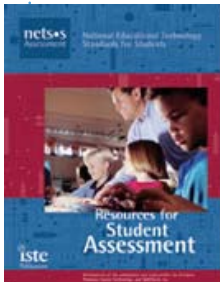


WHAT'S **new**

NETS•S: Resources for Student Assessment

is a comprehensive guide for measuring students' ability to use technology effectively for learning. Using NETS-based strategies and tools, the book provides guidelines for creating and choosing reliable tests of technology literacy for various grades, as well as case studies and best practices at the site, district, and state levels. The book features detailed NETS-S performance rubrics designating technology competency targets for Grades 2, 5, 8, and 12.

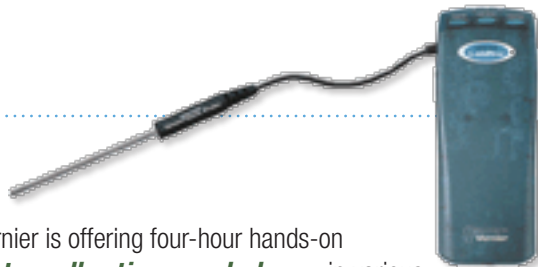


It presents models for creating classroom assessments of student technology use as well as case studies of large-scale assessment initiatives. It also assumes a basic knowledge of the NETS for Students and education technology. The book costs \$35.95 for ISTE members, \$39.95 for nonmembers.

MORE INFO: ISTE, 1.800.336.5191, <http://www.iste.org/store>

Vernier is offering four-hour hands-on **data collection workshops** in various states during April and May. Each session teaches how to integrate data collection technology into chemistry, biology, physics, math, middle school science, physical science, and Earth science curriculum. Participants will use computers, TI graphing calculators, and Palm OS handhelds to collect data. The workshop is offered at no charge and includes lunch and a training manual. Graduate science credits are available for an additional fee and a follow-up project. For a fee of \$250, participants can purchase a hardware and software package.

MORE INFO: Vernier Software & Technology, 1.888.837.6437, <http://www.vernier.com>



Sunburst Learning Solutions program helps schools analyze their students' learning needs through diagnostic or prescriptive assessments and then customizes an appropriate differentiated instruction plan for the school. The plan is based on 30,000 tools and resources on four platforms—QuickMind.net, Key Skills Learning System, Prescriptive Instruction, and Let's Go Learn—that focus on K–12 student improvement with online and standards-based products. The program includes reporting and assessment options, so teachers can evaluate their students as often as they need to and support data-driven decisions. Contact the company for pricing.

MORE INFO: Sunburst Technology, 1.888.665.8307, <http://www.sunburst.com>

Riverdeep has released **Destination Reading Course III** for grades 4–6 and **Destination Reading Course IV** for grades 6–8. The software

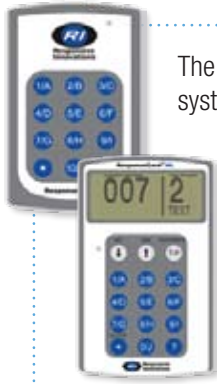
is designed for older students who are more media-savvy, using real-world connections, enhanced graphics, and modern music. Web-based content focuses on vocabulary and comprehension, and includes science, social studies, math, language arts, technology, and performing arts. Teachers can personalize lessons to each student. The software costs \$499 for a school edition, and pricing is available through the company for lab packs and site licenses.



MORE INFO: Riverdeep Inc., 1.888.242.6747, <http://www.riverdeep.net>

Promethean has aligned its electronic flipchart lessons and teacher resources to state education standards. Promethean interactive whiteboard users can search a database of thousands of lessons, querying by state, subject area, grade level, and keyword. The lessons include text, video, Web, and digital content. Teachers can use the lessons directly or edit and customize them to meet their needs. The lessons are available at no cost to current Promethean users.

MORE INFO: Promethean, <http://www.prometheanworld.com/n-america>



The **TurningPoint 2006** audience response system uses credit card-sized keypads to collect instant responses from students. The units weigh around an ounce and have a 12- or 15-button keypad with a red LED light to confirm that the response has been transmitted. Units operate by line of sight to a receiver with a range of approximately 90 feet. The system includes software that fully integrates with Microsoft PowerPoint, storing up to 1,000 responses and presenting results in real time. Contact the company for pricing on purchase or rental.

MORE INFO: Turning Technologies, 1.866.746.3015, <http://www.turningtechnologies.com>

change background colors, and configure overlay styles. Videos are saved in multiple formats, and the software accepts video encoded with H.264 video codec. The software runs on Windows 2000, XP, and 2003, and costs \$49.95.

MORE INFO: Online Media Technologies Ltd., <http://www.avsmmedia.com>

Professor John DiMarco defines and describes electronic portfolios in **Web Portfolio Design and Application**. He combines theory, pedagogy, and practice to enable faculty and students to create portfolios. The book defines what a Web portfolio is, what it is not, what to put into one, and what technical skills are needed for success. Using research conclusions, case studies, and hands-on technical processes, the book is designed for users of all skill levels. The book costs \$69.95 for paperback, \$84.95 for hardback.



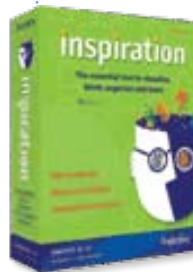
MORE INFO: Idea Group Publishing, 1.717.533.8845, <http://www.idea-group.com>

AVerVision 300p is a portable document camera that features 3 megapixel resolution, an 8× digital zoom, and 2× optical zoom. The camera is capable of 24 frame-per-second shooting speed, and can capture and store up to 80 images directly to the internal memory. Images and video clips can also be transferred directly to a PC via USB. The camera displays documents, 3D objects, microscopic images, transparencies, X-ray film, and negatives through most LCD monitors or projectors. The cost is \$999.99, which includes a five-year limited warranty.



MORE INFO: AVerMedia Technologies Inc., <http://www.aver.com>

Inspiration 8 helps students in grades 6–12 plan, research, and organize projects through visual learning.

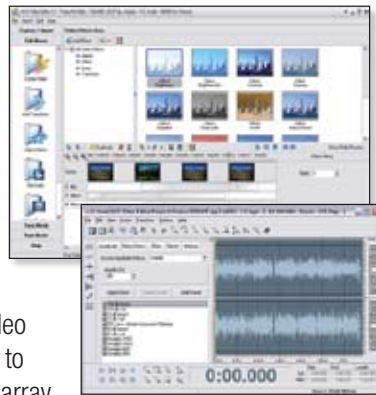


According to the company, the software has expanded visual capabilities, increased support for writing, and a variety of curriculum resources. The tool uses brainstorming and research techniques, custom templates, video and sound integration, and tools to export to Web site builders. The software costs \$69 for a single license, and schools or districts that own volume licenses of Inspiration 7.0 can save if they purchase the upgrade by June 30, 2006. A 30-day trial version is available at no cost.

MORE INFO: Inspiration Software Inc., 1.800.877.4292, <http://www.inspiration.com>

AVS Video Editor 3.1

home video processing software includes capture options, editing capabilities, multiformat transcoding, and burning features that simplify multi-step tasks of video production. According to the company, a wider array of visual effects and a fully incorporated audio editor have been added, as well as advanced time line and storyboard editing and automatic scene deletion. The software allows for more than 30 effects, from simple static text overlays to complex animations. Users can impose shadowed text,



Symbio Technologies' **SYM1110 diskless thin client** weighs just more than two pounds and uses five watts of electricity. It features 128MB RAM, 24-bit color depth, and 1600 × 1200 resolution. It has front speaker and microphone jacks and four USB ports. The SYM1110 costs \$229.



MORE INFO: Symbio Technologies, <http://www.thesymbiont.com>

I PRODUCTS & SERVICES



Califone offers two DVD products to incorporate new media into the curriculum. The **DVD50 Portable DVD Player** has a 7" screen and two

multimedia stereo headphones and a carrying case. The **DVD105 Learning Center** is a top-loading DVD player with six multimedia stereo headphones, a 10-position jackbox, a remote control, and a carrying case. According to the company, both products feature warranties that specifically cover school and library use. The DVD50 costs \$375, and the DVD105 costs \$315.

MORE INFO: Califone, 1.800.722.0500, <http://www.califone.com>

The Education Commission of the States has launched the **High School Policy Center**, the first of two databases with current information about high schools in the United States. The Web site has freely available reports about college-ready standards, graduation requirements, and state data systems, compiled from a database of high school information. The database is updated as new policies and requirements are enacted. The various reports provide 50-state policy information on curriculum requirements, statutes, regulations, and links to state K–12 data systems Web sites.

MORE INFO: Education Commission of the States, 1.303.299.3689, <http://www.ecs.org/highschoolpolicycenter>



ProProfs.com has launched **CompTIA (Computer Technology Industry Association) A+ certification study guides** online. Geared toward certifying IT and service professionals, the guides are self-study courses that teach all topics included in the CompTIA A+ hardware exam and the CompTIA A+ OS exam. Tutorials explain concepts in a concise and easy-to-read language, using interactive quizzes and animated illustrations to reinforce the lessons. Each course includes real time pre- and post-tests so students can gauge their knowledge level before and after each section. A course map lists the lessons included in each course to allow for easy navigation to any section. The guides are available at no cost through the ProProfs.com portal.

MORE INFO: ProProfs.com, <http://www.proprofs.com>

HelpMeRemote.com

is instant and secure remote tech support for any computer hooked up to the Internet. After the user initiates a support session, a technician logs into the computer to diagnose and resolve problems while the user watches from his own workstation. Users purchase minutes of assistance based on the level of support they need, and the minutes roll over from month to month. Services include new computer set up and supporting a network of machines. Prices are based on the support plan and number of minutes needed.



MORE INFO: HelpMeRemote.com, 1.845.876.6561, <http://www.helpmeremote.com>

Educational policymakers, practitioners, and researchers can get personal guidance on evidence-based resources through **What Works Clearinghouse**. The help



desk has online materials such as PDFs, Web sites, reports, registries, and databases. These tools assist in conducting evaluations of educational programs, sponsoring such evaluations, and identifying and implementing evidence-based programs. For ease

in navigating the available resources, users are encouraged to call the help desk to speak to a moderator. There is no fee for this service.

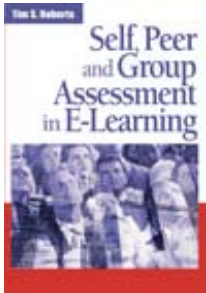
MORE INFO: Institute of Education Sciences, 1.866.WWC.9799, <http://www.whatworkshelpdesk.ed.gov>

The Concord Consortium has made available their presentation from a seminar addressing scientific and technological illiteracy. **The Crisis in Science Education: Some Solutions**, by Robert Tinker, examines the causes and consequences of inadequate science research and education. He offers solutions and explains how technology can overcome barriers faced by students,



teachers, and administrators. The Web site also includes links to computer-based examples of approaches that can be downloaded at no cost.

MORE INFO: The Concord Consortium, <http://www.concord.org>

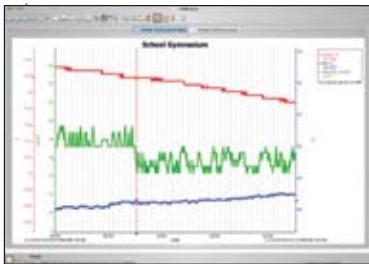


Self, Peer and Group Assessment in E-Learning examines non-instructor-based assessment that can be used in an online environment. The book describes the principal characteristics of self, peer, and group assessment and presents guidelines for effective implementation. It highlights benefits and problems

of each type, and provides examples in a variety of subject areas, countries, and class sizes. According to the editor, the book highlights assessment as a means to aid learning. The book costs \$84.95.

MORE INFO: Information Science Publishing, 1.717.533.8845 ext. 10, <http://www.idea-group.com>

HOBOWare graphing software allows students to convert data collected with HOBOWare data loggers to colorful graphs. A point-and-click interface is used to select envi-



ronmental parameters to display, format graphs, and interpret the data. Each graph presents data in time-stamped format to correlate visual spikes with specific events. The data can be exported to Microsoft Excel, and

graphs are printable. The software is compatible with both Windows and Macintosh, and costs \$95.

MORE INFO: iScienceProject, 1.800.564.4377, <http://www.iscienceproject.com>

Scholastic Education has released a suite of reading solutions to help English language learners (ELL) in grades K–8. The suite includes technology-based products, a professional development course, and books and magazines that introduce and reinforce language skills. The technology-based reading products, **Zip Zoom English**,

READ 180, and **ReadAbout**, provide differentiated instruction, immediate and corrective feedback, and vocabulary support in students' native languages. The professional development program, **Scholastic RED**, is an online course to promote language proficiency, literacy, and content knowledge. Contact the company for pricing for each product.

MORE INFO: Scholastic Education, <http://www.scholastic.com>



FileMaker Mobile 8 synchronizes multiple handheld devices with centrally hosted FileMaker databases. Users can view, search, sort, add, edit, and delete information on their handheld and synchronize those changes to FileMaker Pro. According to the

company, features such as barcode data capture, shorter field labels, pre-populated pop-up lists, value lists, and checkboxes allow users to maintain workflow while away from their desk. The software costs \$69 for the full version, \$19 for the upgrade.

MORE INFO: FileMaker, 1.800.325.2747, <http://www.filemaker.com>

Toon Boom Studio Express v3 is 2D animation software that can be used to create animations for Web sites, banner ads, interactive projects and games, videos, PDAs, and phones. Users can import graphics of various formats, such as SWF, AI, JPEG, or GIF, add sound files, move images in 3D, move, zoom, or pan the camera, and automatically scale and rotate images through space and time. Studio Express v3 runs on both Windows and Macintosh and costs \$69.99 for the full version, \$29.99 for an upgrade.



MORE INFO: Toon Boom Inc., 1.514.278.8666, <http://www.toonboom.com>

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