



# Happy New Year



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

2007 is here ...

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I hope this newsletter finds you well rested after the Christmas break. Since the weather has been so nice, it's difficult to believe that it is January.

Many of the 8th graders are finished with their computer test with fabulous results! I am so proud of the effort from our students. The teachers were very gracious to give of their class time to prepare the students. And prepared they were! It was a total team effort and everyone will benefit.

Virtual field trips will be this month's technology tip focus. If you haven't tried one of these with your class, now would be an excellent time.



### Technology Opportunities

\* **January 22nd:**

eBistro

\* **February 19th:**

Technology round robin:

Groupwise & Novell; Smartboard,  
Interwrite, & Document Projector;  
Podcasting

**COMING SOON:**

**Technology Thursdays Workshops**

Register on Schoolink

### Curriculum Links

#### Art:

[www.artcyclopedia.com](http://www.artcyclopedia.com)  
[Artcyclopedia](http://www.artcyclopedia.com)  
[www.dareonline.org/homepage.html](http://www.dareonline.org/homepage.html)  
[Art resources](http://www.dareonline.org/homepage.html)

#### ESL:

<http://members.aol.com/Jakajk/ESLLessons.html>  
[ESL lessons, games, ideas, & links](http://members.aol.com/Jakajk/ESLLessons.html)  
<http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/practice/lessons/>  
[ESL lessons for ALL areas](http://www.ncela.gwu.edu/practice/lessons/)

#### Health & PE:

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/health/physical-education/43745.html>  
[Lessons with printouts](http://www.teachervision.fen.com/health/physical-education/43745.html)

#### Language Arts:

[www.webenglishteacher.com](http://www.webenglishteacher.com)  
[Web English Teacher](http://www.webenglishteacher.com)  
[www.kidpub.com/kidpub](http://www.kidpub.com/kidpub)  
[Kid's publishing site](http://www.kidpub.com/kidpub)

#### Math:

[www.algebasics.com](http://www.algebasics.com)  
[Algebasics](http://www.algebasics.com)  
<http://mathforum.org/library/drmath/drmath.middleschool>  
[Dr. Math—Middle School](http://mathforum.org/library/drmath/drmath.middleschool)

#### Music:

<http://choralnet.org/indexen.shtml>  
[Choral Net](http://choralnet.org/indexen.shtml)  
[www.exploratorium.edu/music](http://www.exploratorium.edu/music)  
[Science of Music](http://www.exploratorium.edu/music)

#### Science:

[www.millennium.scps.k12.fl.us/staffpages/ShawR/drinkitup/index.html](http://www.millennium.scps.k12.fl.us/staffpages/ShawR/drinkitup/index.html)  
[What's in your water?](http://www.millennium.scps.k12.fl.us/staffpages/ShawR/drinkitup/index.html)  
[www.atoptics.co.uk](http://www.atoptics.co.uk)  
[Weather pictures](http://www.atoptics.co.uk)

#### Social Studies:

[www.brown.edu/facilities/John\\_Carter\\_Brown\\_Library/pages/ea\\_hmpg.html](http://www.brown.edu/facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/pages/ea_hmpg.html)  
[Early America Pictures](http://www.brown.edu/facilities/John_Carter_Brown_Library/pages/ea_hmpg.html)  
[www.loc.gov/vets](http://www.loc.gov/vets)  
[Veterans History Project](http://www.loc.gov/vets)

\*\* Remember, if you are reading this is as a PDF, you can click on the description and you will be directed to the site.



## PowerPoint Tips



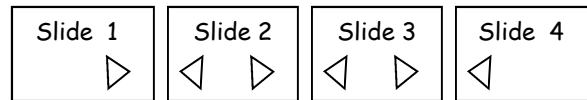
Creating action buttons on your PowerPoint slide is not a difficult process.

Open PowerPoint

1. Create a 4 slide show and label each slide in large text: slide 1, 2, 3, & 4
2. Click on slide 2
3. Click the AutoShapes in the drawing toolbar. Click Action Buttons and choose the triangle facing right.
4. Drag the triangle to the lower right corner of the slide.
5. The action button is now preset to hyperlink to the next slide.

6. Copy the button at the bottom on slide 2 & paste it on slide 1 & 3.
7. Repeat steps 3 & 4, but put your arrow in the bottom *left* side corner of the slide.
8. Copy the button at the bottom of slide 2 & paste it on slides 3 & 4

This is what your show should look like:



### Quote of the Month:

You suddenly understand something you've understood all your life, but in a new way. That is what learning is  
--Doris Lessing



## Web 2.0 Tips

### Blogs

Over the past couple of months, I have introduced you to blogs. This month, I will be sharing more blogs with you.

[4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade blog](#)

[Ideas for Blogging](#)

[Top 100 educational blogs](#)

[Room 208](#)

[Hamlet class blog](#)



### Virtual Field Trips (VFT)

Have you ever taken your students on a virtual field trip? If not, you're missing a great opportunity. You can take your students outside the classroom without ever opening the door! Like regular field trips, virtual field trips are designed to be entertaining and educational.

### Wikis

A **wiki** is a [website](#) that allows the visitors themselves to easily add, remove, and otherwise [edit](#) and change content. This ease of interaction and operation makes a wiki an effective tool for mass [collaborative authoring](#).

This is a great tool for students collaborating on a group project.

Examples of school wikis:

[What is a wiki and classroom ideas?](#)

[Wikis & Social Studies](#)

[Wikis & Math](#)

[Wikis & Writing](#)

[Wikis & Science](#)

If you're interested in making a wiki, let me know. I'd be happy to help you.

## Technology Tips

There are a number of different formats used for VFT. Some trips simply consist of a list of links on one web page, while other trips use some type of navigator (or buttons) to move through the tour. In its best implementation, a VFT is a guided and annotated tour of pages on the Web that have been selected by educators and arranged in a "thread" that students can follow

from page to page, or site to site.

Some starting destinations for VFT:

[What are Virtual Field Trips?](#)

[Social Studies trips](#)

[Science, Art, & History museums](#)

[Middle School VFT](#)

[Math VFT](#)

[100's of VFT](#)

