



Julia's Picks for Educators: 3

November 13, 2008

Here is my current installment of selections from online material with potential for educators. It has a subject list and if things look interesting to you, you can read on, clicking on hyperlinks to read or visit the actual items. My intention is to periodically review content—as my hours permit—and send an update. (Note: I'm not promising a regular publishing schedule, here. ☺) Feel free to share this in part or in whole with any of your students or colleagues.

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Today's Subjects

Professional Development

Teen Aggression

Social Studies & 21st Century Skills

Digital Divide: Students & Teachers/Administrators

Technology: Open Source (Free) Software

Technology & Meeting Diverse Learner Needs

Online Teaching

Technology Tools

Professional Development

Pedagogy Portal

Supports incorporation of different instructional strategies & issues

<http://pedagogy.merlot.org>

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Online Courses

Online & hybrid courses available for re-use, links to resources for online & hybrid design & delivery

<http://onlinecourses.merlot.org>

Voices

Collaborative social site for educators interested in online learning & teaching

<http://voices.merlot.org/>

Buried in email? Try these six tips to dig out

Article on how to cut down on the time you spend dealing with your inbox: 1) do important tasks first before checking email; 2) check email in batches—1-5 times a day depending on your email needs; 3) propose rather than ask—e.g. times for meetings, etc.... <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/news-by-subject/school-administration/index.cfm?i=55435&page=2>

Teen Aggression

Study Links Violent Video Games, Hostility

Compared the affects of watching violent video games in Japanese & American teens—found correlation; might be interesting to survey behavior referrals at school for their # hours watching violent video games.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/11/02/AR2008110202392.html>

Social Studies & 21st Century Skills

New resource helps teach 21st-century skills: Free online guide maps digital-age skills to social studies projects & tasks

Example of US socials activities as mapped against the "21st Century" skills for today's

world. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/resources/measuring-21st-century-skills/measuring-21st-century-skills-articles/index.cfm?rc=1&i=54606>

Digital Divide: Students & Teachers/Administrators

"Digital disconnect" divides kids, educators: Most principals think their schools prepare students for 21st-century careers—but students disagree.

Results of the Project Tomorrow survey of 370,000 students, teachers, parents & administrators in the US (320K

students). <http://www.eschoolnews.com/resources/measuring-21st-century-skills/measuring-21st-century-skills-articles/index.cfm?rc=1&i=54606>

Technology: Open Source (Free) Software

K-12 Open Technologies: A CoSN Leadership Initiative

Resource site for educationally useful & relevant open source software . <http://k12opentech.org/resource-links>

Technology & Meeting Diverse Learner Needs

Using flexible technology to meet the needs of diverse learners: what teachers can do

Knowledge brief from WestEd on how to use technology to provide differentiated

instruction. http://www.wested.org/online_pubs/kn-05-01.pdf

Online Teaching

These traits make online teachers successful

Communication, clarity, creativity & compassion cited as key . <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/?i=55930>

In Florida, virtual school could make classroom history

New Florida law requires every district in the stat to set up an online school for K-

8 <http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/state/orl-virtual1008nov10,0,978666.story>

Technology Tools

CramMaster

online teachers & peers for student support in physics, calculus, and chemistry. Mostly free with study materials, textbook solutions, practice exams, interactive Q&A board monitored by Cramster's "Subject Matter Experts." Students can post questions, and registered teachers post guidance in response. <http://www.cramster.com/>

Classroom 2.0

An educational Facebook-type social networking software for educators & administrators looking to integrate technology. <http://www.classroom20.com/>

TriCaster Duo (video production for elementary & middle schools)

Portable production package for producing live/internet video casts at about \$3000 <http://www.eschoolnews.com/tech-solutions/all-press-releases/index.cfm?i=55936>

Screencast-o-Matic

Free video capture with audio of what you do on your computer screen. Helpful when you want students to follow a series of steps or follow what you did online: <http://www.screencast-o-matic.com/steactivities, etc. on the computer.> <http://www.screencast-o-matic.com>

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