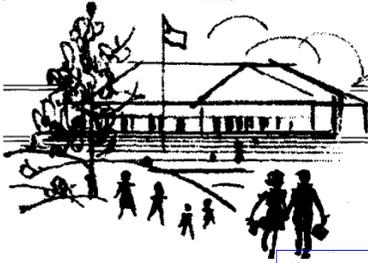


November 2015



Graham County School News



Graham County School Superintendent

Donna M. McGaughey

Volume 11, Issue 11

"Providing Quality Service and Support to Graham County Schools"

Please visit our website
www.graham.az.gov

Superintendent's Message

The busiest month on record is now behind us! Our teachers, staff and administrators did a lot of heaving lifting last month with the fair, parent conferences, carnivals, and all of the other field trips and activities that happened during October. Thanks for what you do! County employees enjoyed a visit from the Arizona Association of Counties (AACo) leadership who presented pertinent county information. The Graham/Greenlee Early Childhood Coalition met and shared information on transition, birth through grade 3. This group will meet again in January, and all early childhood providers are invited to attend. The Graham County Fair was a huge success, and congratulations to the schools who participated in the parade and exhibits. This year Safford High School turns 100 and thousands of alumni "came back home" to celebrate. It was a tremendous success and a good time was had by all! Dozens of students participated in the annual Cowboy Poets activities. The Safford Ag Center and Graham County Cooperative Extension provided wonderful hands-on experiences for our county's 4th graders with their "5-Cs of Arizona" field trips. Thanks everyone!

Contact us:

Donna McGaughey
Superintendent
921 Thatcher Blvd.
Safford, AZ 85546
928-428-2880
Fax: 928-428-8824

dmcgaugh-
ey@graham.az.gov

Jill Davis, Chief Deputy
jdavis@graham.az.gov

Polly Merriman, Deputy
pmerriman@graham.az.gov

Online Registration:
www.graham.az.gov

Click on:

School Superintendent,
Workshops

Dates to Remember:

Nov. 3—Election Day

Nov. 5—Auditor General training for school business offices—Gen. Services Bldg.

**Nov. 10—Governor's Office Public Forum on Standards, General Services Bldg. 6:00—
7:00 p.m. the public is encouraged to attend**

Nov. 11—Veterans Day

Nov. 12—Rodel Math 20/20 Administrators meeting 8-10 Gen. Services Bldg.

Nov. 19—Rodel Math 20/20 training (3rd grade teachers)

Nov. 20—Rodel Math 20/20 training (4th grade teachers)

Nov. 23—Graham/Greenlee Administrators meeting—Solomon



Note to teachers: *Feel free to share this article with parents. You could post it on your web page, include it in a newsletter, or copy it to send home with the children. Schools need to take an active role in encouraging healthy choices for children. Halloween presents a challenge. This is the perfect opportunity to seize the opportunity!*

HALLOWEEN: The Day After

If your children or grandchildren went trick or treating on the 31st, the chances are they came home with lots of sweet treats. As a parent or caregiver you need to take some action. First of all, safety! Inspect everything in the collection to be sure all is safe. Throw away anything that looks suspicious or tampered with. Secondly, moderation is the key. Limit the daily intake. It would be great if children were limited to one piece per day. Remember that children don't usually have such self-discipline. You can provide guidance on this. Also, have your child brush his or her teeth after eating candy. This is a good habit to begin in the preschool years. Oral health problems are a main reason for school absences. Early dental care will prevent future loss of school time. You want to set your children up for success. After three weeks, toss the remaining candy out. It will be old news by then and truly won't be missed. If you are in the position to manage that bag of sweet loot, take the time to make it a positive learning experience with your child. Remember the key words: SAFETY, MODERATION, BRUSH, AND TOSS!

Submitted by
Paulette LeBlanc
FTF Community Outreach Coordinator



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nov. 2, 2015

Standards Development Committee Seeks Public Input on Math/English Language Arts Standards

Safford— The State Board of Education’s Standards Development Committee will be holding a public input meeting on Arizona’s Mathematics and English Language Arts Standards in Safford on November 10th.

In March 2015, Governor Ducey tasked the State Board of Education with reviewing Arizona’s Math and English Language Arts Standards in order to ensure that the standards are vetted, approved and controlled by Arizona, and that they are the best for Arizona’s students.

In April 2015, the State Board of Education established the Arizona Academic Standards Development Committee to oversee the development of Arizona Mathematics Standards and Arizona English Language Arts Standards.

As part of the standards review process, county superintendents across the state will be hosting public meetings to allow for feedback to the Standards Development Committee on the current academic standards. For more information on Arizona’s K-12 Mathematics and English Language Arts Standards, please visit:

<https://k12standards.az.gov/>

To submit feedback online, please visit: <https://k12standards.az.gov/comment-standards>

WHAT: Public Meeting on Arizona’s K-12 Math and ELA Standards

WHEN: Tuesday, November 10, 2015

6:00-7:00pm

WHERE: Graham County General Services Bldg. Assembly Room

921 Thatcher Blvd.

Safford, AZ 85546

###



Art Supply Grants



K-12 Teachers in SE Arizona*

Could you use more art supplies for your students??

Friends of Western Art offers up to \$400 of art supply funds for programs that teach western art. Today's western art embraces a variety of subject matter. In addition to Native Americans and cowboys, subjects include southwest architecture, gardens, landscapes, and wildlife; a detailed list is at www.FriendsofWesternArt.org on the *Education* page.

Successful applicants will receive a supply account at Sarnoff Artist Supplies in Tucson (can be purchased on-line and shipped to outlying areas). Supplies are for Western art projects only.

Applying is Simple! Complete the application or send us:

1. Your name, school, county, grade level(s) you teach, phone number, and email address.
2. A paragraph explaining how you incorporate Western art into your curriculum. This may include a brief lesson description, names of videos or western art guest speakers, etc.
3. Description of supplies you need and the time period of project(s).
4. Amount requesting (maximum amounts per year: High School \$400, Middle School \$300, and Elementary \$200).

Grant Reporting: Share with us! Email 3 to 5 photos showing how the materials were used.

Send Applications to: FWAgrant@gmail.com

Apply between August 31st and January 31st.

Share this with other art teachers—it is non-competitive.

Funds awarded on a first come – first served basis.

Successful applicants notified within 4 to 6 weeks after applying.

*SE Arizona includes the entire counties of Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz plus areas south of the Gila River in Pinal, Graham, and Greenlee counties.

The Friends of Western Art is a non-profit organization. Its mission is to promote the awareness of art of American West in Tucson and southeastern Arizona through underwriting and educational programs.

American West in Tucson and southeastern Arizona through underwriting and educational programs.



Art Supply Grant Application

Name _____ Date: _____ School _____

Your Grade Level(s) _____ District: _____ County: _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Number of students who will work on the project _____

Briefly describe the lesson you will use to incorporate Western Art into your curriculum.

List the supplies you will purchase for the lesson.

Amount requested: _____ Time frame of the project _____

Maximum amounts per year: High School \$400, Middle School \$300, and Elementary \$200

Grant Reporting: Share with us! Email 3 to 5 photos showing student artwork.

Successful applicants will be notified within 4 to 6 weeks after applying and receive a supply account at Sarnoff Artist Supplies, 2504 N. Campbell Ave. in Tucson. Supplies are for western art projects only.

Send applications to: FWAgrant@gmail.com

*To be eligible, you must teach in SE Arizona which includes the entire counties of Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz plus areas south of the Gila River in Pinal, Graham and Greenlee counties.

***Apply between August 31st and January 31st.** You may apply more than once during the school year until you reach the maximum amounts based on grade level.

***Maximum amounts per year: HS \$400, Middle School \$300, Elementary \$200**

www.FriendsofWesternArt.org

Dear Educators,

The EAC Discovery Park Campus is available to help you have a fun, safe, and educational Science related field trip, and best of all ...there's no cost! Field trips are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year for all grade levels. Please call for more information or to schedule an awesome field trip for your students!



Hurry! Field trip dates are filling fast!!



EAC Discovery Park staff offer exciting field trip opportunities with lessons available in two subjects areas;

Native Habitat (plants and animals), and Astronomy

The Discovery Park staff instructors and our wonderful community volunteers who share their love of nature and astronomy are here to help you.

EAC Discovery Park offers a variety of educational opportunities not found anywhere else!

*Graham County Historical Society's collection of early Gila Valley artifacts.
Amazing interactive Electromagnetic spectrum display.*

*Our friends Galileo, Isaac Newton, and Albert Einstein show us the
"History of Astronomy".*

*The World's largest permanently mounted "Camera Obscura" -
light, refraction, and perspective.*

The DPC research-grade 20" Tinsley Telescope in the "Gov Aker" Observatory.

*"Nature's Hideaway" Pond- see native animals in a natural
Sonoran Desert Riparian Habitat.*

The endangered Chiricahua Leopard Frog Ranarium Breeding program.

"Mill's Collection" of Pre-Historic Native American Pottery

And the exciting "Polaris" shuttle ride simulator for facts about our Solar System!

**Contact Jackie at the EAC Discovery Park Campus
for more information or to schedule a field trip:
(928)428-6260 or e-mail: jackie.madsen@eac.edu**

EASI Camps and Events Calendar:

November 6-7, 2015 – ASTA Conference “Ready, Set, Explore Science!”

December 5, 2015 - “G.O. Stem” (Girls Only – STEM) @ DPC

- Please contact me as soon as possible if you have a lesson idea for this “Girls Only” STEM Day-Camp. Requesting female instructors.

•

March 10-12, 2016 Eastern Arizona Regional Science Fair

I’ll send out information on how to make a Science Fair at your school fun and painless! Look for it about the first of the year.

May 31-June 2, 2016 – Tonto Creek STEM Camp

June 6-10, 2016 – Southeastern AZ Teachers Academy (SEATA)

June 13-15, 2016 – EASI Summer Science Camp – Grade 6-9

June 20-24, 2016 – EASI High School Forensics Camp – Grade 8-12

Paul R. Anger

Director, EAC Discovery Park Campus

Chair, Eastern Arizona Science Initiative

Region V Rep., Arizona Science Teachers Association

1651 W. Discovery Park Blvd. Safford, AZ 85546

paul.anger@eac.edu (928) 428-6260

SAFFORD CITY
GRAHAM COUNTY
LIBRARY



808 S. Seventh Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546
(928) 432-4165

The Safford City / Graham County Library offers services beyond checking out books. The Graham County School Superintendent has partnered with the library to offer homework help for students from kindergarten through college. **It's free to Graham County students.** Visit the library's homepage at www.cityofsafford.us and click on the *Homework Help* icon. This will lead you to the icon for **Tutor.com**. "Check out" this free tool and get help on any subject.

Citizens looking for help with finding a job should take advantage of the services offered by Job Skills Instructor, Kevin Hansen. Mr. Hansen offers help in finding jobs and preparing resumes. Additionally, he will help coach job seekers as they practice their interview skills. This is a great service!

The library has partnered with *First Things First* to enhance literacy skills in our youngest population. In addition to story time, parents can bring their children to the Brain Box sessions and other preschool activities scheduled throughout the year. The library has secured a grant from First Things First to fund the Imagination Library Book Club. Children ages birth through five can be signed up to receive a free, age-appropriate book in the mail each month. These are just a few of the wonderful things families can explore due to the partnerships formed by the library.

Visit the Safford City / Graham County Library in person or online!



The Safford City—Graham County Library has partnered with the Arizona State Library to bring a fabulous FREE database of eBooks to our students!

Visit www.saffordlibrary.org

On the left side of the screen, click on "TumbleBooks / eBooks for Kids

"Check out" the titles, which now include non-fiction!

The books are indexed by reading levels, grade, and lexile.

Take advantage of this valuable opportunity—it's free!

Visit the Gift Shop!

Safford City / Graham County Library

808 S. Seventh Ave.

Safford, AZ 85546 928-432-4165

Hours: Mon.—Thursday 10:00 a.m. —7:00 p.m. Closed Friday—Sunday



Speaking of wonderful resources...

You Can Take Free Online Courses with Universal Class

Interested in learning new crafts and hobbies? Looking to go from amateur to pro photography? Starting a business and would like to know more about entrepreneurship? The library has you covered! Go to the library's website at www.saffordlibrary.org and sign up to take free courses with Universal Class.

Universal Class offers a diverse catalog of lifelong learning courses online including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Accounting, Career Training, Office Skills | Real Estate and Entrepreneurship. |
| Cooking, Crafts and Hobbies. | Fine Arts and Photography. |
| Performing Arts. | Parenting and Family. |
| Alternative Medicine, Self-Help. | Personal Care. |
| Computer Training. | Web Development. |
| Pet and Animal Care. | Home Gardening, Repair and DIY. |
| Psychology. | History. |
| Religious and Spiritual Studies. | Science. |
| General Education. | Special Education. |
| Homeschooling. | Teacher Resources. |
| Test Preparation. | Social Work. |
| Language Arts. | Terminology. |
| Math and Writing Skills. | Law, Legal and Criminal.and more! |

Go through each full course to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and certificates! Some courses even offer Video Mode for those wanting to simply audit courses. Remember to log in with your full library card number (ex: P41256) when first signing up.

LEARN LANGUAGES FOR FREE WITH MANGO LANGUAGES

Choose from over 70 languages to learn for FREE! Spanish, French, Chinese, Japanese, ESL (Inglés) and much more!! Easy to use and self-paced, with audio, video and vocabulary to help you learn at your own comfort. Register for your own free personal profile or click QUICK START below to get started right away! Remember to sign in with your library card number (ex: 41256) when you first register.

MANGO MONDAYS - EVERY MONDAY Beginning August 3rd

Sign up anytime during the month of August for Mango Languages on the library's website at www.saffordlibrary.org and be entered in a raffle to win fun door prizes every Monday! Be sure to either fill out a ticket at the front desk or message us on Facebook at fb.com/saffordlibrary so we can enter you in. Door prizes will be drawn every Monday at 4 PM.

SCHOOL KIDS COWBOY POETRY PROGRAM

2015

TOP HANDS

NAME	POEM	SCHOOL	GRADE	TEACHER
Dean Haller	"Rope Burns and Blisters"	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Saydee Allred	"Howdy Partner"	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Merrill Larson	"Dangers and Twisters"	T.L.C.	6	Bills

WINNERS

NAME	POEM	SCHOOL	GRADE	TEACHER
Matilyn Lopeman	"A Cowgirl and Her Cattle"	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Lindsey McMaster	"The Big One"	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Cailin Larson	"Rodeo"	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Braylee Damron	"Ridin' on the Range"	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Paige Hill	"Rope Burns and Blisters"	Bonita	5	Bull
Michael Martinez	"Roping Out on the Range"	Bonita	5	Bull
Travis Rhodes	"Hard Day's Work"	Bonita	6	Lorang
Fedora Young	"The Old Wild West"	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Christopher Serna	"Jail Town"	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Jordan Nichols	"Rope Burns"	Solomon	6	Logan
Jocelynn Leon	"Rope Burns"	Solomon	6	Logan
Breena Black	"Mustangs"	Ft. Thomas	5	Haught
Mariah Ramirez	"The Old Western Days"	Safford (Ruth Powell)	5	Fite
Garet Morris	"Blisters and Band Aids"	Pima	5	Schlittenhardt

TOP HONORABLE MENTION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POEM</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
Kaylie Layton	“Me and My Horse at My Ranch” (true)	T.L.C.	6	Bills

HONORABLE MENTION

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POEM</u>	<u>SCHOOL</u>	<u>GRADE</u>	<u>TEACHER</u>
Brianna Richins	“Pony Express”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Camille Bryce	“A Cowboy’s Life”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Mariah Jensen	“Not So OK Corral”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Leah Gonzalez	“Dusty Day”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Haley Nicholas	“Cowgirl in Love”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Emma Lamoreaux	“Roping at Dawn”	Thatcher	5	Christensen
Camryn Lunt	“Hard Working Cowboy”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Landen Sanders	“Chuck and the Iron Horse”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Jade Smallwood	“Rodeo Time”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Slade Shupe	“Rope Burns and Blisters”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Leah Sanders	“The Rodeo”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Eliana Chavez	“Mr. and Mrs.”	Thatcher	6	Hernandez
Samuel Ray	“Ropes and Blisters”	Bonita	5	Bull
Jarren Friend	“Ropes and Blisters”	Bonita	5	Bull
Maycee Michaels	“I Got a Rope Burn”	Bonita	6	Lorang
Faith Baker	“Blisters”	Solomon	6	Logan
Drea Chavarria	“Blisters”	Solomon	6	Logan
D’mitri Briggs	“Blisters”	Solomon	6	Logan
Jacob Flowers	“The Shoot-Out”	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Destiny Clark	“What a Mess”	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Bradyn Willey	“What Cowboys Do”	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Tylee Brimhall	“Left From the West”	D.P.A.	5	Mayer
Lydia McElroy	“Maya Lou”	T.L.C.	5	Bills

*Discovery Plus Academy

*Triumphant Learning Center

GILA VALLEY COWBOY POETS, INC.
SCHOOL KIDS WESTERN ART PROGRAM
2015 RESULTS
ART GUILD OF EASTERN ARIZONA
SPONSOR

BEST OF SHOW: Jake Layton
"Mending Fences" (metal art)
Thatcher 5th Grade Teacher: Allred

5th GRADE WINNERS:

1ST PLACE: Brooklyn Millward
"Off the Saddle"
Thatcher Teacher: Rowley

2ND PLACE: Kensey Keith
"Western Front Porch"
Thatcher Teacher: Rowley

3RD PLACE: Maren Hatch
"Sheriff Showdown"
Thatcher Teacher: Christensen

3RD PLACE: Savinya Kimball
"Rope Burns and Blisters Cream Shop"
Solomon Teacher: Andazola

AWARD OF MERIT: Jada Cheney
"Geronimo"
Ft. Thomas Teacher: Haught

6TH GRADE WINNERS:

1ST PLACE: Joshua Mangum
"Western Skies"
Thatcher Teacher: Hernandez

2ND PLACE: Kaylie Layton
"Me and My Horse at My Ranch (true)"
(Triumphant Learning Center) T.L.C. Teacher: Bills

3RD PLACE: Aubrey Melton
"Cowboy's Art"
Thatcher Teacher: Hernandez

3RD PLACE: Dayton Miner
"A Cowboy's Buckle"
Thatcher Teacher: Lewis

Administration Launches Every Kid in a Park Pass

Fourth Graders Can Now Obtain Pass that Grants Free Access to Federal Lands and Waters Nationwide for Them and Their Family

WASHINGTON – As part of President Obama’s commitment to protect our nation’s unique outdoor spaces and ensure that every American has the opportunity to visit and enjoy them, the Obama Administration today formally launched the new Every Kid in a Park program.

Starting today, fourth graders nationwide can visit the new [Every Kid in a Park website](#) to obtain a pass that provides free access to students and their families to all federally managed lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries. The pass is valid for the 2015-2016 school year and grants free entry for fourth graders and three accompanying adults (or an entire car for drive-in parks) at more than 2,000 federally-managed sites.

“Every Kid in a Park is a chance for fourth graders from every background to be outside and get to know the lands and waters that belong to them, whether it’s a national forest, a wildlife refuge, a marine sanctuary or a historic site in the center of a city,” said Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director at the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). “By expanding their horizons and learning all the ways the outdoors can enrich their lives, this innovative program hopes to create greater awareness of the many benefits of our nation’s public lands and waters.”

Leading up to the [100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016](#), President Obama announced the [Every Kid in a Park initiative](#) earlier this year as a call to action to get all children to experience America’s unparalleled outdoors, rich history and culture. Today, more than 80 percent of American families live in urban areas, and many lack easy access to safe outdoor spaces. At the same time, youth spend more hours than ever in front of screens instead of outside.

By introducing fourth graders to public lands in their backyards and beyond at an early age, Every Kid in a Park is part of a multi-pronged approach to inspire the next generation to discover all that our nation’s public lands and waters have to offer, including opportunities to be active, spend time with friends and family, and serve as living classrooms to build critical skills.

“America is blessed with the great outdoors, and through Every Kid in a Park, we’re inviting every fourth grader and their families to enjoy our nation’s unrivaled public lands and waters,” said Secretary Jewell. “We want to make sure that every American has the opportunity to develop a lifelong connection to our nation’s land, water and wildlife.”

Fourth graders can log onto the website at www.everykidinapark.gov and complete a fun educational activity in order to obtain and print their paper pass. Students may also trade in their paper pass for a more durable pass at participating federal sites nationwide.

Educators and community leaders can access educational activities, field trip options, and the ability to print passes for their classrooms. Parents visiting the new website can find additional links for more information on planning trips to nearby public lands.

As an integral component of this effort, the National Park Foundation (NPF) – the congressionally chartered foundation of the National Park Service – will award Every Kid in a Park transportation grants, focusing on removing barriers for youth from underserved communities to get to their parks, public lands and waters. For more information, visit www.nationalparks.org.

The Every Kid in a Park program is designed to continue each year with the then-current group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public lands and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation’s shared natural and cultural heritage.

To further support getting youth outdoors, the [President’s 2016 Budget](#) includes a total increased investment of \$45 million for youth engagement programs throughout the Department of the Interior, with \$20 million specifically provided to the National Park Service for youth activities, including bringing one million fourth-grade children from low-income areas to national parks. This increase will also fund dedicated youth coordinators to help enrich children and family learning experiences at parks and online.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-wide effort administered in partnership with the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Education, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program is part of an overall strategy by the Obama Administration to engage young people from all ages and all backgrounds with the great outdoors. This includes the [21st Century Conservation Service Corps](#), a bold national effort to put thousands of young people and veterans to work protecting, restoring and enhancing America’s public lands and waters. In addition, First Lady Michelle Obama’s [Let’s Move! Outside initiative](#) is committed to getting millions of young people to play, learn, serve and work in America’s great outdoors.

For more information, please visit www.everykidinapark.gov, and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, on [Facebook](#), on [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#).

Free Distance Learning Programs Available from the Phoenix Zoo

Thanks to generous funding from APS Foundation we are able to offer free distance learning programs that broadcast into your classroom. **Phoenix Zoo Distance Learning** broadcasts include live animals, engaging and inquiry-based activities that are designed to complement classroom Academic Standards. The only technology you need to receive a program from us is internet access, a projector and computer, and speakers for sound. We also do have limited funds to help with renting technology, as needed. For more information visit on our programs visit <http://phoenixzoo.org/camps-programs/outreach/>. For questions regarding the scholarships or to book a program call our Reservations Department at 602.914.4333.

Free E-Rate Consultant Services

Milan Eaton is the new "State E-Rate Coordinator for Schools" in Arizona. His goal is for every school in the state to receive a fair share of E-Rate funds through the USAC (Universal Services Administration Company). During the month of January, he plans to visit every county in the state to offer assistance with the Schools/Districts in the area. The Federal Communications Commission has recently updated its E-rate program to focus on expanding Wi-Fi networks in schools, especially small, rural schools. Mr. Eaton invites all schools and districts to visit the State E-Rate Website and join the E-Rate mailing list. His website address is: <http://www.azed.gov/erate/2014/09/10/join-our-e-rate-email-list/>

Mr. Eaton can also be reached at: Arizona Department of Education Information Technology
602-542-3595 milan.eaton@azed.gov



**RAISING
SUPERHEROES**
ONE ALTER-EGO AT A TIME

**RAISING SUPERHEROES IN YOUR
SCHOOL 2015-2016**
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OUR GOAL:
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OR CALL 928-322-8133

CLASSROOM CURRICULUM NOW AVAILABLE!
TEACHERS CAN USE TOPICS IN ADDITION TO THEIR LESSONS, OR AS A STAND ALONE LESSON.



Mirror Neurons

Grades 6-12 | Video, Essay, Questions

Why do people cry at movies? What makes sports fans so emotional? The answer: *Mirror neurons*. Meet the scientists studying these brain cells and learn about their research into human behavior.

[Watch the Video](#)



Sidelined: Sports Concussions

Grades 6-12 | Video + Educator Guide

Each year, millions of people experience brain injuries known as concussions. Find out how neuroscientists are using digital-imaging to measure and map the damage to the brain.

[See the Resource](#)



The Neuroanatomy of a Zombie

Grades 8-13 | Lesson Plans

Halloween is coming up! Make science class a little spookier this week with four ghoulish lessons designed to introduce students to neurobiology and the inner workings of the brain.

[View Lesson Plans](#)



JUST ANNOUNCED: PBS LearningMedia Launches New PBS Student App

K-12 students can now access learning resources from their favorite PBS programs on-the-go with the NEW PBS Student app!

[Get the Scoop](#)



WEBINAR: CREATING MEANINGFUL ASSESSMENTS IN THE DIGITAL AGE

What is formative assessment and what does it look like, sound like, and feel like in the classroom? How does technology facilitate and strengthen formative assessment? Explore these questions (and more!) with PBS and edtech specialist Michael Gorman. **November 9, 2015 | 7:00 PM ET | [Register](#)**



WEBINAR: PBS LEARNINGMEDIA 101

Maximize your use of PBS LearningMedia by joining us for a "101" introductory tutorial! We'll offer tips on how to search, save, and share your favorite resources and personalize lessons for your students.

November 10, 2015 | 7:00 PM ET | [Register](#)

Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA)

“Geography Takes You Places”

T3G Institute

<http://edcommunity.esri.com/educational-roles/t3g-educators>

<http://blogs.esri.com/esri/gisedcom/2015/09/28/fun-with-gis-182-t3g2016/>

The 8th annual T3G is now receiving applications. T3G2016 seeks 100 passionate educators and influencers anxious to change the world, through education, with GIS. T3G is staffed by Esri personnel and renowned outside educators.

Sun July 17 – Fri July 22, 2016, Esri, Inc. Headquarters, Redlands, California

Deadline to Apply Monday, November 9, 2015.

Participants are responsible for arranging transportation to and from Redlands. Double occupancy lodging (or that value) will be provided at a good nearby hotel. Breakfasts at the hotel, a mid-week meal, and opening and closing suppers will be provided; participants are responsible for other meals. There is no registration fee. We will send invitations on the basis of successful applications.

Normandy: Sacrifice for Freedom® Albert H. Small Student & Teacher Institute

June 18-30, 2016

<http://www.nhd.org/classroom-connection/normandy-sacrifice-for-freedom/>

The major assignment for the students and teachers during the Normandy Institute is the Silent Heroes Project. Each student/teacher team researches a soldier from their region who fought at Normandy and paid the ultimate sacrifice.

Expenses: •The institute covers room and board (double occupancy) during the institute, field trips, meals, international flights, and professional readings. Teachers will room with teachers and students with students.

•Participants will pay for the airline tickets and transportation costs to and from Washington, DC, for the field study. They are required to supply their own passport (or renewal if necessary) and cover any personal expenses associated with travel.

Because of the physicality of the institute all participants must be able to stand for 45 minutes and walk for at least two miles. In addition, the complexity of the institute's logistics does not allow for families to accompany the selected participants.

Eligible participants must apply as a team. The adult must be a middle school or high school teacher or librarian. The student must be a sophomore or junior in high school as of fall 2015.

Complete applications for the program must be received no later than midnight on Monday, November 30, 2015.

Resources & Tools

Google Earth Pro now Free

<http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/2015/01/google-earth-pro-is-now-free.html>

Over the last 10 years, businesses, scientists and hobbyists from all over the world have been using Google Earth Pro for everything from planning hikes to placing solar panels on rooftops. Google Earth Pro has all the easy-to-use features and detailed imagery of Google Earth, along with advanced tools that help you measure 3D buildings, print high-resolution images for presentations or reports, and record HD movies of your virtual flights around the world.

Starting today, even more people will be able to access Google Earth Pro: we're making it available for free. To see what Earth Pro can do for you—or to just have fun flying around the world—grab a free key and download Earth Pro today.

<http://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html> *If you're an existing user, your key will continue to work with no changes required.*

AzGA continued on pg. 17

eGIF (Engineering, Go For It)

<http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/>

Lesson plans, class activities, K-12 outreach programs by grade level (K-5, 6-8, 9-12). Also web resources, K-12 Education news (highly recommended if you want a monthly set of lessons delivered to your mailbox).

Peace Corps

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/www/classroom/>

Classroom resources – global issues, 21st century skills. Lesson plans (6-8, 9-12), connect to classroom speakers, downloadable readings. All free.

Visit the newest collection on the Arizona Memory Project:

Arizona National Forest Maps 1907-1945

Contributed by [Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records: State Archives](#)

The Arizona State Archives Map Collection contains maps of all current and many former national forests in Arizona. The General Land Law Revision Act of 1891 allowed for setting aside forest reserves which later became the national forests. Presidential proclamations established the first forest reserves in Arizona and New Mexico in 1892. The earliest maps in this collection date back to 1907 with several of the first national forests in the state created by presidential proclamation. The presidential proclamations accompany the 1907-1910 maps.

Virtual Field Trip - Geologic tour of Grand Canyon's South Kaibab Trail

<http://uagis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapTour/index.html?appid=f38ab272e58840129d3da6f5eceaac51>

Hike Grand Canyon's South Kaibab Trail virtually; just join Dr. Dale Nations (Northern Arizona University) as he guides you on a 'Story Map' trip through geologic time. The trip begins with the 250 million year old Kaibab Limestone capping Grand Canyon's South Rim, and then slowly descends through older sandstones, siltstones, shales, limestones, and metamorphic rocks to the 1.7 billion year old metamorphic Vishnu Complex in the Canyon's Inner Gorge.

Planetary Science Institute (PSI)

<http://www.psi.edu/about>

The Planetary Science Institute is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to Solar System exploration. It is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, where it was founded in 1972.

Click under Education for programs, resources (English & Spanish), instructional rock kit loan, **Ask an Expert**.

Elementary Geography Apps and Websites

from Common sense graphite

<https://www.graphite.org/top-picks/elementary-geography-apps-and-websites>

There is a lot of material here which I did not vet. Search on Geography for material specific to the subject.

Student Exchange (travel) <http://www.usagermanyscholarship.org/apply-flag/>

For high school students interested in German: The Congress-Bundestag Youth Exchange Program (CBYX) offers merit-based scholarships for a full school year in Germany. Students live with host families, attend local schools, and participate in community life in Germany. For more information and application deadlines, visit the organization in charge of recruitment for your state at www.usagermanyscholarship.org. **Deadlines for U.S. applicants range from December 1, 2015 to January 15, 2016, depending on state of residency. (January 8, 2016 in AZ)**

Cathy L. Davis Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA) Arizona State University | School of Geographical Sciences & Urban Planning | P O Box 875302 | Tempe, AZ 85287-5302 | cathy.davis@asu.edu | 480-965-5361 * fax 480-965-8313
<http://geoalliance.asu.edu/> 976 S Forest Mall, Coor Bldg, Fifth Floor, Room 5677 (Zip 85281) **"Geography Takes You Places"**

MAPS ARE OUR FRIENDS: Evaluating, Using, and Creating Maps That Tell the Story

Description: In this lesson students will learn to evaluate maps, use various kinds of maps, and create simple maps. In doing so, they will improve their ability not only to transmit geographic information but to communicate in many other ways.

Author: Barbara S. Williams

Grade Range: High School

Duration: 3 class periods

Teacher Instructions

Student Worksheets, Assessments, and Answer Keys

Other material that may be useful

Lesson on map skills

For Middle School

DOGSTAILS: An Introduction to Map Reading

For grades 2 -3

TOADS: An Introduction to Map Reading

National Geographic’s Geography Awareness Week

Explore! The Power of Maps

<http://education.nationalgeographic.com/programs/geographyawarenessweek/>

NGS Mapping resources * MapMaker * Interactive State Tabletop Maps * Map Games * Interactive Globe

Cathy L. Davis

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What Does It Mean To Be Civically Engaged?

The 2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest Theme

The Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF) announced the 2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest prompt: "What Does It Mean to Be Civically Engaged?"

The creative writing contest is open to students in grades 7 - 12. Entries are judged in three age categories: 7th/8th Grade; 9th/10th Grade; and 11th/12th Grade.

The criteria form can be downloaded [here](#) and the entry form can be downloaded [here](#). Submissions must be coordinated by teachers. Please note that all applications must be postmarked by Friday December 18, 2015 and mailed to the Arizona Educational Foundation at 6155 E. Indian School Road, Suite 106, Scottsdale, AZ 85251.

Winners will be announced at a Statehood Day ceremony and lunch at the State Capitol in Feb.

The Polly Rosenbaum writing contest is named for former state representative and teacher, Polly Rosenbaum who passed away in 2003 at the age of 104. This writing contest is a long-standing tradition honoring Mrs. Rosenbaum, who believed Arizona's young people are the state's greatest resource.

[Click here](#) to learn more about the program and the Arizona Educational Foundation.

Graham County Spelling Bee

The Graham County Spelling Bee will be held Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Schools must enroll with the Scripps National Spelling Bee office at spellingbee.com in order for their students to be eligible to compete in the 2016 Arizona Education Foundation Arizona Spelling Bee, as well as all County and Regional Bees. Early enrollment has closed.

October 16, 2015—Dec. 11, 2015 Late enrollment

December 1, 2015—January 15, 2016 Schools must hold school bees on or before **January 15, 2016** to be included in the next level of competition.

February 1, 2016 Send winners' names to the Graham County School Office by Feb. 1, 2016.

February 22, 2016 County and regional bees must be held by Feb. 22, 2016.

March 19, 2016 Arizona State Spelling Bee will be held at 1:00 p.m. at Eight/Arizona PBS, 555 N. Central Ave., Phx., AZ.

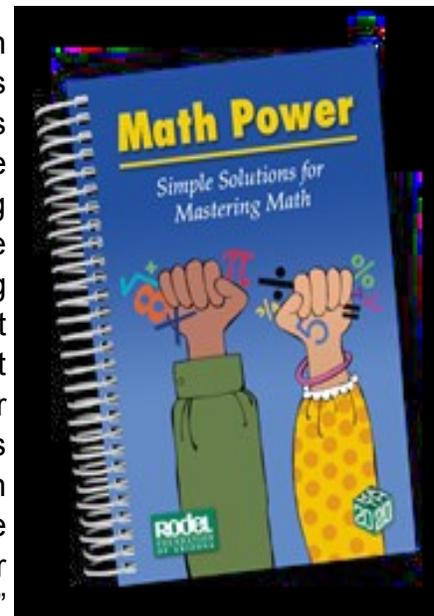
Late May/Early June 2016: Scripps National Spelling Bee will be held in Washington, D.C.



The Math Power Book

Help your child master math, even if you haven't been in a math class in years! This book was designed for parents and families who want to help their children make sense of math. Arizona's math standards haven't changed the way math works, but there may be terms that are new to you and multiple ways of solving problems. Instead of memorizing facts and formulas, students are being challenged to think about what a math problem is asking them to solve; the thinking is as important as getting the right answer, so help them engage in thinking! Start by deciding what the problem is about: is it addition, subtraction, multiplication or division? Then look up that topic in the index. This book covers math concepts introduced in first grade all the way through sixth grade. Sometimes it helps to refresh the simpler concepts before trying to solve harder problems. Use this book to move forward or backwards, whatever it takes to get to that wonderful "Aha" moment!

<http://rodelaz.org/mathpower/>



Grant Opportunities for Teachers from the United Way of Graham County

The United Way of Graham County will begin reviewing
Education Grants again in early 2016.

**We advise you continue working on your ideas and grants, but hold off
on submitting them until the United Way provides new information on
their 2016 deadlines.**

About the United Way

The United Way of Graham County is an all-volunteer organization that provides grant support to nonprofit organizations in southeastern Arizona. We serve Graham and Greenlee counties, providing funding support for causes in Education, Income and Health.

Our mission: to advance the common good by focusing on quality of life, health and education—the building blocks of a good life.

**Have you written your
grant yet?**

Dozens of projects have been funded! For assistance with your grant,
please contact Paulette LeBlanc at pleblanc@aznex.net

It's never too early to start!



Grant Funding Alerts

It's never too early to start working on a grant!

Freeport-McMoRan Inc. Grants

Mini-Grants for Education Application Window: May 1st –Oct. 1st

Please visit www.freeportinmycommunity.com

Grants in the range of \$100—\$500 a school is eligible to receive up to four mini-grants per year. Additional grant opportunities are available including the STEM Education grant. Graham County received nearly \$500,000 in the recent round of Community Investment Fund grant awards held in August. Thank you Freeport-McMoRan!

Kinder Morgan Foundation K-12 Education, Environmental Education, Arts, and Youth Development Grants

Deadline: 10th of every month **Amount:** \$1,000—\$5,000

"The Kinder Morgan Foundation believes that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders, and our mission is to provide them with opportunities to learn and grow. Our goal is to help today's science, math and music students become the engineers, educators and musicians who will support our diverse communities for many years to come."

<http://www.kindermorgan.com/community/>

Sponsor: U.S. General Services Administration

Name: Computers for Learning

Who: Schools and educational nonprofits

Amount: based on need **Cost Share:** None **Deadline:** rolling

Description: Computers for Learning (CFL) program allows schools and educational nonprofits to view and select computer equipment that federal agencies have reported as excess. The CFL program includes making modern computer technology an integral part of every classroom, connecting classrooms to the national infrastructure, providing teachers with the professional development they need to use new technologies effectively, and encouraging the use of innovative educational software.

Link: http://computersforlearning.gov/html/hp_aboutprogram.htm

Arizona Community Foundation Scholarships

The Arizona Community Foundation is now inviting Arizona high school seniors, current students at colleges and vocational-technical schools and graduate-level students to apply for college scholarship funding available for the 2015-2016 academic year. Completing just one application automatically matches students with every scholarship opportunity for which they qualify from among ACF's 80 awards.

<https://azfoundation.academicworks.com/>

Professional Development Opportunities/ Grant Funding Alerts

Sponsor: National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM)

Name: Improving Students' Understanding of Geometry Grant

Who: Teachers of preK-8 who are NCTM members

Cost Share: None Amount: Up to \$4,000 each

Deadline: Nov. 6, 2015

http://www.nctm.org/grants-and-awards/grants/improving-students_-understanding-of-geometry-grants/

Sponsor: The Safeway Foundation

Name: Safeway Education Grants

Who: Non-profit organizations in areas where Safeway has stores
(partner with schools)

Cost Share: None Amount: \$2,500—\$10,000 for first time recipients

Deadline: Rolling

<http://www.safewayfoundation.org/get-funded/how-we-fund.html>

Sponsor: Chef Ann Foundation and Skoop

Name: Project Produce

Who: Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program

Cost Share: None Amount: \$2,500

Deadline: Rolling

<http://www.chefannfoundation.org/programs/project-produce>

The Fender Music Foundation Grant

The Fender Music Foundation awards instruments and equipment to eligible music instruction programs. The organization is currently awarding acoustic guitars, electric guitars, acoustic-electric guitars, bass guitars and the equipment necessary to play these instruments. However, other traditional music instruments are sometimes available. To qualify as a music instruction program, participants must be learning how to make music.

<http://www.fendermusicfoundation.org/grants/grants-info/>

Professional Development Opportunities/ Grant Funding Alerts

Strengthening Secondary Education

Deadline: Open

Amount: \$100,000—\$200,000

Sponsor: Arthur Vining Davis Foundation

Type: Education

Grants are made for innovative professional development programs that strengthen teachers and their teaching in grades 9-12.

<http://www.avdf.org/FoundationsPrograms/SecondaryEducation.aspx>

School Grants Today eMagazine

K-12 Grants, Tips and News

www.schoolgrantstoday.com

Freebies to Build Better Lessons

EngageNY curates a number of Common Core lesson plans for pre-K through 12th grade that can be searched by grade, subject and keywords. There are also curriculum maps and a rich video library.

BetterLesson houses 16,000+ Common Core, Next Gen science, and blended learning lessons created from Master Teacher projects. There are additional lessons created by the BetterLesson community, and there's a page with "new and popular" lessons of the week. It's easy to search the site. When we searched "ELA thesis statements," we found 15 lessons from Master Teachers and almost 97,000 from the community.

Grab and Go Mini-tasks for teachers to use with students immediately in the classroom are on the Literacy De-sign Collaborative website. These resources for back to school help teachers create literacy-rich assignments and courses across content areas.

DonorsChoose.org Makes It Simple to Help Classrooms

DonorsChoose.org is an online charity that makes it easy for anyone to help students in need. Public school teachers from every corner of America post classroom project requests on this site. Donors can find projects or classrooms that most inspire them and make a donation. When a project reaches its funding goal, DonorsChoose.org ships the materials to the school. You'll get photos of the project, a letter from the teacher, and insight into how every dollar was spent. Give over \$50 and you'll also receive a hand-written thank from the students. If you're a teacher looking for support for a classroom project, just go to Donors Choose.org and start your own account. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced that it will match \$1 million in donations to DonorsChoose.org. Donors need to enter the code JUMPSTART to have their donation matched.

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Name: Annenberg Foundation

Who: Areas of arts, culture and humanities, civic and community, environment, education, and human health and wellness

Amount: \$10,000 - \$100,000

Deadline: Rolling

Link: <http://www.annenbergfoundation.org/grantmaking/how-to-apply>

Name: Arthur Vining Davis Foundations **Who:** Projects for improving teaching

Amount: \$100,000-\$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Projects may cover a wide range of initiatives intended to improve teaching. For example, projects might be designed to improve professional development for in-service and pre-service teachers, strengthen teaching skills, support practical research in teacher and high school education, or encourage innovative use of technology and new techniques for presentation of classroom materials in high schools

Link: www.avdf.org

Name: Ceres Foundation Grants

Who: For benefit of disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families

Amount: Up to \$240,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To expand opportunities for disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families to develop and make full use of their potential, so that they will be able to earn decent livings, enjoy healthy relationships, pursue their ambitions, and participate in their communities.

Link: <http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/ceres/>

Name: JP Morgan Chase Grants

Who: Open for non-profit organizations

Amount: Varies

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Create Pathways to Opportunity - a holistic approach to ensure that individuals have access to the knowledge, skills, resources, and capital they need to secure their futures and compete in the global economy.

Link: <http://www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/Corporate-Responsibility/grant-programs.htm>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Youth Program Grants

Deadline: Open

Sponsor: The Entertainment Software Association Foundation

Amount: Varies

Type: Social & Economic, Arts & Culture

The ESA Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth.

<http://www.esafoundation.org/application.asp>

KaBOOM! Spruce Project Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Are you itching to serve? Organize your friends, clean up a playground, and you can become eligible for \$750, courtesy of Dr. Pepper Snapple Group. The grant is part of the Let's Play initiative to get kids and families active.

<http://grants.kaboom.org>

Name: Little Kids Rock Music Professional Development & Equipment Program

Who: Public school districts

Amount: Varies **Deadline:** Rolling

Description: Teachers receive training & donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools. Partners with public school districts in some of the nation's most economically disadvantaged communities with the goal of ensuring that all students (K-12) have access to music education and its many benefits. Teachers apply to be trained to use our innovative and transformational methodology. After their training is complete, teachers receive a donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools

Link: <http://www.littlekidsrock.org/the-program/how-it-works/>

Name: Toyota USA Foundation: STEM Grants

Who: Schools, organizations to improve STEM education

Amount: \$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To improve k-12 education by supporting innovative programs in the areas of math, science, and environmental science.

Link: <http://toyota.com/about/philanthropy/guidelines/index.html>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Sponsor: Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association

Name: Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Who: Youth programs

Cost Share: None Shown **Amount:** Typically \$50,000-\$100,000

Deadline: Quarterly

Description: To promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball around the world by funding programs, fields, coaches' training, uniforms, and equipment. Grants are intended to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs. Supports projects that meet the following evaluation criteria: increase the number of youth participating in baseball and softball programs; improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs.

Link: eb.mlbcommunity.org/index.jsp?content=programs&program=baseball_tomorrow_fund

Youth and Community Development Grants

Sponsor: Office Depot Foundation

Deadline: Monthly **Amount:** \$50-\$3,000

Description: The Foundation provides funding to the following program areas: 1. Giving Children Tools for Success—Supporting activities that give young people tools to succeed in the school and in life through education and inspiration. 2. Building Capacity to Serve Communities—Supporting programs that help non-profit organizations to serve the needs of their communities efficiently and effectively. 3. Disaster Preparedness, Relief, Recovery and Rebuilding....

<http://officedepotfoundation.org>

Name: Actuarial Foundation: Advancing Student Achievement (ASA) Grant

Who: To benefit grades 4-12

Amount: \$5,000 **Deadline:** Open

Description: Supports math enhancement programs that bridge the gap between classroom and real world mathematics for grades 4-12 students in U.S. public and private schools. Programs eligible for support may include, but are not limited to, clubs, competitions, before and after school programs, classroom extension periods, etc. Funded programs must impact 20 to 25 students and meet a minimum of one time per month. **Link:**

http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/teachers/what_asa_grant.shtml

Resources

10 Great STEM Resources (source: *Tech and Learning* May 2015)

Check out these “stemtastic” sites identified by educator and consultant Michael Gorman:

1. **Science Buddies** features over 1,000 project ideas, science activities for quick exploration, and lots of inspiration for science fun.
2. **Algodoo** is an amazing free program that encourages user to be creative and play with physics. Make anything you can dream up and make it do anything you want.
3. **Code Academy**'s mission is to teach the world how to code, for free. Their resources include teacher training and lesson plans.
4. **Maker Camp** is a free summer camp where kids ages 13-18 can make awesome projects, go on epic virtual “field trips,” and meet the world’s coolest makers.
5. **EchoEarth** utilizes service-learning and rich online resources to equip youth to identify and solve environmental challenges in their communities.
6. **Graphite** makes it easier for educators to find the best apps, games, and Web sites for the classroom.
7. **Popplet** helps students think and learn visually and conceptually as they capture facts, thoughts, and images and learn to create relationships between them.
8. **AAS**—The American Astronomical Society offers a wealth of STEM information on the study of the universe and resources to enrich the STEM classroom.
9. **STEM Education Coalition** works aggressively to raise awareness about STEM education and offers many ideas, facts research, and resources.
10. **EDpuzzle** enables you to find and customize any video (crop it and add notes, questions, voice overs) for use in your class.

Ten of the Best Virtual Field Trips from eSchool News

1. Arctic Adventure
2. Global Trek
3. Google Lit Trips
4. Hershey’s Factory
5. Le Louvre
6. Mt. Everest
7. Museum of Natural History
8. Panoramas of the World
9. Space
10. White House



New Resources on School Discipline: The Justice Department launched a resource center aimed at helping initiatives to reform school discipline across the country. The resource hub will offer training and technical assistance for juvenile courts, schools, law enforcement agencies and others.

How Flipped Educators Can Create Video Tutorials A La Khan in No Time Flat Blended learning and flipped learning just got a whole lot easier. Anyone can now create learning resources for students in little more time than is required for a normal explanation of a topic. <http://www.eschoolnews.com/2015/09/10/app-snip-khan-402/?ps=ycorley@pinalesa.org-001a000001LgN0Z-003a000001k7wmq>

Source: eSchool News, 9/10/2015