



Julia's Picks for Educators: 4

November 26, 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

Teacher Health

Successful Teaching

Leadership & Coaching

Science Teaching Awards Opportunities

Finding Employment

Olympics-themed Teaching Aids

Climate Change Teaching Aids

Mathematics

Secondary Teaching

21st Century Skills

Assistive Technology

Computer Safety & Cyber Bullying

Teaching Distributed Learning

Physical Education

Technology Tools

Teacher Health

Speechless teachers

Voice strain and teachers. http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/11/16/voicestrain_ap.html?tmp=1557091102

Successful Teaching

Lessons learned on the couch

Successful teaching involves more than content knowledge—includes knowledge of content-specific instructional techniques and knowledge of the children being taught. http://www.teachermagazine.org/tm/articles/2008/11/19/08tln_ferriter.h20.html?tmp=136404390

Leadership & Coaching

What's your coaching style

While not created for education, an interesting download with a quick assessment of your “coaching” style based on your typical response to people with whom you work. Use the download link (Document's title) and IGNORE the “Make an Enquiry” form.

<http://www.m-t-d.co.uk/coachstyle.htm>

Science Teaching Awards Opportunities

Amgen Science Teaching Excellence Award

Annual program that recognizes K-12 science teachers who have “demonstrated outstanding ability to inspire students.” 3 awards to be given –1 in BC, 1 in AB, 1 in ON & QC. Find applications at: <http://www.amgen.com/citizenship/aaste.html>

Finding Employment

Plan to teach a demonstration lesson

Advice on how to teach a winning demonstration lesson during an interview. <http://blogs.edweek.org/topschooljobs/careers/>

Olympics-themed Teaching Aids

Lesson Starters

Webpage from BC Ministry of Education with 1-2pg. lesson idea (French & English). New activities to be added <http://www.sharingthedream.gov.bc.ca/search.php>

Climate Change Teaching Aids

Climate change education

Resources from BC Ministry of Education in partnership with WildBC. Currently for grades 4, 7 & 10 with grade 11 materials coming soon. <http://www.wildbc.org/programs-workshops/climate-change-program.php>

Mathematics

Math jellies

Free access to online math learning objects via an agreement with LearnNowBC—you need to sign-up for an account with LearnNowBC then go into Online Tools & Resources. To get the LearnNow account you need an active educational email address. All VIU instructors have an active VIU email and students can generate a virtual VIU email address (see how here:) There’s a new jelly each month. Example jelly on Online Graphing Calculators <http://www.pilotmath.com/jellyofthefmonth/graphing/>

Mathematics as a teachable moment

BC Ministry of Education archived online session with Trevor Calkins on intermediate teaching & learning in mathematics. <http://insinc.com/ministryofeducation/20060112/>

Assessing & supporting early numeracy

BC Ministry of Education archived online session with Heather Kelleher (Jan 2005). <http://www.insinc.com/ministryofeducation/20050113/>

Secondary Teaching

Assessment, instruction & learning in secondary schools (Part I)

BC Ministry of Education archived online session with George Clulow. <http://www.insinc.com/ministryofeducation/20050407/>

Assessment, instruction & learning in secondary schools (Part II)

BC Ministry of Education archived online session with George Clulow. <http://www.insinc.com/ministryofeducation/20050519/>

21st Century Skills

Seven skills students desperately need

Article with Tony Wagner of Harvard who says today’s employers “need people who can ask good questions, and ...need people who can engage others in thoughtful conversations.”. The 7 Skills? 1. Problem-solving and critical thinking; 2. Collaboration across networks and leading by influence; 3. Agility and adaptability; 4. Initiative and entrepreneurship; 5. Effective written and oral communication; 6. Accessing and analyzing information; and 7. Curiosity and imagination. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=56127&page=1>

Assistive Technology

Technology helps shatter limits of disability: NCTI conference

Article on the NCTI conference urging developers and educators to find tools that ease disabilities and increase chances for success <http://www.eschoolnews.com/news/top-news/index.cfm?i=56181>

Computer Safety & Cyber Bullying

Lori Drew indicted in MySpace suicide case--updated

Missouri mother accused of cyber bullying a 13 year old girl via MySpace which lead to the teen's suicide.

<http://blog.wired.com/27bstroke6/2008/05/lori-drew-indic.html>

CyberSafe with Steve Dotto

Short videos available through LearnNowBC (you'll need an account).

<http://www.learnnowbc.ca/lNBCresources/cybersafe/default.aspx>

Teaching Distributed Learning

Learn to teach online

Site from LearnNowBC with professional development support around teaching distributed learning (online education). You will need a LearnNowBC account <http://www.learnnowbc.ca/educators/learntoteachonline/>

Physical Education

Concerns about clustering

Article from Inside Higher Ed re. a report showing that competitive athletes in universities are clustering in majors and that the pressure to perform academically and athletically might be limiting choices. <http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2008/11/20/cluster>

Technology Tools

Cozi

Online family calendar that can be co-opted for classroom use; syncs with Outlook; can suggest to parents to support overall family organization. <http://www.cozi.com/>

EdModo

Private microblogging platform for teachers & students to send notes, links, files, alerts, assignments & events to each other. Teachers sign up, create groups, each group gets a unique code. Code is given to class & students sign-up—students do NOT need email. For more info check out the FAQs page linked at the top right of the home page. <http://www.edmodo.com/>

Free FLV Converter

This is a very helpful tool for capturing those YouTube videos you want to keep in a form that can be used by other programs. Go to <http://www.koyotesoft.com/indexEn.html> and look for "Free FLV Converter 5.9" on the right hand side.