



# Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays



## Middle School T.I.M.E.S. Technology Integration Made Easy & Simple



### The end of the first semester

Are you as surprised as I at how quickly the school year is passing? It doesn't feel like we have been in school for 5 months already. Sometimes that is a blessing, but when you have that "special" group of students, you hate to see the year end.

I have been fortunate to have worked with many of those "special" classes. The teachers are doing some innovative lessons and using technology to enhance those lessons. I understand that for many of us, technology can be a bit overwhelming. But don't let it intimidate you. Call me and we'll work through it together.

Have a safe and restful Christmas and holiday break. See you in the new year.

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Volume 1, Issue 4  
Middle School T.I.M.E.S.  
December 2006

### Technology Opportunities

December:

⇒ 7th Copyright Laws  
3:00 Southern Lee

Register on Schoolink



### Curriculum Links

#### Art:

Create paintings or view galleries

<http://artpad.art.com/artpad/painter>

Sketch in 3D

[www.sketchup.com](http://www.sketchup.com)

#### ESL:

Language activities

[www.bbc.co.uk/languages](http://www.bbc.co.uk/languages)

EspanOle!

<http://www.espanole.org>

#### Health & PE:

PBS for life!

<http://pbskids.org/itsmylife>

Kidfood—eat right

[http://www.kidfood.org/teachers/t\\_links.html](http://www.kidfood.org/teachers/t_links.html)

#### Language Arts:

Citation Machine

<http://citationmachine.net>

Online resources for young writers

<http://www.noodletools.com/debbie/literacies/basic/ynqwrite.html>

#### Math:

Effective Math Videos

<http://k12wiki.wikispaces.com/Effective+Math+Videos>

Electronic Tools for Middle School Math

<http://www.kentonschools.org/mslocker/lockerms.html>

#### Music:

Music Hotlist Links

<http://sln.fi.edu/tfi/hotlists/music.html>

On-air Orchestra - Kid's Space

<http://www.kids-space.org/>

#### Science:

Bad Science

<http://www.ems.psu.edu/~fraser/BadScience.html>

The Why Files

<http://whyfiles.org>

#### Social Studies:

Geography World—tons of maps!

<http://members.aol.com/bowermanb/101.html#TABLE%20OF%20CONTENTS>

Virtual Tours

<http://www.theteachersguide.com/virtualtours.html>

*Note: the links are "hot" which means you can click on them and they will take you to the webpage.*



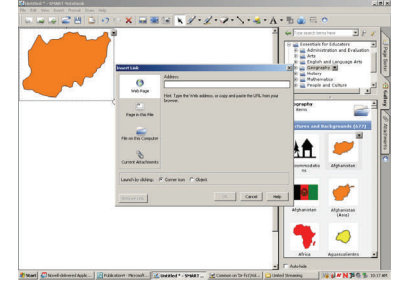
Would you like to link a United Streaming video or video clip you have found into your SMART Notebook lesson? Here's how:

1. First you will need to save the clips into the United Streaming folder in the COMMON folder. Do this by right clicking on the disc icon next to your United Streaming video/clip and choosing "Save Target As".
2. Open your SMART Notebook lesson and click on the Attachments tab (on the right hand side of the notebook).
3. You will need to have two windows open at the same time, so click on the icon in the upper right corner of your screen that looks like two overlapping squares.
4. In the other window open the

## Smartboard Tips

COMMON/United Streaming folder again and find your video clip. Left click on it and drag it over to the Attachments screen of your notebook and drop it by letting go of the left mouse button.

5. Your video is now copied into your SMART Notebook, and you can maximize the Notebook screen again.
6. You can have your video start when you click on an object on a page in your SMART Notebook. Once you have placed the object on the page, right click on it. On the dropdown menu you will see "Link". Left click on this.
7. You will see the following popup window:



8. Click on "Current Attachments". You will see a list of your videos. Choose the one you want by clicking on it, and finally, also click on "Object" so the video will play when you select the object. Then click "OK".
9. Your video should now be linked to the object on your SMART notebook page. When you click on the object the video should begin.



## Professional Tips — Blogs

Last month I introduced you to blogging and invited you to look over a couple of sites that explained blogging.

I have to say, being a math and science teacher, I never had the love of writing that my teaching partner had. But, since I have started blogging, I have been energized to write. This is an awesome feeling for someone who always considered themselves writing challenged.

The last week of November, I attended the technology conference in Greensboro. WOW! I was impressed. So many teachers are beginning to see that we need to start rethinking our teaching and the students' learning,

No longer are we teaching the type of students most of us were in school. This generation is high energy and multitasking in ways we never were.

Teachers are competing with technology distractions outside the classroom unlike before. I heard someone say that we, as teachers, are asking our students to "power down" after they get into the classroom.

Many of our students are listening to Ipods and Mp3 players the way we listened to portable radios. The students are far more engaged in technology than we are.

If we are going to reach these 21st century students, we need to use more technology. If you need suggestions, ideas or help, please call me.

We can't continue teaching in 20th century style. We owe our students more.

*Blogs to read:*

[Cool Cat Teacher](#)

[Weblogg-ed](#)

[Random Ramblings](#)

[Swimming in the River](#)



## Powerpoint Tips

Often, we spend a great deal of time designing a Powerpoint lesson, only to have students absent. I have the solution to catch up those absent students.

You can print your Powerpoint in notes format so the students can see the lesson without you having to re-teach.

This is also a good strategy for special education classes. Print three slides on a page and the students can add their own notes.



To do this, after you choose print, click Handouts - 3 slides per page. This will allow a lined space on the side for the students to insert their notes while having access to your lesson.

If you are looking to save a few minutes, check out this link for premade Powerpoint lessons. It's a great site.

[www.worldofteaching.com](http://www.worldofteaching.com)