



TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

December 2017/2018

DIGITAL SUMMIT



<http://ditchthattextbook.com/2017/11/21/a-free-online-conference-for-teachers-ditchsummit>

For many of us, December is a time when life slows down a bit. We're between semesters. The holidays give us time to recharge and reflect. We teachers are a unique bunch. For many of us, we see it as a time to do the things we haven't had time to do during the rush of school. Like getting new ideas and inspiration for the new year! If that sounds about right, the Ditch That Textbook Digital Summit is for you.

The videos disappear at the end of the summit, but you can download and keep a free PDF notes page from each session. They're summaries of each session so you can remember the key points from each presentation you watch ... and even the ones you might not have time to watch!

For each video you watch, you can earn an hour of professional development credit.

Each video will be accompanied by a button to generate a PD certificate. Click the button, fill in some details, and the certificate will be automatically created and sent to your email.

Date	Topic	Presenter
Dec 15 (Fri)	Combining Tech and Solid Teaching Effectively	Tanya Avrith and Holly Clark
Dec 16 (Sat)	The Science of Happiness	Kim Strobel
Dec 17 (Sun)	Brain-Friendly Learning that Works	Dr. Pooja Agarwal
Dec 18 (Mon)	How in the Google Did You Do That?	Eric Curts
Dec 19 (Tue)	How to Learn from a World of Educators	Sarah Thomas
Dec 20 (Wed)	Plan Smarter, Not Harder with Edu-Protocols	Jon Corippo
Dec 21 (Thur)	How to Make Learning a Game	Michael Matera
Dec 22 (Fri)	Chromebook Crash Course: What You NEED	Matt Miller
Dec 23 (Sat)	What Schools Can Learn from Start-Up Culture	Don Wetrick

Gain ideas and inspiration for the new year with the Ditch That Textbook Digital Summit in December. Sign up now for your FREE ticket at www.DitchSummit.com !!

I'VE YET
TO HAVE A
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TEACHING TIPS

Voice Recording Tools



Our voice is one of the most powerful tools we possess, but many times we default to writing instead of talking. There are definitely times when writing is the way to go, but there are other situations when spoken words can have a dramatic impact.

Here are some tools that work well to capture voice. Some of these tools work directly inside of Google Docs while others capture voice and can then be downloaded and shared.

[Talk and Comment](#) is a Chrome extension that allows users to provide voice comments. This is a great way to provide feedback students.

[Vocaroo](#) is a website that allows you to make a voice recording without creating an account. Simply make your recording then when you are satisfied with your recording you can save it. You must download the file if you wish for the recording to be available for longer than just a couple of months.

Twisted Wave Audio editor that allows users to capture their voice or upload files from their computer or Google Drive and edit them.

[VoiceRecorder](#) is a simple tool that allows users to create and trim audio files then save them to their computers.

[Google Voice](#) allows users to set up phone number. When people call this number they can leave a voice message which is also transcribed. This is a great option for teachers who need students to create a short recording because all of the recordings are captured in one location making it easier for teachers to access.

Here are some additional resources for making audio recordings on Chromebooks and recording tools that work in your web browser.

Applications for Education

Imagine how powerful it would be to capture the voice of a student who is just beginning to read then record them again reading the same material and hear how much they have grown as readers. Or what if you captured students reading a passage in the first year of a world language class then recorded their progress throughout all four years? It is incredible to document things like this using voice recordings. Recordings are also a powerful way for students to explain a process or reflect on their learning.

FREE WEBINAR



[HTTPS://PEERGRADE.IO/](https://peergrade.io/)

Peer review is an integral part of many courses, and students learn a lot from evaluating the work of their peers. It's not easy to teach students how to give each other effective feedback. It's also difficult to hide student identities, making truly unbiased feedback hard to accomplish. And if you have a large number of students, keeping track of who has given feedback to whom can be frustrating and time-consuming.

Peergrade takes care of a few of these issues. It's a platform where students can evaluate each other's work anonymously. After the teacher creates an assignment and a rubric, students submit their work. Next, Peergrade randomly distributes the assignments to different classmates for evaluation. Students give feedback to their classmates using the rubric set up by the teacher; they can add written comments as well

as selecting options from the rubric. Finally, students can view the feedback given to them; they can rate the comments as helpful or not, and even flag problematic comments. Check out their video to learn more.



[Code Monster](#)

Particularly good for kids, Code Monster features two adjacent boxes. One displays code, the other shows what the code does. As you play with the code (with some help from a prompt), you learn what each command does.

[Hackety Hack!](#)

After a quick download to your computer, kids can learn Ruby, an open-source programming language that's easy and intuitive.

[Khan Academy](#)

Known for its extensive and challenging math games, Khan Academy also has basic programming tutorials that teach kids how to build graphics, animations, interactive visualizations and more.



<https://notmykid.org/internet-safety/>

UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGE

Youth online.

Youth are tech savvy and get most of their information and socialization through the Internet and digital devices. For them, there is no distinction between the real world and the online world – they are one in the same.

As a parent, the best way to help ensure your kid's safety online is to become tech savvy yourself. Think of technology as a language. Your kid has most likely spoken this language since birth and is fluent in it. You need to know the language if you want to communicate with them.



[KINETICCITY](#)

The American Association for the Advancement of Science has created Kinetic City, A website where students in grades 3-5 can experiment, play, and challenge themselves in a variety of free standards-based science activities. In addition, the website offers parents and teachers the opportunity to start a science club or to manage a club online.



[Collection of Google Drive Templates](#)

Google Drawings and Google Slides are two of the most underutilized of all of the tools in GSuite for Education. They can be quite powerful once you grasp how to use them. I'm not sure anyone has mastered Google Drawings quite like Darren Maltais, a Technology Integration Facilitator from Canada.

Darren has created an extensive collection of activities that take full advantage of the power of Google Drawings and Google Slides. Activities are organized by grade level. There are activities for Language Arts, math, social studies, and science. Even if you don't find exactly what you are looking for, this collection will certainly help you get some ideas for how Drawings and Slides can be used to their fullest potential.



Get [KnowBullying](#), the free app from SAMHSA that can prevent bullying. Learn how [KnowBullying](#) can encourage conversations and prevent bullying.

Research shows that parents and caregivers who spend at least 15 minutes a day talking with their child can build the foundation for a strong relationship and help prevent bullying.

The time you spend will help boost your children’s confidence and build effective strategies for facing bullying—whether children are being bullied, engaging in bullying, or witnessing bullying.

Take a few minutes and “check in,” by asking about school, their friends, and any challenges they face. KnowBullying has simple conversation starters to begin a discussion with your child.

App Features

Conversation Starters: Start easy, meaningful conversations with your children.

Tips: Learn strategies to prevent bullying for ages 3—6, 7—13, and teens.

Warning Signs: Recognize if your child is engaging in bullying, being bullied, or witnessing bullying.

Reminders: Talk with your child when the time feels right: a quiet moment on the way to school or a game, during dinner, or relaxing outside.

Social Media: Share successful strategies and useful advice via Facebook, Twitter, email, and text messages.

Section for Educators: Prevent bullying in the classroom and support children who are being bullied.





The Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards promote the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, tablet, graphing calculator, or other handheld in the science classroom. We encourage you to apply for one of seven \$5,500 awards.

The Vernier Technology Awards will recognize and reward the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or other handheld in the science classroom. A total of seven awards will be presented:

- One award at the Elementary Level (Grades K-5)
- Two awards at the Middle School Level (Grades 6-8)
- Three awards at the High School Level (Grades 9-12)
 - One award at the College Level
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<http://giving.walmart.com/walmart-foundation/community-grant-program>

Through the Community Grant Program, our associates are proud to support the needs of their communities by providing grants to local organizations.

Before applying, please note:

The 2017 grant cycle begins Feb. 1, 2017 and the application deadline to apply is Dec. 31, 2017. Application may be submitted at any time during this funding cycle. Please note that applications will only remain pending in our system for 90 days. Awarded grants range from \$250 to \$2,500.

Administrator's Resource Center



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CARR

Mr Johnston didn't realise that the teachers were actually using the technology in their classrooms till they started sending children to his office as email attachments.

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GLASBERGEN

"My presentation lacks power and it has no point. I assumed the software would take care of that!"

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GLASBERGEN

"It's okay to bring my cell phone to the movie. My ringtone sounds like people crunching popcorn!"

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"What a school day! The computers broke down and we had to LISTEN!"