LEARN IT IN 5

http://learnitin5.com

Website Description: This website is a powerful library of how-to videos, produced by technology teachers, for the purpose of helping teachers and students create classroom strategies for today's 21st century's digital classroom. The site was developed as the foundation for Mark Barnes' online courses for teachers to help with the integration in the K-12 classroom.

The site provides step-by-step videos that last 5 minutes or less. The topics include Web 2.0, blogging, podcasting, wikis, social media, and classroom video tools. There are also a small number of videos to share with students on a variety of topics, not just technology.

You can register for updates, but you **DO NOT** need to register to use the content.

New content on the site

Video topics

Ways to use this website:

1. These videos are short, informative, and easy to follow which is great because you can quickly update your knowledge about Web 2.0 tools.

The blog contains links to more videos on technology

Learn it in 5 provides a brief overview of the tool as well as providing the benefits and drawbacks of using it. This is a useful feature that will quickly help you to determine if the tool will support your curriculum.

How-to video: Creating digital stories with Storybird

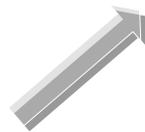*Brief synopsis*: Storybird is a digital storytelling, sharing and publishing tool.

Benefits: Storybird is a user-friendly Web 2.0 application that offers teachers in a digital classroom the opportunity to spark creativity and improve writing skills in students. Storybird uses templates and drag-and-drop graphics that even a 5-year-old can use. Many picture themes are presented by Storybird as a starting ground for the digital story. Storybird includes privacy settings. Storybird allows users to purchase a soft or hard cover book version of their digital story. Although Storybird seems to be built for younger students, some themes may lend themselves to older, more creative, students.

Drawbacks: Although it's free, Storybird has an e-mail confirmation sign-up, which may make it difficult for teachers to use with students, if students do not have e-mail accounts which can be accessed at school.

Conclusion: The how-to video above demonstrates the digital storytelling Web 2.0 application Storybird. Learn more by highlighting, Storybird, and clicking Learn More on our Apture toolbar.

2. Provide professional development on technology to staff in an appealing format which does not take up too much of their time (whether in staff meetings or on their own time). New content to the site is posted on a frequent basis, and can be found as a link on the home page.

Content topics on site

Our Categories

assessment blogging classroom website collaboration content sharing culture Diigo Evernote feedback Google graphics iPad Lesson Starters mobile learning multi-use tools polls presentation tools projects social bookmarking social media Twitter Video wiki writing YouTube

Standards Correlations: This is not intended to be an exhaustive list, but a sampling of state and national standards that the site may be used for.

AASL Standards for the 21st-Century Learner

2.1.4 Use technology and other information tools to analyze and organize information.
2.4.4 Develop directions for future investigations.
3.1.2 Participate and collaborate as members of a social and intellectual network of learners.

Nebraska English Language Arts Standards
LA K-12.4 Students will identify, locate, and evaluate information.
LA K-12.4.1 Students will research, synthesize, evaluate and communicate information in a variety of media and formats (textual, visual, and digital).

Other Subject Area Standards:
These will vary according to grade level and assignments.

Curricular Connections
Learn It In 5 is a useful instructional tool which makes a multitude of Web 2.0 tools accessible to students and staff at the point of need. It can be used in any context and aligns well with the concept of the flipped classroom.

Embedded Librarianship Tips:
1. Include videos from this site in your staff newsletters.
2. Show these videos using a projector or interactive whiteboard to introduce students to a new web 2.0 tool before starting a project.
3. Make this link available as a Favorite on you teacher public page as student self-help. These videos are also helpful for teachers who want to know more about tech tools but don't have the time to participate in lengthy workshops. If your district blocks embedded You Tube videos, consider accessing this site and choosing videos at home, using a tool such as Zamzar to bring them in for class use.

Potential Pitfalls
1. The multiple organization methods for links are a little confusing.
2. The main list of links does not provide descriptions of the tech tool / feature being discussed. You must click on the link to see what it is about.
3. The professional development and online courses are only available for a fee.
4. You are not able to download the videos, so streaming might be an issue for some.
5. Advertisements on the page can be distracting.
6. There does not seem to be a way to suggest new content for the how-to technology videos.
7. There does not seem to be a help link or FAQ for the site.