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Lesson Plans

This is another huge and fast-growing area. Teachers post lesson plans every day, and cataloguing them would be a full-time job. I've tried to include sites that have either many lesson plans for a variety of topics, or sites for a single topic where it appears people have vouched that the plans on the site are of good quality.

Mathematics

This is a fairly straightforward section. There are many Web sites devoted to mathematics. I have tried to make this section a fairly equal mix of Web sites that apply to teachers and to students.

Multimedia

The Web is fast becoming less a text-based medium than one comprised of pictures, sounds, videos, interaction, etc. This section is divided into two parts. The first section describes five pieces of software that you will probably need to have to take full advantage of the multimedia on the Web. The second section lists some of the best Web sites that are using multimedia.

Organisations

Many of these sites provide quality resources for Web users. They are also of value in that they may provide outlets of communication (chat rooms, Listservs) for users and non-users alike. Though some are just "pamphlet sites" (which means they did little more in creating their Web site than merely reproducing their informational pamphlet), I felt it important to include them to give the users of this book a pointer to the organisation's location.

Publications

Almost every magazine has a companion Web site. Yet, you will notice that some popular magazines are not included in this section. Why? Because many magazines' Web sites are little more than a subscription card. Only magazine Web sites that include content are included in this guide.

Research and Reference Resources

This section may be of most value for users of this book because many of these sites are useful during and after work. Educators are lifelong learners, and learners need reference material. These are the best I have found.

Science

This is another section where it is difficult to wade through all the sites to find the best. The Web was invented for scientists, and they have taken to it. It even seems that the Web may be more uniquely useful to the presentation of scientific information than any other, since this type of information is not merely text-based.

Searching the Web

This primary searching was included to help make your Web experience a little less frustrating. Many of the users of this book are new to the Web. And nothing is more frustrating than trying to find the information you want in the 800 million pages that make up the Web. That frustration sells this book, but I do realise that this book cannot possibly catalogue all of the good sites on the Web.

Sites for Students

This section is written primarily for teachers who wish to integrate the Web into their teaching. These sites can be shared as a whole class, or bookmarked for students to visit during their times on the computer.

Software

There are a lot of software and services available that enhance the Web experience. I have included information on 20 or so programs and services that can make your Web experience better. The best thing is that all but one of these are free.

Art/Music

A. Pintura: Art Detective

<http://www.eduweb.com/pintura>

Designed for fourth-graders and up, this site uses a 1940s film noir to teach art history (Raphael, Van Gogh, Picasso, etc.) and concepts (subject, portrait, Renaissance, etc.). Also features other detective-type games. From Educational Web Adventures.

African Art Lesson Plans

<http://members.aol.com/TWard64340/Africa.htm>

Elementary art lesson plans on how to make masks, shields, and “kente” (cloth) placemats. Also features links to Ancient Africa.

Art Department

<http://www.artdsm.com>

The Art Department features Piano on the Net, fully interactive online piano lessons. These lessons do require 4.0 level browsers. The lessons take about a half hour and serve as a good introduction to piano playing.

Art Exploration: A Global Approach

<http://www.artsednet.getty.edu/ArtsEdNet/Resources/Sampler/f.html>

The Getty Centre for Education in the Arts created this high school unit to be used as part of an introductory art course or as a course to meet graduation requirements in art. Categories: Ceramics, Painting, Sculpture

Art for Kids (from About.com)

<http://artforkids.miningco.com>

Your host, Tracy Pearson, updates this site weekly. She finds and reviews art sites for kids. The reviews are informative and give a good indication of the reviewed site's usefulness. This site gets larger and better almost weekly.

Art History Theme Page

http://www.cln.org/themes/art_history.html

Mostly a collection of links to other sites, this page offers "one-stop shopping" for art information on the Internet.

Art Projects

<http://www.bway.net/~starlite/projects.htm>

This site includes lesson plans on stained glass, primary colours, murals, mobiles and collages, along with grade recommendations, materials list, and procedures.

@rt Room

http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt_room/@rtroom_home.html

Features an online exhibition of art work from students around the world. Also has a fine links section. Good site featuring interactive art activities, including demonstrations and how to think like an artist.