNOLOGY HUMOR



"Have you tried opening the back and emptying the pencil shavings?"



"It's a pacemaker for your heart. Plus, you can download apps for your liver, kidneys, lungs, and pancreas!"



"Guess which one I made with a 3-D printer."