

WHAT'S new

PBS TeacherLine is a Web site created to connect school teachers and school districts with professional development



resources. Most of PBS TeacherLine's courses can be taken for graduate credit and applied toward professional development points. These

online courses align with the state education standards set by ISTE, National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, and National Council of Teachers of English. With more than 130 courses available, educators can choose from a variety of subjects such as mathematics, reading, and instructional technology.

MORE INFO: 1.866.864.0828, www.pbs.org/teacherline



Common Sense Media offers families informa-

tion about media such as games, movies, and television that have an impact on children's lives. This nonprofit organization provides parents with information, tools, and an independent forum to help them make well-informed media-related decisions. Common Sense Media is run by parents and individuals with experience in child advocacy, public policy, education, media, and entertainment.

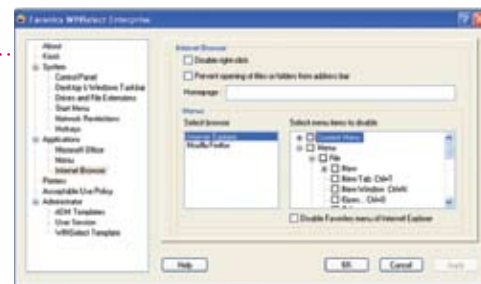
MORE INFO: www.commonsensemedia.org



Discover Education introduces **Siemens Science Day Learning by Doing**, a

Web site that provides educators with free hands-on science activities that can be added to lessons on earth science, life science, and physical science. The site includes videos, tools, and original experiments applicable to grades 4–6.

MORE INFO: 1.800.323.9084, www.siemensscienceday.com/index.cfm



Faronics has unveiled a software application that grants information

technology administrators "enterprise control" over a workstation's system settings. **WINSelect** provides IT staff with the ability to customize a computer's capabilities, including restricting access to specific Web sites, applications, system options, and program functions. These options allow administrators to prevent students from accessing harmful or inappropriate Web sites. WINSelect costs \$17.28 per workstation license.

MORE INFO: www.faronics.com/html/Winselect.asp

This information is compiled by L&L's editorial team from press releases that come into the ISTE editorial office. The products and resources are not reviewed by the L&L staff and are offered here without recommendation. Send press releases and suggestions for entries to products@iste.org.

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Science Explorations has launched the **2009 Kids' Environmental Report Card**, an online survey of kids' views on the environment. Kids are encouraged to weigh in on global issues by answering 27 questions about everything from climate change to extinction. The Kids' Environmental Report Card is part of the Science Explorations program, a collaboration of Scholastic's classroom magazines, *SuperScience* (grades 3–6) and *Science World* (grades 6–10), and the American Museum of Natural History. The results will be announced in time for Earth Day, April 22, 2009.

MORE INFO: www.scholastic.com/scienceexplorations



Zilladog.com is a free e-mail provider that allows parents to monitor their children's

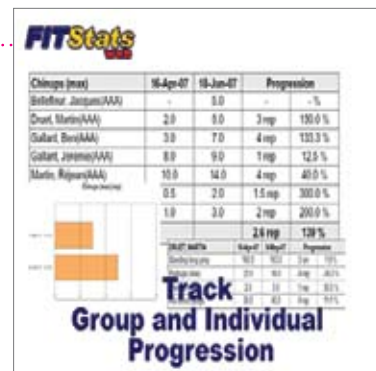
e-mail accounts. Parents set up a "buddy list" in the address book, and kids receive e-mail only from the approved buddy list, which prevents spam and unwanted contact. Parents are copied on all outgoing messages. Links to movie trailers, Disney music, and free online games are also on the site, which is pop-up free.

MORE INFO: www.zilladog.com



Gyration is offering a wire-free mouse that can be used to simplify classroom instruction. The **Air Mouse** is portable, and it can be used with any computer that has Windows XP or Vista installed. It comes equipped with an RF USB receiver. Its trigger-activated motion sensor translates hand movements into on-screen cursor motion, and with 2.4 GHz radio frequency, it has a span of up to 100 feet with no line-of-sight restrictions.

MORE INFO: www.gyration.com



AFD Inc. has launched a 100% Web-based fitness assessment and reporting software system for schools called **FitStats**. Educators can

store and retrieve an unlimited number of students' results, calculate individual and group progression rates, publish documents in PDF or Excel format, look up comparisons with population-specific fitness standards, print test charts, and access many additional features. This software comes with the latest database encryption algorithms, technical assistance, software updates, and daily data backups.

MORE INFO: www.fitstatsweb.com



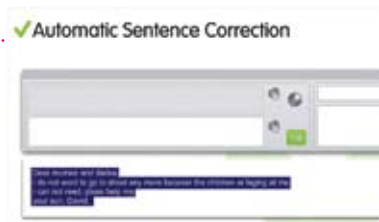
Help your kids learn math while playing **PopMath** on an iPhone or iPod touch. This 99-cent application uses colorful bubbles and attractive backgrounds to visually pull kids into the process of learning addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. As the bubbles float by, the child plays a matching game by tapping on the equation and its answer. You can watch a YouTube demonstration here: www.youtube.com/watch?v=5bLAddB5Bdc.

MORE INFO: www.keeness.net/popmath



ePals is offering a wide variety of educational films called **eFilms** for free on its Web site. Titles such as National Geographic's *Secrets of the Titanic* and *Emperors of the Ice* can be used in the classroom for instructional purposes. ePals also provides a teacher's area where educators can discuss ways to integrate the films into their classrooms as well as exchange lesson plans and ask questions.

MORE INFO: www.epals.com/blogs/efilms/default.aspx



Ginger Software is offering parents and educators a new way to help children learn how

to write. Aimed specifically at struggling writers such as those with dyslexia, this automatic text-correction software uses an algorithm "that automatically analyzes the context of errors in written English and selects the most appropriate semantic and grammatical correction." **Ginger Spell** works with typical writing programs such as Microsoft Word, by automatically correcting spelling mistakes, misused words, and grammar errors. This software can be downloaded from the Ginger Software Web site.

MORE INFO: www.gingersoftware.com



Digital Wish helps educators attract donors to fund the purchase of needed technology equipment.

Teachers set up wish lists of their classroom's technology needs, and donors can give cash donations or purchase items directly from a teacher's wish list. To assist in this, Digital Wish will donate 2–10 percent of educators' orders back into their shopping carts. Registration is free.

MORE INFO: www.digitalwish.com

Coming Next Issue in L&L

Integrating Cool Tools into the Classroom

What do microblogging, Web-traversal tracking software, and DJ software have in common? They are all technologies not designed for educational purposes that can be repurposed for teaching and learning. Punya Mishra and Matthew Koehler, professors at Michigan State University, explain how to implement the Technological Pedagogical Content Knowledge (TPACK) framework.

Investing in 21st-Century Skills

The state of Virginia put instructional technology resource teachers in all 132 school divisions and has invested more than \$500 million since 2004 to support educational technology. Professor Teresa Coffman of the University of Mary Washington writes about how the state's commitment to ed tech has improved teaching and learning.

Student Wizards Run the PD Show

Beth Breiner, a technology integration specialist, writes about how middle schoolers provide technology training and support to teachers in eastern Pennsylvania, a departure from traditional top-down professional development.

The Coming Next Issue items were incorrect in the February issue of *L&L*. We apologize for the error.