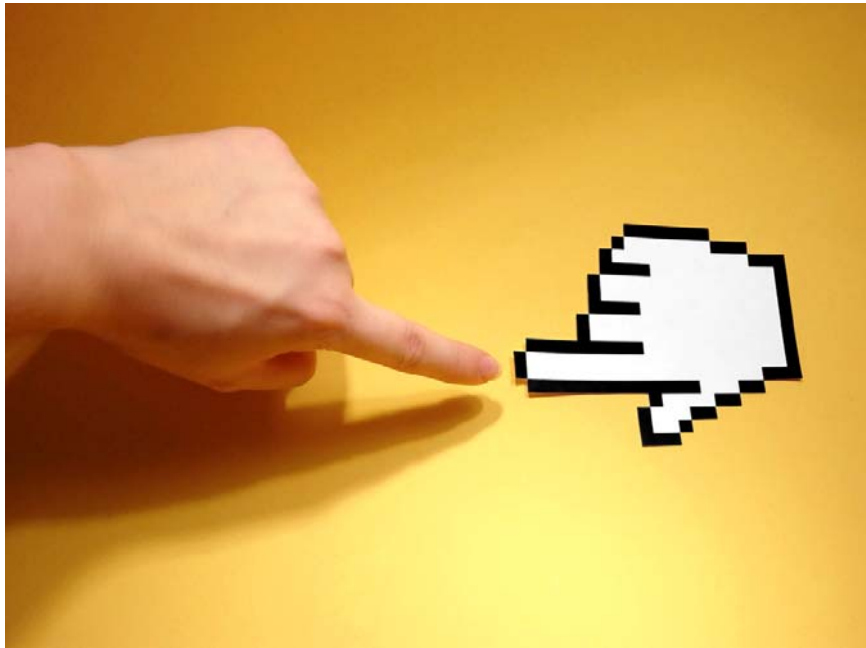


Technology Education Program

Internet Resources



Richland School District Two

Revised May 2009

Internet Resources

Description: This class will cover the Internet resources available to Richland Two students and educators through our network. All of these resources are free! Emphasis will be on DISCUS resources, the Thinkfinity (formerly MarcoPolo) web site and the netTrekker web site and the concept of Web 2.0.

DISCUS is a collection of online resources provided free to the citizens of South Carolina:

(Digital Information for South Carolina Users)

- Use search engines to find topics
- Excellent for lesson plans, student research, support of professional development
- Free on-line databases
- Includes numerous Gale databases with Powersearch and Britannica Online,

The Thinkfinity site provides an amazing selection of free standards-based content from eight partners, which works within your curriculum and provides a structured and safe Internet experience.

- Professionally developed lesson plans
- Standards-based classroom activities
- Materials to help with daily classroom planning
- Powerful search engines
- Discuss classroom uses

NetTrekker is a subscription service providing screened web sites and other curriculum support resources and professional development resources.

Web 2.0 is the Internet on a more collaborative and interactive level. As an educator, you can find many great free applications that involve active communication and participation by you and your students

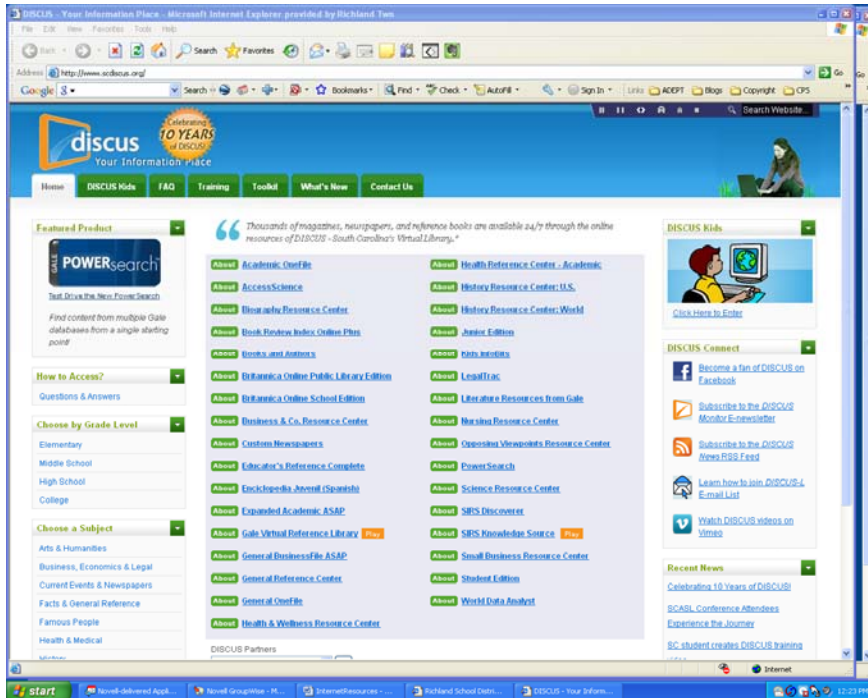
Objectives:

Participants will be able to:

- Review search methods
- Explore research sites
- Evaluate validity of web information
- Share lesson plans and resources for using the Internet in the curriculum

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Part 1: Using DISCUS



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DISCUS stands for Digital Information for South Carolina Users. To access DISCUS, go to www.scdiscus.org or access through the links on the Richland Two website. Access through school computers requires no userid or password. For home use, the username and password change every year. Your media specialist, public librarian or ITS can give you these. All resources have already been screened for appropriate educational use. And they are all FREE!

Discus resources are organized both by school level and by subject area. Here are examples of the variety and scope of DISCUS:

Recommended for elementary school

Biography Resource Center

Kids InfoBits

Junior Edition

Britannica Elementary

Britannica Learning Zone for early childhood

Enciclopedia Juvenil (Spanish)

Sirs Discoverer (with World Almanac for Kids, an Encyclopedia, dictionary, Tree search, monthly spotlight)

Originally compiled by Beth Lee and Rosemary Nance (June 2004)

--Updates: Linda Reardon (June 2007, May 2009)

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Recommended for Middle School

In addition to the above list, try these:

Brittanica Middle School

Books and Authors

Custom Newspapers

Health and Wellness resource Center

Literature Resources from Gale

Opposing Viewpoints Resource Center

For High School, more than 40 resources are recommended including the Gale virtual library of e-Books, SIRS Knowledge Source (with SIRS Researcher, SIRS Government Reporter, SIRS Renaissance, SKS Web Select, and SIRS Interactive Citizenship) AccessScience from McGraw-Hill, and the History Resource Center

Searching tips

Choose the database first; General Reference or Health and Wellness.

SEARCH by subject –can limit search to articles with text, by date, by journal and/or entries containing a specific word. If you do not check “limit to articles with text,” then you will also get abstracts.

For example - polar bear – (typed in search box)

View 1 Encyclopedia excerpt

View 2 Reference Book excerpts

View 35 Newspaper references

View 127 Periodical references

You can also access articles that are reviewed. Use “re” for refereed. This will work only in the Academic, Business and Health databases.

Marking articles (check the box to the left) allows you to save wanted articles in a list. After you have marked all the articles you wish to retrieve, click on “Mark List” at the upper right of the screen.

View - to see the abstract and/or full text of the article

Retrieve – to see retrieval choices (e.g. printing, e-mailing)

Link – back to screen which lists other references

Limit Search – allows you to place parameters such as date and journal title

DISCUS Search Tips Using Boolean Operators

Search Syntax	Meaning	Examples
And	The AND operator locates articles that contain all of the key words or phrases	children AND computers
Or	The OR operator locates articles that contain at least one of the key words or phrases.	tornado OR cyclone
Not	The NOT operator is used to eliminate articles that contain certain key words or phrases.	basketball NOT college
*	Truncation includes alternate word endings such as plurals and tense variations in your query.	farm* for: farmer, farming, farmland etc.
“ “	Enclose a phrase in quotation marks to find multiple words appearing next to one another in a specified order.	"affirmative action"
()	Boolean searches are conducted in the following order of precedence (NOT, AND, OR) unless parentheses are used. Use NOT and OR together to limit your search . Use AND and OR together to expand your search.	(dolphin NOT fish) OR porpoise health AND (kids OR children)
Putting it all together	This is an example of how to locate references to the various earthquake(s) in California or Washington, excluding those in San Francisco.	(California OR Washington) AND earthquake* NOT "San Francisco"

The Gale Powersearch allows you to search multiple databases at once.

Part 2: Using Thinkfinity



To access Thinkfinity go to <http://www.thinkfinity.com/home.aspx>

Thinkfinity Internet Content for the Classroom is a consortium of premier national education organizations, state education agencies and the Verizon Education Foundation dedicated to providing the highest quality Internet content and professional development to teachers and students throughout the United States. Thinkfinity features eight content Web sites with lesson plans, student interactive content, downloadable worksheets, links to panel-reviewed Web sites and additional resources created by the nation's leading education organizations:

It also incorporates the Thinkfinity Literacy Network.

1. Created by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, **ARTSEdge** provides resources and exemplars for teachers to teach in, through, and about the arts. The site includes lesson plans, advocacy and professional development resources, and up-to-date information on arts programs from around the world.
2. Developed by the National Council on Economic Education, **EconEdLink** provides teachers and students with lessons and classroom learning activities based on economics topics in the news and real-time economics data. EconEdLink content is designed to help integrate economic concepts across the curriculum as outlined in the Voluntary National Content Standards in Economics.
3. Presented by the National Endowment for the Humanities, **EDSITEment** features lesson plans and additional classroom resources in art and culture, literature and language arts, foreign language, and history and social studies. It also serves as a gateway to the best humanities sites on the Web, and it features a monthly theme-based teaching resource calendar.
4. The **Illuminations** site is designed by The National Council of Teachers of Mathematics to bring NCTM's Principles and Standards for School Mathematics to life through engaging interactive student applets, comprehensive Internet-based lesson plans, and teacher resources such as "Reflections on Teaching."

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5. Developed by the International Reading Association and The National Council of Teachers of English, **ReadWriteThink** provides resources and best practices for educators in both reading and language arts subject areas. This site features lesson plans, literature and professional development resources aligned to the *NCTE/IRA Standards for the English Language Arts*.

6. Created by the American Association for the Advancement of Science, **Science NetLinks** features lesson plans (with embedded student E-Sheets and interactive student activities), reviewed resources, and additional activities such as Weekly Science Updates. Science NetLinks resources are aligned to AAAS's own *Project 2061 Benchmarks for Science Literacy*.

7. Developed by the National Geographic Society, **Xpeditions** brings rich, standards-based geography content to teachers and students. This site includes materials for K-12 teachers and students and their families, including an interactive atlas with over 1,600 printable maps and Xpedition Hall, a virtual learning museum with exhibits aligned to the U.S. National Geography Standards.

8. **Smithsonian's History Explorer** collects, preserves and displays American heritage in the areas of social, political, cultural, scientific and military history. Documenting the American experience from Colonial times to the present, the site includes lessons, interactives, media clips and activities.

The **Thinkfinity Calendar** highlights historic events on specific dates with hyperlinked associated lessons and resources.

http://www.thinkfinity.com/teacher/marcopolo_calendar.aspx

The **Thinkfinity Search Engine** and **Lesson Plan Index** provide access to the educational resources created by the Thinkfinity Partners plus Partner reviewed materials. You may search by content area and grade level for lesson plans or just references and other related references. Thinkfinity includes over 55,000 authoritative resources.

Sign up to receive an e-mail newsletter with tips and new resources at

<http://www.thinkfinity.com/teacher/marcograms.aspx>

and check the newsletter archive for themed curriculum ideas.

Part 3: Using NetTrekker d.i.



Richland Two maintains a subscription to *netTrekker d.i.*- a search engine specifically for schools-- containing over 300,000 resources! Web sites are reviewed and rated by educators, so you can trust the content. Links to NetTrekker are provided on the District home page. You can also access it at home with your userid and password.

1. Follow the step-by-step directions to create your own personal login, while on a school computer. It will be easiest if you use the same username and password that you use for Novell.
2. Once you are registered, click on Login.
3. To take a tour, go to **My Tools>Help** on the right side of the page and then choose **Implementation> Tour** (Watch Our Demo) (a flash video that describe the program).
4. Once you have completed viewing the demo, close the window and return to the main page.

Navigating the Site

1. Choose the elementary, middle, high, or standards tab.
2. Several ways to find information:
 - ⇒ Keyword search
 - ⇒ Start with the particular standard you are working on
 - ⇒ Drill down through the subject areas to individual topics
 - ⇒ Look for famous people

Features Box:

 - ⇒ Try a Timeline-Add layers to show overlap of events in different areas
 - ⇒ References include online encyclopedias, spelling sites, maps, homework helpers, multimedia sites, classroom resources, online professional publications, research sites, worksheet maker, & more
3. Check below the Tools menu for Current Events and then you can go to News by State

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4. Set up generic user names for students and save information in folders as you would the shared folder at school. Create a class account ahead of time. Students can then access any sites you have saved for them in the class folder.

Note: In order to create classes, you must be designated as a teacher in netTrekker. By default, all users are listed as students. To change your profile, after logging in, click on the Profile link in My Tools. Enter the district's teacher code and click submit. This will change your status from student to teacher. Your instructor can give you the code.

5. Once you perform a search and get a search result that you would like to use click Save Search, located at the top of your Search Result, to save your search. You can create folders of searches and links for your students to use.

*Note: You only have access to **Saved Searches** if you are logged into netTrekker as an individual user. You may only save up to 25 websites per search at a time.*

****Try the Read Aloud feature that lets you highlight text within netTrekker or linked Web sites and have it spoken.****

Part 4: Using Web 2.0

Some of the most well-known web 2.0 applications include MySpace, Facebook, Twitter, Delicious, Second Life, Flickr, YouTube and Wikipedia . None of these are passive repositories of information, instead they are constantly changing and expanding as more and more users add, modify and share. Designed for participation, they take advantage of the collective intelligence of their user to add value. However, Web 2.0 applications, like traditional ones, vary greatly in their usefulness and appropriateness for the classroom. You should carefully evaluate any Web 2.0 applications that you are considering for instructional use.

Here is a helpful site that looks at web 2.0 in that context:

<http://21cif.com/rkit/newRkit/Web2.html>

Compilations of Web 2.0 Resources:

Web 2.0 Articles and documents about web 2.0:

<http://kathyschrock.net/web20/>

Great list of programs for older students or yourself:

<http://www.collegeathome.com/blog/2008/06/10/100-helpful-web-tools-for-every-kind-of-learner/>

For Media Specialists

<http://webtools4u2use.wikispaces.com/>

LARGE compilation of sites

Originally compiled by Beth Lee and Rosemary Nance (June 2004)

--Updates: Linda Reardon (June 2007, May 2009)

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<http://www.kn.att.com/wired/fil/pages/listweb20s.html>

UDL Toolkits

http://www.cast.org/teachingeverystudent/toolkits/tk_resources.cfm?tk_id=41

Lots of web 2.0 tools from Kathy Shrock

http://www.diigo.com/list/kathyschrock/web20tools?page_num=3&order_by=1

Web 2.0 apps for older students

http://www.readwriteweb.com/archives/web_20_backpack_web_apps_for_students.php

Richland 2 Wiki compiling web 2.0 resources that ITS's have evaluated:

<http://commit2it.wikispaces.com/>

Questions about copyright and fair use?

Guidelines for fair use of multimedia can be found here:

<http://www.adec.edu/admin/papers/fair10-17.html>

These resources are provided for school media specialists, but are useful for all educators

<http://ed.sc.gov/agency/offices/tech/ms/lms/CopyrightandPlagiarism.html>