

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY NEWSLINE

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INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY SECTION UPDATE

DESE Budgets / Grant Programs

FY10 Education Technology and Safe Schools Programs

Grant recipients are reminded that expenditures for Materials/Supplies (6400) and Capital Outlay (6500) must be obligated by March 31.

Federal Title II.D ARRA-funded Formula Grants – Allocation update!

The 2009-10 Title II.D ARRA formula grant allocations are subject to change pending a final determination of bypass withholdings. If handled similar to the regular Title II.D bypass withholding, districts can likely expect a reduction – in order to avoid overpayments, DESE Federal Programs Financial Management issued a February 19 financial update stating that districts “are limited to request no more than 70% of their total approval budget for payment.”

Federal Title II.D and ARRA-funded EETT Competitive Grants– Funds obligation reminder

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/federalfunded/TitleIID/>

The regular Title II.D program funds two (2) first-year and eight (8) year two grants. Funds are earmarked to support school-wide and/or district-wide eMINTS implementation models, designed to meet local educational needs. The ARRA-funded Title II.D program funds 14 new grants: eight (8) eMINTS and six (6) other instructional model projects. See the program website for listings of the currently-approved applications and project descriptions, as well as prior-year summary reports.

State Safe Schools Program – Funds obligation reminder

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/safeschools/about.html>

The FY10 Safe Schools program funds 41 continuation grants: one (1) in year five, 30 in year four, five (5) in year three, and 10 in year two of their multi-year projects. Funds are awarded to support district and/or consortium alternative school programs designed to meet the educational needs of targeted students: those exhibiting violent, abusive, and chronically disruptive behaviors. See the program website for listings of the currently-approved applications and project descriptions, as well as prior-year summary reports.

FY11 Education Technology and Safe Schools Programs – Preliminary budget information

Proposed State and Federal ed-tech funding

Other than providing capacity to operate the federal Enhancing Education through Technology (EETT) Program, the state is unlikely to allocate ed-tech-

<p>Connections 2010!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ MOREnet hosts the first K-12 Chief Technology Officer Symposium ▪ MOREnet Training is finding ways to improve your training experience and the value of your investment <p>MoDLA Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2010 MoDLA conference The Future is Now: Taking the Next Step in 21st-Century Learning <p>Gateway Media Literacy Partners Update</p> <p>Regular Featured Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Upcoming Conferences ▪ Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities ▪ Videoconferences / Collaborative Projects ▪ From the Mailbag ▪ Newest eTHEMES ▪ Updated eTHEMES <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">Index by Topics Archives</p>	<p>specific funding. With regards to federal funding, the FY10 Consolidated Appropriations Act signed by the President on December 16, 2009, funds the Title II.D program at \$100 million (representing a nearly two-thirds decrease).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY11 Title II.D Program – Update! The 2010-11 Missouri program will be 100% competitive. Districts having remaining FY10 Formula funds after June 30, 2010, should budget these carryover funds in their 2010-11 NCLB Consolidated applications. • FY12 Proposed Ed-tech Funding In February, the Obama Administration released its FY11 education budget request – funding that would be distributed to states and schools in 2011-12. This proposal consolidates 38 education programs into 11 new program areas, with much of the funding awarded through competitive grants. If approved, the Title II.D program would not be funded. According to a White House publication and a February ED conference call, technology would be an allowable use across many of the 11 program areas. Further, the new initiative called Effective Teaching and Learning for a Complete Education would “include a focus on integrating technology into instructional and using technology to drive improvements in teaching and learning” throughout the three focus areas: Literacy, STEM, and Well-rounded Education. At this time, it is unclear how much of the \$1 billion budgeted for the Effective Teaching and Learning Initiative would be spent on education technology. <p>FY11 Safe Schools Program – Preliminary budget information</p> <p>The budget presented by the Governor in January proposed to fund the Safe Schools Grant Program at \$683,000, enough to continue supporting 15 existing grants. Once the budget process is complete, allocating Safe Schools Grant funding, DESE Instructional Technology will advise eligible districts how to apply for FY11 grant funding.</p>
<p>MOREnet K-12 Technology Network Program (TNP) – Budget updates http://www.more.net/content/k-12-technology-network-program</p> <p>As reported previously, MOREnet’s core budget item has been reduced for FY10 and the proposed FY11 appropriation reflects a more than \$4 million (33 percent) cut. MOREnet and DESE staffs continue to analyze options and various strategies for dealing with the decreased funding, for this year and next. At the very least, schools should expect to see a revised fee structure for FY11. The new fee structure, however, will not be finalized until there is more certainty regarding final FY10 and FY11 funding levels.</p> <p>Census of Technology – Core data screens open March 1, with one small revision http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/statefunded/census/</p> <p><i>The data entry for the 2010 Census of Technology (Core Data Screens 30 and 31) is now open and ends April 15. Note that an updated FAQ, excerpted Core Data Manual instructions, and paper survey forms will be posted to the COT website on or before March 1.</i></p> <p>The annual Census of Technology (COT) provides important data for the Department to assess Missouri’s continuing investment in K-12 education technologies and share with state and national decision-makers to advance public policy and increase public awareness and support for education technology. It is aligned with the <i>Missouri Education Technology Strategic Plan (METSP)</i>, the <i>Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP)</i>, and the <i>National Educational Technology Standards (NETS)</i>. The COT serves as a primary data source for measuring progress toward meeting the state goals and objectives.</p>	

COT is an online census (or survey) administered each spring via DESE Core Data-April Cycle *Screens 30* and *31*.

- *Screen 30* is a district-level census, completed by district-level administrators and/or technology specialists; it collects information for all Missouri school districts and charter LEAs, focusing on technology for the district/LEA as a whole.
- *Screen 31* is a school building census, completed by building administrators and/or technology staff; it assesses planning and training needs for each school, hardware and levels of Internet connectivity in computer labs, libraries, and classrooms, and technology usage statistics for building administrators, teachers, staff, and students.
 - All attendance centers, including preschools, elementary schools, middle schools, junior high schools, high schools, area career centers, complete *Screen 31*.

2010 Item Revision! Note that the first Technology Usage item on Screen 31 has been updated to align with the online educational resources available through MOREnet: EBSCOhost will be replaced with Gale Databases.

ePeGS / District Technology Planning – ePeGS Update

<http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/instrtech/techplan/>

Excerpt from February ePeGS listserv message regarding “Open New Year” process

There is a slight change from the information presented in the December webinars regarding the “Open New Year” process. It was originally planned to have the “Open New Year” process and changes to the needs assessment page available at the same time; however, the needs assessment portion will be delayed slightly. A **district** needs assessments can be added now, and once the needs assessment page has been updated it will be possible to add **program-specific** needs assessment information. Be sure to communicate with all district ePeGS data entry and authorized rep users before opening a new year because once the button has been selected, it cannot be unselected.

DESE is planning to conduct webinars, starting in March. Look for listserv messages and/or visit the ePeGS website for more information about these events.

STATE AND NATIONAL NEWS

Missouri schools invited to nearby NSBA ed-tech site visit

<http://www.nsba.org/tlinsitevisits/fps.htm>

Ann Flynn, director of the National School Boards Association’s Education Technology Programs, extends an invitation to nearby schools to attend NSBA’s March 14-16 education technology site visit in the Fayetteville, Arkansas Public Schools. The site visits provide ways for teams of educators to focus on how today’s technology can help transform teaching and learning, district operations, and communications with parents and community members. Invitees include superintendents and other administrators, technology and curriculum staff, teachers, board members, and media specialists. According to Dr. Flynn, “Fayetteville has embraced 21st century learning strategies to support the needs of a new generation of learners and their staff has prepared an outstanding agenda that blends classroom observations with mini-sessions to explain how they are accomplishing their goals.” The district’s vision of a 21st century learning system has been guided by the work of Harvard’s Dr. Tony Wagner and the creation of small learning communities their new high school.

To read more about the Arkansas visit and other scheduled visits, see: <http://www.nsba.org/tlinsitevisits/fps.htm>

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) updates

• **Broadband Plan Working Recommendations**

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-296357A1.pdf

On February 18, the FCC unveiled recommendations intended to integrate broadband into the country’s priorities and deliver to consumers high-quality healthcare, world-class education, smarter energy tools, 21st century jobs, greater public safety, more opportunities for civic engagement, and a better quality of life. Key themes include using broadband to foster innovative approaches to intractable problems. Broadband can help the country achieve better results in important areas by facilitating the flow of information; removing barriers of time and space; and making data accessible for research, applications, and decision-making, all while protecting privacy. More detail can be found in the presentation made to the Commission, which is posted at

<http://reboot.fcc.gov/open-meetings/2010/february>.

State and National News, cont'd.

- **National Broadband Plan Consumer Survey**

http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-296443A1.pdf

According to this February 23 press release, the FCC released findings from its fall 2009 national survey to assess America's attitude toward broadband, conducted under the National Broadband Plan. According to the report "Broadband Adoption and Use in America," 93 million Americans – one-third of the country – are not connected to high-speed Internet at home. The Consumer Survey found that 35 percent of adult Americans do not have high-speed Internet connections at home, stating the major barriers as affordability, digital literacy, and relevance. The interaction of attitudes and use of communications goods and services creates four categories of non-adopters: near converts, digital hopefuls, digitally uncomfortable, and digitally distant.

RESEARCH, PUBLICATIONS, RESOURCES**SETDA releases state Title II.D Profiles for school-year 2008-09**

<http://www.setda.org>

In February, the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) posted state profiles that show state efforts in enhancing education through technology. Each fall, SETDA asks ed-tech directors to complete a Title II.D survey that generates national and state profiles. The National Trends Report summarizes how states distributed and used the funding and notes trends found across the formula and competitive sub-grant programs. State profiles summarize how each state distributed the funding and showcases district projects that show effective use of technology in enhancing teaching and learning. This year's Missouri profile highlights eMINTS implementations in the Monett, North Harrison, and Hancock Place school districts, based on data they provided DESE via their FY09 program evaluation reports.

Access state profiles via the SETDA "State Members" web page, by clicking on any state in the map and then on the Round 7 report. To access the Missouri Profile, see:

http://www.setda.org/c/document_library/get_file?folderId=302&name=DLFE-579.pdf.

E-RATE PROGRAM**Funding Year 2010**

- The Form 471 filing window (for applications covering July 2010 through June 2011) closed Friday, February 19, at 11:59 p.m. EST.

Funding commitments

- **FY2009:** USAC will release FY2009 Wave 42 Funding Commitment Decision Letters (FCDLs) March 2. This wave will include commitments for approved Internal Connections and Basic Maintenance requests at 80% and above and denials at 54% and below. As of February 23, FY2009 commitments total over \$2.51 billion.
- **FY2008:** USAC released Wave 80 FCDLs on February 24. This wave includes commitments for approved Priority 2 requests at 87% and above and denials at 86% and below. To date, FY2008 commitments total nearly \$2.45 billion.
- **Search tool:** Use USAC's Automated Search of Commitments (ASC) tool to search for funding commitment information by funding year (FY), wave number, state, and/or applicant name. See: <http://www.usac.org/sl/tools/search-tools/search-commitments/>.

MOREnet UPDATE

submitted by Eric Nicklas

Only Two Weeks Left to Register for Connections 2010!

This year's conference will be one of the most informative and engaging conferences MOREnet has delivered, with more than 80 topics relevant to the future of technology. Virtualization, disaster recovery, open source options and

MOREnet Update, cont'd.

new offerings from Microsoft are just a few of the session presentations <http://www.more.net/content/connections-2010-sessions>.

Connections 2010 also welcomes David Schroeder from VMware as our keynote speaker <http://www.more.net/content/keynote-information>. David is the Central Area Director of Systems Engineering for VMware. A guru on virtualization and thought leader on cloud computing models, David will speak on "Evolving IT to Cloud Computing."

MOREnet's Exhibitor Fair <http://www.more.net/content/call-exhibitors> is now sold out with a record-breaking 99 booths. More importantly, these booths are being filled with quality exhibitors showcasing their newest products and technology solutions. Don't miss this opportunity to visit these exhibitors during our Grand Opening Reception, Wednesday, from 6 - 8 p.m. and Thursday, from 9 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

For questions regarding Connections 2010, e-mail conferences@more.net or call (800) 509-6673.

MOREnet hosts the first K-12 Chief Technology Officer Symposium**Purpose:**

The K-12 CTO Symposium provides professional development designed specifically for the school Chief Technology Officer (Administrator for Technology). This symposium will present components of CoSN's Framework of Essential Skills of the K-12 CTO and provide an understanding of what is needed to be a successful 21st Century education technology leader. This promises to be a highly educational and interactive day.

Who Should Attend?

K-12 school district technology leaders would benefit attending this one-day event. In school districts, the responsibilities of locating, evaluating and selecting technologies, managing networked computer systems, and facilitating their effective use in classrooms fall chiefly upon the shoulders of staff members variously titled 'director' or 'coordinator' of technology or information services.

Topics Included:

- Mastering the Moment: Strategic Technology and Budget Planning During Economic Crisis
- Essential Skills of District Technology Leaders/CTOs
- How 2 B a Disruptive Technology Leader!
- *Additional Topics TBD, based on attendee responses.*

Event Date: April 30, 2010

Time: 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Cost: \$100 - MOREnet members; \$175 – Non MOREnet Members

Locations: St. Louis, Kansas City

Lunch: Provided

Sponsors: Many thanks go to Alexander Open Systems, Lightspeed Systems, and DESE for their support with this event.

Register online at <http://quest.cvent.com/EVENTS/Info/Summary.aspx?e=9da426c6-01df-453c-8380-2905a0e9ceed>.

MOREnet Training is finding ways to improve your training experience and the value of your investment

- **Training Materials Published Online** MOREnet Training provides materials as a part of many of its classes and conference sessions. Access to all MOREnet training materials is free to members, with the exception of proprietary, third-party content. The Training Materials website includes external document links, recorded online training sessions, documentation for specific classes, and conference session materials. For more information go to: <http://www.more.net/trainingmaterials>.
- **Contracted Training - Cost Savings** MOREnet is pleased to announce reduced rates on contracted training for MOREnet members. Working with the University of Missouri, MOREnet has negotiated reduced costs for courses in Microsoft, Solaris, VMWare, Linux, Novell, Cisco, Oracle, and Adobe. In addition, some vendors have offered courses at a reduced rate on ITIL, COMP TIA, Certified Ethical Hacker, IPv6, CISSP, Crystal

MOREnet Update, cont'd.

Reports, Project Management Professional, and Website Development (WDP), among others. MOREnet will be scheduling some classes with these vendors, so watch our training calendar. For more information about contracted training offerings, go to: <http://www.more.net/content/contracted-training>.

- **MOREnet Course Offerings and Inservices** MOREnet trainers still have dates available to come to your location to provide inservice training, but they are filling up fast. We are also adding new topics to our newly redesigned training schedule (<http://www.more.net/content/apps/trainingschedule>), which is updated through December. If you don't see what you are looking for, let us know, and we may be able to accommodate your needs.

For questions or to provide feedback, contact MOREnet Training at training@more.net or call (800) 509-6673.

MoDLA UPDATE

submitted by Christie Smalley

2010 MoDLA conference *The Future Is Now: Taking the Next Step in 21st-Century Learning*

The MoDLA conference attracts attendees interested in all aspects distance learning from K-12 schools, higher education institutions, non-profit organizations, state government agencies, the military and private industry. As a presenter, you'll assist in creating an innovative and informative conference and learn about the latest trends in distance learning.

- **2010 Keynote Speaker Ray Schroeder** http://www.modla.org/?page_id=177
- **Location:** University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center
- **City:** Springfield
- **Dates:** July 22-23, 2010
- **Registration:** <http://muconf.missouri.edu/modla/>

Deadline for Proposal Submissions: March 15, 2010.

GATEWAY MEDIA LITERACY PARTNERS UPDATE

submitted by Jessica Z. Brown

Frank Baker, well-known media literacy educator and featured speaker at the recent 2010 Midwest Educational Technology Conference (METC) conference wrote this piece: *Media Literacy: Critical Thinking for the Information Age – A report from the 2010 Midwest Educational Technology Conference*. You can find it on Gateway Media Literacy Partners' website: www.gmlpstl.org.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

2010	Conference
March 7 – 9	2010 Pathways: Serving Students At-Risk on Their Path to Success Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO http://dese.mo.gov/divteachqual/documents/2010PathwaysProgramFinal.pdf
March 17	Advanced Technical Security Symposium Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO http://www.more.net/content/security-symposium
March 17 – 19	Connections 2010: The Future of Technology...Bring IT! Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO http://www.more.net/content/connections
March 17 – 19	HELIX 2010 Tan-Tar-A Resort, Osage Beach, MO http://www.more.net/content/helix-1

UPCOMING CONFERENCES, cont'd.

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| May 2 – 5 | USDLA National Conference
Hilton St. Louis at the Ball Park, St. Louis, MO
http://www.usdla.org/2010_national_conference/home.html |
| July 22 – 23 | MoDLA Annual Meeting
University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center, Springfield, MO
http://www.modla.org/ |

GRANT FUNDING and CONTEST OPPORTUNITIES

- | Due Date
2010 | Grant Program |
|--|---|
| Opens for voting
February 1 | The Pepsi Refresh Project is hosting a grants program focusing on health, arts and culture, food and shelter, the planet, neighborhoods, and education. Each month in 2010, Pepsi will fund 32 projects, ranging from \$5,000 to \$250,000. Proposals are being accepted as of January 13, and full details are available on the Pepsi Refresh Project website: http://www.refresheverything.com/ |
| February 1,
June 1, and
October 15
March 15 | NEA Learning and Leadership Grants
http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/

American Historical Association: Beveridge Family Teaching Prize recognizes excellence and innovation in elementary, middle school, and secondary history teaching, including career contributions and specific initiatives. Eligibility: K-12 teachers in groups. http://www.historians.org/teaching/Beveridge.htm |
| March 26 | The PBS KIDS GO! Writers Contest encourages children in grades K – 3 in communities across the country to explore the power of creativity by writing and illustrating their own stories. Check http://pbskids.org/writerscontest/ or contact a local PBS station for more details! |
| March 31 | Captain Planet Foundation Grants
http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/grants.html |
| April 20 | DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Office of Elementary and Secondary Education ; Invites Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 for the Improving Literacy Through School Libraries Program
Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.364A.
Dates: Applications Available: February 19, 2010.
Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 20, 2010.
Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: June 21, 2010.
The purpose of the Improving Literacy through School Libraries program is to improve student reading skills and academic achievement by providing students with increased access to up-to-date school library materials; well-equipped, technologically advanced school library media centers; and well-trained, professionally certified school library media specialists.
Estimated Range of Awards: \$100,000-\$600,000.
Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000.
Estimated Number of Awards: 53.
Visit http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/2010-3164.htm or contact Pilla Parker, 202-260-3710 or pilla.parker@ed.gov for more information and the application process. |

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

- April 25** **MIT: Lemelson-MIT 2011 InvenTeams** foster inventiveness among teams composed of high school students, teachers, and mentors. Teams identify a problem that they want to solve, research the problem, and then develop a prototype invention as an in-class or extracurricular project.
<http://web.mit.edu/inventteams/about.html>
- April 30** **ING Unsung Heroes®** <http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/Education/INGUnsungHeroes/index.htm>
- April 30** **Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes** <http://www.barronprize.org/>
The Gloria Barron Prize for Young Heroes honors outstanding young leaders who have focused on helping their communities and fellow beings and/or on protecting the health and sustainability of the environment. Maximum award: \$2,500. Eligibility: youth 8-18.
- May, August, November** **Build-A-Bear Workshop Giving Programs**
<http://www.buildabear.com/aboutus/community/grants>
- May 1** **American Honda Foundation Grants for Youth Education and Science Education**
Help meet the needs of American society in the areas of youth and scientific education by awarding grants to nonprofits, while strategically assisting communities in deriving long-term benefits.
<http://corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf>
- Sweepstakes runs through May 3, 2010** **9th annual Win a Wireless Lab Sweepstakes**
<http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/wawl/> Enter once per day until May 3, 2010 at <http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/wawl/>. For complete details, see the official rules posted at <http://cdwg.discoveryeducation.com/wawl/>.
- May 15** **Earth Island Institute: Youth Award for Outstanding Activism in Environmental and Social Justice**
<http://www.broweryouthawards.org/article.php?list=type&type=54>
The Earth Island Institute Brower Youth Award recognizes young people for their outstanding activism and achievements in the fields of environmental and social justice advocacy. Maximum award: \$3,000; a trip to San Francisco for the awards ceremony, October 19, 2010; and a wilderness camping trip. Eligibility: youth activists ages 13-22.
- June 1, October 15, February 1** **NEA Foundation Green Grants**
This year the program emphasizes “green” projects that involve students learning about and engaging in environmental preservation and protection.
<http://www.neafoundation.org/grants.htm>
- June 10** **National Endowment for the Arts: Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth**
<http://www.arts.gov/grants/apply/GAP11/LITA.html>
The NEA Learning in the Arts for Children and Youth program funds projects that help children and youth acquire appreciation, knowledge, and understanding of and skills in the arts. Projects must provide participatory learning and engagement of students with skilled artists, teachers, and excellent art, and ensure the application of national, state, or local arts education standards. Maximum award: \$150,000. Eligibility: school-based or community-based projects.

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

- August 15** **Open Meadows Foundation Grants to Benefit Women and Girls**
Grants up to \$2000 to projects that: are designed and implemented by women and girls; reflect the diversity of the community served by the project in both its leadership and organization; promote building community power; promote gender, racial, social, economic and/or environmental justice; and have limited financial access or have encountered obstacles in their search for funding.
<http://www.openmeadows.org/>
- October 31** **CVS Foundation CVS Caremark Community Grants** targets public schools for children with disabilities that promote a greater level of inclusion in student activities and extracurricular programs. <http://info.cvscaremark.com/community/our-impact/community-grants/public-schools>
- Email** **Toyota International Teacher Program**
toyotateach@ije.org to be notified
<http://www.toyota4education.com/>
- Variety** **Dollar General** has a variety of grants to assist schools.
<http://www.dgliteracy.com/grant-program/>
- Deadline:** **Actuarial Foundation: Advancing Student Achievement Grants**
None, but applications should be received at least one or two months prior to proposed start date.
http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/for_teachers.shtml
The Actuarial Foundation Advancing Student Achievement grant program brings together actuaries and educators in local classrooms with the belief that interaction with real-world mentors will boost student interest and achievement in math. The Actuarial Foundation can provide a local network of actuaries ready to participate, as well as suggestions on how to integrate math concepts from the workplace into the classroom. Schools applying for grants will be given wide latitude in designing programs that enhance learning and create a "love of math" in each student. Maximum award: varies. Eligibility: All schools willing to undertake a math-mentoring program involving local actuaries as volunteers are eligible. However, in order for a program to be viable, there must be a sufficient population of volunteer actuaries within easy traveling distance to make a regular program possible. Deadline: None, but applications should be received at least one or two months prior to proposed start date.
- Ongoing** **After School Advantage Program from GTECH**
http://www.gtech.com/about_gtech/after_school.asp
- Ongoing** **Coca-Cola Foundation Education Grants**
<http://www.thecoca-colacompany.com/>
- Ongoing** **Educational Foundation of America Grants**
<http://www.efaw.org/>
- Ongoing** **CHS Foundation Mini-grants**
The CHS Foundation grants up to \$1,000 to innovative academic and leadership programs that strengthen student learning and enhance professional development. Examples include: leadership training opportunities, mentorship programs, professional development experiences and student fundraising efforts.
<http://www.chsfoundation.org/scholarshipprog.html#minigrants>
- Ongoing** **ING Foundation Educational Grants**
<http://www.ing-usa.com/us/aboutING/CorporateCitizenship/index.htm>

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Ongoing	Kinder Morgan Foundation Education Grants http://www.kindermorgan.com/community/km_foundation.cfm
Ongoing	Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant http://www.toolboxforeducation.com/
Ongoing	Motorola Community Grants http://www.symbol.com/category.php?category=736
Ongoing	Motorola Foundation http://www.motorola.com/giving
Ongoing	NEA Foundation Student Achievement Grants http://www.neafoundation.org/programs/StudentAchievement_Guidelines.htm
Ongoing	NEA Learning & Leadership Grants http://www.neafoundation.org/pages/educators/grant-programs/
Ongoing	Pay It Forward Mini-Grants for Service-Oriented Projects for Youths http://www.payitforwardfoundation.org/get_involved.html
Ongoing	RGK Foundation Education Grants http://www.rgkfoundation.org/public/grants
Ongoing	Robert H. Michel Special Project Grants http://www.dirksencenter.org/print_grants_specialprojects.htm
Ongoing	State Farm Companies Foundation Education Grants http://www.statefarm.com/about/part_spos/grants/foundation_grants.asp
Ongoing	Teach@15 Award http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm
Ongoing	Toshiba America Foundation 7-12 Math and Science Grants http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/about/HowApply.jsp

For information about grants, funding, foundations and grant writing, check out the following sites:

An independent nonprofit information clearinghouse on grants available throughout the United States, **The Foundation Center** offers publications, including directories of foundation and corporate grantmakers, research advice, custom research, and database searching. The website includes online training in grantseeking, proposal writing, and funding research, as well as, an online librarian.
<http://foundationcenter.org/>

AT&T Aspire <http://www.att.com/gen/corporate-citizenship?pid=7736>

Converge online: Grant Secrets – <http://www.convergemag.com/>

The 2009-10 **Dell Funding Calendar**, published by Tech and Learning, can be found at <http://www.techlearning.com/article/21102>. Check it out for grant opportunities, grant writing ideas and strategy tips.

The online version of **eSchool News** monthly magazine contains a grants section with regularly updated grant, scholarship, professional development, and other funding opportunities for both educators and students. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/funding>

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

Edu4U is a resource for people who want to enhance teaching and learning for all students with the power of technology. Find information, resources and fellow travelers to help achieve your educational goals. <http://en.community.dell.com/groups/edu4u/default.aspx>

Edutopia has a listing of corporate, nonprofit, and government grant-making institutions, periodicals with grant information, and more. For more information, visit <http://www.edutopia.org>.

Electronic Learning, from Instructor Magazine, focuses on the use of technology in the classroom. The EL website will soon be expanded to include grant information. <http://www.teacher.scholastic.com/products/instructor.htm>

For an extensive list of grants, check the **Grants Directory from Technology and Learning** <http://techlearning.com/resources/grants.jhtml>.

Fundsnet Online Services: http://www.fundsnet services.com/searchresult.php?sbcats_id=6

Computers & technology – http://www.fundsnet services.com/searchresult.php?sbcats_id=4

Grant writing and funding resources are available at <http://www.libraryspot.com/features/grantsfeature.htm>.

The **grants.gov** site is a tremendous resource for educators. It is updated weekly and contains a comprehensive listing of federal grants for schools. <http://www.grants.gov>

Grantsandfunding.com offers a complete listing of all Thompson Publishing Group publications that focus on grant and funding issues. Thompson Publishing Group publication subscribers have access to a special section that provides resources such as grant deadlines, highlights of funding issues, and links to related websites. <http://www.grantsandfunding.com>

Grantwrangler.com: online listing service of grants and awards for teachers and students. New mygrantwrangler.com is a social-networking site for both grant seekers and grant givers to share insights and experiences – <http://www.grantwrangler.com/>.

Helpforschools.com (sponsored by the U.S. Dept. of Education and Mid-continent Comprehensive Center) – “grants knowledgebase”– <http://www.helpforschools.com/grants/login.shtml?redirect=http://www.helpforschools.com/grants/>

In each issue of **The Education World Grants Newsletter** <http://www.educationworld.com/maillist.shtml>, Don Peek from **The School Funding Center** [http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/\(dscmdd45etdg1045xp0ljby0\)/](http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/(dscmdd45etdg1045xp0ljby0)/) recommends a Web resource, book, software program, or another useful tool of interest to the grants community. This resource is a Web page from **Teacher Tap**, part of **Eduscapes**. <http://www.eduscapes.com/tap/topic94.htm>

International Technology Education Association (ITEA) <http://www.iteaconnect.org>

ISTE: Educator Resources: Funding – <http://www.iste.org/>

Mazda <http://www.mazdafoundation.org/index.html>

MultiMedia Schools, a print magazine published five times a year, addresses multiple technologies used in K-12 schools today. Selected full-text content is now available online. Includes a NewsWatch section, which posts technology-related funding news and links. <http://www.infoday.com/MMSchools>

National Science Foundation (NSF) <http://www.nsf.gov>

Grant Funding and Contest Opportunities, cont'd.

NEC Foundation of America <http://www.necfoundation.org>

Non-profit guides: “grant writing tools for non-profit organizations” <http://www.npguides.org/links.htm>

Northwest Education Technology Consortium (NETC): “Grants and funding”
<http://www.netc.org/grants/index.html>

Public Education Network posts a listing of Existing Grant Opportunities (updated each week) at
http://www.publiceducation.org/newsblast_grants.asp.

SchoolGrants is a collection of resources and tips to help K-12 educators apply for and obtain special grants for a variety of projects. The site offers various fundraising ideas, sample proposals, grant writing tips, and scholarship information. <http://www.schoolgrants.org>

Sign up for the free **GrantsAlert.com Weekly Recap** for current K-12 Funding and Grants Alerts. For more complete information go to: <http://www.grantsalert.com>.

The Grant Guru <http://www.techlearning.com/article/15512> Gary Carnow is starting a new grant writing series. First up, Building Our Grantseeker’s Toolkit.

The **Grants.gov** site allows organizations to electronically find and apply for competitive grant opportunities from all Federal grant-making agencies, and encompasses over 900 grant programs offered by the 26 Federal grant-making agencies. It streamlines the process of awarding over \$350 billion annually to state and local governments, academia, not-for-profits, and other organizations.
<http://grants.gov>

Sun Microsystems Foundation Open Gateway Grants Program
http://www.sun.com/aboutsun/comm_invest/ogp/index.html

Technogrants.com – <http://www.technogrants.com/>

Top Grants You Might Not Know About <http://www.hotchalk.com/mydesk/index.php/editoria/116-grants-and-contests/346-hotchalk-grants-and-contests>

THE Journal: Funding: <http://www.thejournal.com/the/topics/funding/>

The School Funding Center is a subscription based database for federal, state, and foundation grants for schools. Included in the subscription is Dr. Deborah Porter's Successful School Grants, a step-by-step grant-writing manual by one of the foremost grant writers in the country.
[http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/\(xzvsqo2g4qxuc55s0mcdmyy\)/index.aspx](http://www.schoolfundingcenter.info/(xzvsqo2g4qxuc55s0mcdmyy)/index.aspx)

Toyota USA Foundation
http://www.toyota.com/about/our_commitment/philanthropy/education/toyota_usa/

U.S. Department of Education Funding Opportunities <http://www.ed.gov/fund/landing.jhtml>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration <http://www.samhsa.gov/grants/>

U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention <http://www.ojjdp.ncjrs.gov/funding/FundingList.asp>

VIDEOCONFERENCES / COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS

RoundTrips <http://www.roundtrips.org>.

Contact RoundTrips at roundtrips@clayton.k12.mo.us, or (314) 773-6934.

New Links to New Learning from Cooperating School Districts

<http://www2.csd.org/newlinks/index.html>

Contact Rebecca Morrison at rmorrison@csd.org or (314) 692-1274, or read the New Links blog at

<http://www.csdtechpd.wordpress.com>

The Fairfax Network <http://www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/>, an award-winning producer of distance learning programming creates programming for educators to use in the classroom, and for public television stations and cable systems. The lineup includes quality K-12 enrichment, parenting, and staff development programs. Many of the shows come with additional resource information, teacher guides, and classroom activities created to fit seamlessly into the curriculum. Fairfax Network programs are free to schools, school systems, cable companies, and public television programmers.

Collaborations Around the Planet (CAPspace) is a social networking tool for educational videoconferencing built into the new Read Around the Planet registration system.

<http://projects.twice.cc/index.php>

Global Nomads Group creates education programs and media about global issues for youth using interactive technologies in the classroom, such as live videoconferencing and multi-media videos.

<http://www.gng.org/home.html>

Resources for Online Field Trips

- **The Virtual Smithsonian:** Includes online tours of exhibits in the museums of natural history, American history, and art in Washington. http://2k.si.edu/2k/node_rotunda/indexe.htm
- **Jet Propulsion Lab at NASA:** Allows participants to choose a virtual character and take a trip through an animated museum, mission control, and a robotics lab. <http://virtualfieldtrip.jpl.nasa.gov/smmk/top/gates>
- **National Geographic Expeditions Online:** Features a database of lesson plans, online activities, and maps tied to the national geography standards. <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/>
- **Ball State University Electronic Field Trips:** Offers live and archived video tours of a variety of topics and destinations, including the Florida Everglades, gray whale migrations from Southern California to Mexico, and the Indianapolis Motor Speedway. Includes low-cost Web resources for each lesson. <http://www.bsu.edu/eft/home2/00front.htm>
- **Colonial Williamsburg:** Programs for grades 4-8 with live broadcasts on public-television stations and archived video presentations on the web highlighting people, places, and events throughout history. <http://www.history.org/trips/>

FROM THE MAILBAG

To enter the **PBS Teachers Innovation Awards**, simply tell PBS Teachers® how you inspire your students by describing your classroom innovation, include photos or short video and submit it to PBS Teachers at <http://www.pbsteachers.org/innovators>. **Entries are due March 12, 2010.**

The winning submission will receive an all-expenses paid trip to the PBS Annual Meeting in Austin, Texas, including:

- Front-row seat to sneak previews of upcoming PBS programs.
- Engaging professional development sessions from PBS TeacherLine® on integrating digital content into the classroom.
- Receptions celebrating “The Tenth Inning,” the final chapter in Ken Burns’ award-winning series, “Baseball” and the home of “Austin City Limits” at KLRU-TV!
- Breakfast with the producers of the new upcoming series “The Cat in the Hat Knows A Lot About That!” premiering on PBS KIDS this fall.
- Lunch with the producers of “American Experience” and a sneak peek of the upcoming program “Freedom

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

- Riders" – an official selection of the 2010 Sundance Film Festival.
- Breakfast with Martin and Chris Kratt, producers and stars of "Kratts' Creatures" and the upcoming series "Wild Kratts."
- Lunch with the producers of "Circus," a new PBS series that takes viewers behind the scenes at the Big Apple Circus and features an interactive, Web-based educational outreach component.

Forty 2nd prize winners will receive a bag chock full of PBS gifts. And, all winners will receive a FREE PBS TeacherLine® professional development course. Plus, all teachers who enter will be registered as members of the PBS Teachers online community and will receive a 10% discount to our online PBS Store.

Dynamic Periodic Table <http://www.ptable.com/> This is a periodic table like you've never seen before. It is completely interactive and super fantastic! To navigate just scroll your mouse over the elements on the table, and it will highlight the one your mouse is hovering over bigger. If you click on an element it pops up with the information for that element on Wikipedia. If you mouse over the different labels (Metalloids, Non Metals, and Metals) you'll see the corresponding elements are highlighted on the table. And you can uncheck extra display information at the top of the page. Along the top of the page there are tabs that provide more navigation options: Properties, Orbital, and Isotopes. Next to those tabs is a drop down box with even more navigation options for you to choose from. Check out this awesome periodic table today!

Another broadcast from Mount Vernon's Distance Learning Center

George Washington's Mount Vernon Estate and Gardens and Fairfax County (Virginia) Public Schools invite you and your students to join us for another broadcast from Mount Vernon's Distance Learning Center.

History Notes: The Music of Washington's World. April 14, 2010 from 1-1:45 p.m. (ET) For Students in Grades 6-9 http://www.fcps.edu/fairfaxnetwork/mount_vernon/history_notes/index.html explores music as a reflection of history and culture during the life of George Washington. Highlights include Pre-Revolutionary War music that reflects the Colonist's attitudes under the British monarchy, Revolutionary War songs that tell of specific battles, plantation music that Washington would have heard on the farm, and ballroom dance music that allowed the early politicians to gather to discuss the newly forming government as well as socialize. Throughout the program, we'll examine the role music played in George Washington's life and look at how that role is both similar to and different from the role music plays in our lives.

SMART MUSIC <http://www.smartmusic.com/>

SmartMusic is award-winning learning software with the power to transform music learning. Students of all ages and skill levels can play or sing with professional accompaniments, making practice both rewarding and fun. An affordable subscription to SmartMusic gives students the opportunity to explore a wide variety of music from the world's largest accompaniment library featuring thousands of titles for band and orchestra, solo contest repertoire, popular method books, jazz, and skill-building exercises.

Band and orchestra students have difficulty practicing independently. Band and orchestra teachers spend hours assessing student musicians. Smart Music allows the student to record and send their practice session to the teacher electronically and allows the teacher to hear and SEE the student's performance via an electronic audio file along with a musical notation file. The notation file indicates to the teacher which notes were played correctly and incorrectly, and the audio file allows the teacher to hear the quality of the student's notes. The teacher and student can communicate via email, and new assignments or remediation exercises are entered into the grade book, complete with date due.

- **For Teachers** SmartMusic transforms the practice experience, through an interactive environment that engages and motivates students. SmartMusic saves you time and provides the realistic means to individualize your instruction and document the results of every student to meet evolving assessment requirements.
- **For Students & Parents** SmartMusic provides an ideal home practice environment to prepare concert music and develop essential skills. It makes practicing fun so students want to practice longer and more often.
- **For Administrators** SmartMusic is an affordable, innovative assessment program that enables your music

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

teachers to offer students differentiated learning and individualized instruction.

Lifeboat to Mars <http://pbskids.org/lifeboat/>

Parents and teachers looking for a way to make learning biology fun for kids can find it in an outstanding free online game called **Lifeboat to Mars**, a simulation game that kids play while connected to the Internet. The game was produced by Red Hill Studios for PBS Kids Go with support by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

Students join Ort, a robot on a spaceship mission to Mars, rebuild the on-board ecosystems before reaching Mars. Another exciting aspect of *Lifeboat to Mars* is the ability to create your own simulations to share with others. The game also has a culminating Lifeboat simulation game. Points earned in earlier simulations help students complete the Lifeboat simulation. Each simulation sets forth clear learning objectives and goals, and then provides the means to accomplish the goals. For teachers wanting to incorporate this game into their science curriculum, a teacher's guide will be available on the PBS Kids Go website in early March.

Call For Participation: Congress In The Classroom 2010

Deadline: April 15, 2010

Congress in the Classroom is a national, award-winning education program now in its 19th year. Developed and sponsored by The Dirksen Congressional Center, the workshop is dedicated to the exchange of ideas and information on teaching about Congress.

Congress in the Classroom is designed for high school or middle school teachers who teach U.S. history, government, civics, political science, or social studies. Forty teachers will be selected to take part in the program. All online applications must be received by no later than April 15, 2010. For more information and to register, visit http://www.dirksencenter.org/programs_CiCapApplication.htm. <http://www.dirksencongressionalcenter.org>

Two offerings from HEC-TV Live!

- **"Inside the Artist's Studio" series.** On March 4 "The Making of Contemporary Art" from the Contemporary Art Museum in St. Louis will allow students the opportunity to interact with three artists selected to participate in the Contemporary Art Museum of St. Louis' upcoming "Great Rivers Biennial" exhibition. More information about the program, including program format, learning activities, and curriculum standards, can be found at its CILC web exhibit http://www.cilc.org/program_detail_new.aspx?id=3101.
- **"An Exhibition of Contemporary Indian Art."** On March 23 students will be able to take a tour of "Bring Me a Lion," the exhibition of contemporary Indian art on display at Webster University's Hunt Gallery from March 19 to April 17. Students also get to meet, interact with, and see works of artist Tushar Joag, whose work is included in the exhibition. More details about the program including program format, learning activities, and related curriculum standards, can be found at the program's CILC web exhibit at http://www.cilc.org/program_detail_new.aspx?id=3124.

What is the Infinite Thinking Machine? <http://www.infinitethinkingmachine.org/about.htm> The Infinite Thinking Machine (ITM) is designed to help K-12 teachers and students thrive in the 21st century. Through an active blog, an Internet TV show, and other media resources, the ITM shares a "bazillion practical ideas" for turning the infinite universe of information into knowledge. ITM showcases examples of innovative instructional methods, talk with leading experts, and share real stories from the classroom to improve how we think, learn, teach, and live. Current contributors to the ITM Blog include:

- **Lucie deLaBruere** - *Learning with Lucie* <http://lucie.typepad.com/>, the founder of TechSavvy Girls.
- **Julie Duffield** - *More about Julie* <http://www.wested.org/cs/we/view/u/139>, a Research Associate in WestEd's Comprehensive School Assistance Program (CSAP)
- **Wesley Fryer** - *Speed of Creativity* <http://www.speedofcreativity.org/> an educator, author, digital storyteller and change agent.
- **Lucy Gray** - *A Teacher's Life* <http://elemenous.typepad.com/> the Lead Technology Coach at the Center for Urban School Improvement at the University of Chicago, and an Apple Distinguished Educator and Google Certified Teacher.

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

- **Steve Hargadon** – *Steve Hargadon* <http://www.stevhargadon.com/>. Steve oversees the Open Source Lab and speaker series for the National Educational Computing Conference (NECC) and Computer Using Educators (CUE).
- **Tom March** – *Bright Ideas for Education* <http://www.tommarch.com/ozblog/> took a three year fellowship at San Diego State University where he worked with Professor Bernie Dodge to create the WebQuest model.
- **Chris Walsh** – *School 180* <http://www.school180.com/> a Digital Learning Specialist at WestEd working on new ways to use collaborative technology and interactive media in the K-12 community.
- **Mark Wagner** - *Ed Tech Life* <http://edtechlife.com/> focuses on the use of video games in education, and specifically on the potential applications of massively multiplayer online role playing games (MMORPGs) as constructivist learning environments.

The Missouri Department of Transportation Historic Preservation website

<http://www.modot.mo.gov/ehp/HistoricPreservation.htm>. provides a variety of resources so educators, students, and interested public can learn about archaeology. Organizations discussed on the **MoDOT Archaeology and the Public** <http://www.modot.org/ehp/ArchaeologyPublic.htm> webpage have developed sections of their respective websites specifically for educators and students:

- **Missouri Archaeological Society's Of Interest to Teachers**
<http://associations.missouristate.edu/mas/programs/teachers.html>
- **National Park Service Archaeology Program's Teachers Resources**
<http://www.nps.gov/history/archeology/PUBLIC/teach.htm>
- **National Park Service's Teaching with Historic Places** <http://www.nps.gov/history/nr/twhp/>
- **Society for American Archaeology's Archaeology for Educators**
<http://www.saa.org/ForthePublic/Resources/EducationalResources/ForEducators/ArchaeologyforEducators/ta/bid/953/Default.aspx> (this link is for K-12, they also offer lesson plans for College Undergraduate and Graduate students) and
- **Society for Historical Archaeology's Exploring Historical Archaeology**
<http://www.sha.org/EHA/splash.cfm>

SciGirls: Challenging Girls to be Their Very Best

SciGirls is a compelling new PBS program that begins airing this month. The goal is to get middle school girls more deeply engaged in STEM activities. Topics in this first season range from helping turtles and learning how dolphins communicate, to designing simple machines for a giant puppet, to building a miniature wind farm. It's fun and a great education for all. To find out more about *SciGirls*, join *PBS Teachers' Women in Science* webinar <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/webinar/> on March 16. In the meantime, check out the program website <http://pbskids.org/scigirls/> and educational resources <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/scigirls/> and find out how *SciGirls* fits into your world!

Welcome to "The Secret Life of Scientists," <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/secretlife/> a web-only series that shows what happens when the lab coats come off. Every two weeks, meet a new scientist. Watch their collection of short videos. Ask them questions. Find out how their surprising secret lives fuel their science, and vice versa. Did you know that even Einstein had a secret life? Check out the information on scientist Nate Ball – your students will be amazed!

Students show off their tech skills in the Show Me state Show-Me Techknowledge Day

GenYES students from Reed Springs, MO shared what they do to assist teachers and other students with technology throughout their school at the recent Show-Me TechKnowledge Day. The Show Me TechKnowledge Day gives students from Missouri the opportunity to exhibit and/or present a learning activity showcasing technology to lawmakers and other officials. This year's event was held on January 19th in the Third Floor Rotunda of the Missouri State Capitol in Jefferson City. In Reed Springs, GenYES students meet in an after-school club where they learn technology and how to help teachers who are participating in a laptop incentive program.

Instructional technology specialist and GenYES advisor Janna Elfrink says, "*The GenYES students work with these teachers each month after school, where the students teach the teachers how to utilize and incorporate the*

From the Mailbag, cont'd.

technology to meet the needs of the students and teachers. Our goal is to create a community of learners where the teachers present their curriculum to the students, and the students match the available technology with the curriculum. Students and teachers communicate through the TAPs request system and through Gaggle email."

For the rest of the blog entry, including pictures and quotes from the students, visit

<http://blog.genyes.com/index.php/2010/02/19/students-show-off-their-tech-skills-in-the-show-me-state/>

NEWEST eTHEMES

Literature: "The Secret Garden" by Frances Hodgson Burnett These sites have reading guides, book reviews, vocabulary lists, and lesson plans for "The Secret Garden." Read and listen to "The Secret Garden" online for free and learn more about author Frances Hodgson Burnett and illustrator Tasha Tudor.

<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002542.shtml>

Maple Syrup These sites are about maple syrup. Find out about maple syrup production in various states. Learn the history of maple syrup and its production, facts, recipes, uses, and more. There are video clips on how maple syrup is produced. Includes worksheets, lesson plans, and classroom activities.

<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002543.shtml>

Writing: Diary and Journal Writing These sites have information about diary and journal writing. There are examples of and how to's for writing diaries and journals. Includes writing prompts and lesson plans. There are also links to eThemes Resources on Teaching Tips: Using Online Journals and Blogs and Writing: Prompts.

<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002541.shtml>

UPDATED eTHEMES

Cyberbullying These sites are about cyberbullying. Learn what cyberbullying is, how it works, why people cyberbully, how to stop it, and what steps to take when encountering bullying. Includes interactive games, cartoons, real-life stories, and quizzes. There are links to eThemes Resource on Internet Safety and Bullying.

<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002205.shtml>

Daylight Saving Time These sites introduce students to the concept of time and specifically the concept of Daylight Savings time. Learn the history of how humans have calculated time. Includes interactive quizzes, games, worksheets, and a lesson plan. Includes eThemes Resources on calendars, telling time, U.S. time zones, and elapsed time. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002107.shtml>

Economics Learn about economics. Find out about exchange, barter, interdependence, profit, and supply and demand. Learn economics terms and play games to practice new skills and concepts. Learn why economics is important for students and the world. Includes activities, online games, and quizzes. There are links to eThemes resources on basic concepts of economics, how to start your own business, owning an ice cream shop, and Missouri exports and imports. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001469.shtml>

Explorers These websites are about explorers. Here students can read about the Spanish conquistadors, Vikings, Marco Polo, and others. There are timelines, maps, games, and virtual journeys. Included are additional eThemes resources with further information on explorers of North America and the Vikings.

<http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001834.shtml>

Explorers: Mountain Men These sites have information about mountain men who helped developed the old West. Learn about their lives, adventures, and fur trading. Included are journals, diaries, historical overviews, authentic photographs, and maps. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001438.shtml>

Updated eTHEMES, cont'd.

Famous Americans: Australian Connections These sites focus on famous Americans who have Australian connections. Learn about their contributions, achievements, and biographies. Includes photos, interview transcripts, and video clips. There are links to eThemes Resources on Australian Aborigines and Continent: Australia. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001945.shtml>

Famous Americans: European Connections These websites are about famous American movie stars, politicians, and diplomats with European roots. Find out about Henry Kissinger, Arnold Schwarzenegger, Hugh Grant, Madeleine Albright, Emma Thompson, Sean Connery, Pierce Brosnan, and Lynn Redgrave. Included is an eThemes resource on authors Roald Dahl, C.S. Lewis, and Charles Dickens. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001944.shtml>

Famous People: Composers These websites are about famous music composers throughout history. Learn about Bach, Beethoven, the Gershwin brothers, and other famous composers. There are games, sound clips, and video clips. Includes links to eThemes on various music topics. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001574.shtml>

Famous People: Helen Keller Read about Helen Keller, a deaf and blind woman who fought for the rights of people with vision and hearing problems. Learn how she communicated with others and used this talent to share her ideas and beliefs. Includes letters, memorabilia, and several photographs, plus suggested classroom activities. There is a link to an eThemes Resource on disability awareness and another on "The Miracle Worker" by William Gibson. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001091.shtml>

Literature: "Four Perfect Pebbles" by Marion Blumenthal Lazan These websites are about the book, "Four Perfect Pebbles" and co-author Marion Blumenthal Lazan. Go to the official website to learn more about the book and author. There are lesson plans and a link to an audio presentation by Marion Blumenthal Lazan. Includes links to eThemes resources on the Holocaust and a related book, "The Diary of Anne Frank." <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00002254.shtml>

Literature: "Fourth Grade Rats" by Jerry Spinelli These websites are about the book "Fourth Grade Rats" and author Jerry Spinelli. There are comprehension questions, graphic organizers, and lesson plans. Also includes links to eThemes Resources on bullies in literature, story elements, reading skills, decoding strategies, and inference. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001673.shtml>

Literature: "Henry and Ribsy" by Beverly Cleary These websites are about the book "Henry and Ribsy" and author Beverly Cleary. Visit the author's website to find out about the characters in her books. There are links to quizzes, excerpts from the book, lesson plans, and more. Includes links to eThemes resources on Beverly Cleary, dogs, and fishing. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001522.shtml>

Literature: "Hitler's Daughter" by Jackie French These sites are about the Australian author Jackie French and her book "Hitler's Daughter." There are author biography, classroom activity ideas, and discussion guides. Included are eThemes resources on World War II, the Holocaust, and Australian Aborigines. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001986.shtml>

Literature: "Holes" by Louis Sachar Find information about the book, suggested classroom activities, discussion questions, online quizzes, and lesson plans. There are links to eThemes Resources on author Louis Sachar and literature theme on bullying. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000542.shtml>

Literature: "I Know What You Did Last Summer" by Lois Duncan These sites are about the book "I Know What You Did Last Summer." Includes interviews and biographies on author Lois Duncan. There is also information about mysteries and horror stories along with some suggested classroom activities. Includes eThemes Resource on peer pressure, mystery books, and writing mystery genre. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000768.shtml>

Updated eTHEMES, cont'd.

Literature: "Judy Moody" by Megan McDonald These sites are about the book "Judy Moody" by Megan McDonald. There are hands-on activities and biographies on the author. Watch a video interview with the author and view the top student artwork from a collage contest inspired by the book. eThemes Resources on book activities and back-to-school activities are included. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000774.shtml>

Literature: "Koala Lou" by Mem Fox These sites have suggested activities for the book "Koala Lou" and biographies on author Mem Fox. Includes an audio file of the author reading the book aloud as well as lesson plans and activities that go along with the book. There are also links to eThemes Resources on koala bears, Australia, the Olympics, and emotions. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000660.shtml>

Literature: "Loser" by Jerry Spinelli These websites are about the book "Loser" and author Jerry Spinelli. Go to his official website to learn more about him. There are also worksheets, games, quizzes, discussion questions, and lesson plans for the book. Includes links to eThemes resources on Jerry Spinelli, the literature theme of bullying and the Mark Twain literature awards for 2004-2005, for which this book was a nominee. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001451.shtml>

Literature: "Love That Dog" by Sharon Creech These sites are about the book "Love That Dog" written by Sharon Creech. Includes background information about the book, biographies of the author, discussion questions, suggested classroom activities, and audio book reading. There are links to eThemes Resources on Writing: Poetry for Elementary Grade Levels and Poetry: Simile and Figurative Language. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00001893.shtml>

Writing: Personification These sites explain how to use personification to improve your writing. Includes definitions, numerous examples, and classroom activity ideas. There are also links to three eThemes Resources on other types of figurative language. <http://www.emints.org/ethemes/resources/S00000562.shtml>