

WE CAN HELP!

Just a reminder that we are available on Wednesdays from 4-7PM for extra help. This is the one time that the content is controlled by you. You can tell us what you need to work on.

We are available to help you each week. We have great projects that have been developed with teachers throughout the year.

The latest project in-

volves a second grade class at TOAST. The process is powerful for teachers and students. We worked with the teacher and she developed the essential questions for the students to research. They did the research and storyboarded the pages each would create. We then created a web template for the students to use. Each student created a portion of the page

and then the entire page was merged. Each page was then put together to create the site. Please take time to look at the site and realize you too can do this with your students!

<http://webhelp.albany.k12.ny.us/instructional/Summer%202008/Ms%20Nies%20class/index.htm>

Inside this issue:

US History	2
Middle School Science	2
Virtual Worlds	3
Black History Month	4

21ST CENTURY SKILLS

English teachers now have a free resource to help them infuse so-called 21st-century skills into their curriculum, This new resource—a framework

that provides teacher-created models for how 21st-century skills such as problem solving, critical thinking, communication, collaboration,

and creativity can be incorporated into English classes.

http://www.21stcenturyskills.org/documents/21st_century_skills_english_map.pdf

US HISTORY

This month we put together some sites for US History. Many are geared to secondary students but there is great information for the younger students as well.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/history/us/enc/> (geared to elementary)

http://www.free.ed.gov/subjects.cfm?subject_id=178

<http://www.historymentor.com/> (geared to AP students)

<http://www.besthistorysites.net/USHistory.shtml> (from the teaching with technology folks)

<http://www.wsu.edu/~amerstu/19th/hist.html> (19th Century Sites)

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/homeworkhelp/bjpinchbeck/bjsocial.html#american> (huge hot list used to be BJ Pinchbeck's but bought out by discovery)

http://www.educationplanet.com/directory/Social_Studies/U.S._History (everything and the kitchen sink)



MIDDLE SCHOOLS SCIENCE

<http://www.middleschoolscience.com/teachers.htm>

tions and links to 1000s of resources maintained by the US Govt.

Compilation of teacher created and maintained sites

<http://www.sldirectory.com/teach/scied.html>

http://www.free.ed.gov/subjects.cfm?subject_id=41

Extensive hot list of sites

Every topic with simula-

<http://www.reachoutmichigan.org/funexperiments/>

agesubject/middleschool.html

This site is divided into different sections from Astronomy, Biology, Earth Science, and Physical Science!



VIRTUAL WORLDS

<http://ics.soe.umich.edu/>

This article is about a project through the University of Michigan that allows students to work with other students all over the world and be part of simulations on a variety of topics. If you are interested in involving your students in a simulation that looks at world issues and other issues it's well worth the look.

Welcome

Welcome to the Interactive Communications and Simulations Gateway! If you'd like to get regular updates about this program, be sure to join our [mailing list](#).

Who we are

The Interactive Communications & Simulations Group at the University of Michigan has served the K-16 community for nearly 30 years. We support a dynamic assortment of innovative web-based programs harnessing the power of simulation gaming, activism and service learning, and social networking for educational purposes. Our working model of the Internet is not just as a passive repository for information, but as an interactive space where new kinds of learning can occur. Thousands of students from over 400 public and private schools in 36 American states and 25 countries overseas have been involved in ICS exercises. In networking together far-flung classes of students and their teachers, ICS creates "global classrooms" which may be comprised of hundreds of students, but which are manageable because of the structure of the exercises. A small group of educators at the University of Michigan form the core of ICS. Working closely with classroom teachers, we have developed a range of student-centered activities that have gripped and challenged young people around the world. While the projects are carefully designed to foster unique student learning opportunities, they also allow teachers the flexibility to meet existing curricular objectives. ICS programs are not distance-learning courses in the traditional sense of the term. Rather, they are collaborative projects defined by extended

interactions between students at different schools, thematic content in a variety of subject areas, opportunities for personal engagement through character-play, self-expression or social activism, and (often) involvement of university-level mentors under the supervision of the project directors. Each project involves meaningful, often intensive, communication among K-12 students, mentors, and facilitators. ICS activities use custom-built environments specific to each project's goals.

Thinking about joining? Most programs run late September through December and again February through April. You can find contact information for each project in the descriptions linked to the list at left, or contact Jeff at stanz@umich.edu, or by phone: (734) 763-5950. You can also register online from our registration page. We hope to hear from you!

The screenshot shows the top portion of a website. At the top, there is a yellow navigation bar with the text "SUDD CHMOD - R 777". Below this is a dark blue header with the text "Interactive Communications & Simulations" in white, and "at The University of Michigan-Flint and Ann Arbor" in a smaller font below it. Underneath the header is a "News" section with a link to a podcast. Below that is an "Active Projects" section with a list of links: Home, MSC, Arab-Israeli Conflict, Earth Odysseys, IPG, and Place Out Of Time.

CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ALBANY



Community Technology Initiative

If you would like to contact us:

Sandy Paben
441-5605 (cell)
Saratoga35@aol.com
Spaben@albany.k12.ny.us

Jim Lovett
337-7818
jlovett@albany.k12.ny.us

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Elementary (K-5)

http://www.crayola.com/calendar/detail.cfm?event_id=162&year=2009
(coloring pages, craft ideas, lesson plans, e-cards)

<http://www.history.com/minisites/blackhistory>
Many resources on all the various aspects of Black History

<http://www.teachervision.fen.com/black-history-month/teacher-resources/6602.html>
Printables, slide shows

<http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/index.html>
Every year I recommend this site but do your homework. Some are not appropriate for young kids.

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/history/us/aframer/>
Always a good choice for young students.

<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/specials/bhm/0,8805,97217,00.html>
Great resources

<http://fun.familyeducation.com/black-history-month/holidays/32871.html>
A great quiz to start.

<http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/Bhistory/>

Check out this site. It's always a great resource.

<http://search.eb.com/blackhistory>
More than you could possibly use!

Secondary (6-12)

<http://afroamhistory.about.com/od/blkhistorymonth/u/blackhistorymonth.htm>
(biographies on famous African Americans)

<http://www.visionaryproject.org/videos/>
(oral history archives)

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aalives/>
African American Lives 2

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/eyesontheprize/>
Eye on the Prize: The Civil Rights Movement

<http://www.pbs.org/unforgivableblackness/>
Unforgivable Blackness: The Story of Jack Johnson

http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aalives/teachers/freedom_to_fight.html
African American Soldiers during the Civil War. Video clips to download, lesson plans, etc.

<http://www.pbs.org/theblues/classroom/defhistory.html>
The Blues as African American History

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/pov2008/tracesofthetrade/for.html>
Grades 6-12. The role of the North in slavery

<http://www.infoplease.com/spot/bhm1.html>
Large hotlist of many sites.

<http://www.history.com/minisites/blackhistory>
Many resources on all the various aspects of Black History

<http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/BHM/index.html>
Every year I recommend this site. However, make you look these over, some of the content is intense.

http://www.cnn.com/EVENTS/black_history/index.html
A good list of sites

<http://search.eb.com/blackhistory>
More than you can possibly use!

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/aaworld/>