

WHAT'S **new**

ISTE has released **English Language Arts Units for Grades 9–12**. The book offers a holistic and reflective approach to using technology in the high school English class. Author Christopher Shamburg presents 12 language arts units that integrate technology into compelling, standards-based lessons, including fanfiction and creative writing, teaching Shakespeare with film and images, using blogs and social bookmarking to facilitate independent reading projects, podcasting for a variety of purposes, and creating and sharing digital video safely and meaningfully. The book is \$31.45 for ISTE members and \$44.95 for nonmembers.

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



Atomic Learning has launched a new version of its product, Atomic Training. The online training and publishing platform enables schools and other organizations to manage and deliver training videos, procedures, and other information that needs to be easily accessed and shared throughout an organization. It may be used for employee orientation, safety and emergency response training, technology know-how, or showcasing events or projects. Users designate specific groups that will determine each user's accessibility. The platform also includes enhancements to make organizing information and operating easier.

MORE INFO: Atomic Learning, 1.866.259.6890,
<http://www.atomictraining.com> or [contact sales@atomiclearning.com](mailto:sales@atomiclearning.com)



School Specialty Media has announced its new online **Learn360T** video streaming service for K–12 schools. Learn360 provides administrators, educators, and students with a library of educational videos, video clips, audio files, and still images accessible over the Internet at <http://www.learn360.com>, a site that enables users to add their own content. All full-length videos and clips are aligned to state standards. Educators can choose to view or download videos in Flash, Windows Media, and Quicktime formats. Still images are jpg and audio files are in mp3 format. Learn360 is Macintosh and Windows compatible and available through an annual subscription with School Specialty Media. Subscription prices are customized for schools, districts, regional media centers, or states. Educators can see a sample video clip of San Antonio or sign up for a free 30-day trial.

MORE INFO: School Specialty, Inc., 1.800.431.1934 ext. 6001,
<http://www.learn360.com>



Scholastic has released Scholastic **BookFlix**, which pairs classic fictional video storybooks from Weston Woods with related nonfiction e-books from Scholastic. Developed for grades preK–3, BookFlix offers 80 fiction-nonfiction pairs, of which 20 are available in Spanish. Features include a “read-along” options so children can hear both the fiction and nonfiction texts read aloud and follow along as each word is highlighted on the screen, narrated text and definitions of key vocabulary words, educational games and activities to reinforce reading skills, biographies and interviews introducing children to their favorite authors, and web links to encourage further exploration. BookFlix is available by subscription to public and school libraries and is accessible with a password from any Internet-ready computer.

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



This information is compiled by L&L's editorial intern, Lindsey Durrell, 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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Netchemia, provider of web-based management software solutions for K-12 districts, has announced the release of the Response to Intervention Management Solution, **netRTI**. It provides a district-wide framework to accurately track and monitor student progress. According to the company, teachers and administrators can gauge intervention effectiveness, improve student achievement, help struggling learners, and make better eligibility decisions. netRTI is not tied to any specific intervention or assessment programs, so teachers can use programs, tools, and guides that suit the child or situation, which encourages the documentation of student response based on scientifically validated interventions. All scores and corresponding data are then recorded in the netRTI system to manage and measure goals, progress and plans. Cumulative data with dynamic graphs is made available online or in a printable document.



MORE INFO: Netchemia, <http://www.netchemia.com> or 1.800.490.9686

Adaptive Curriculum has launched its online library of interactive math and science activities that enhances learning for students in the middle grades. The system comprises two sections: the library of more than **200 Math and Science Activity Objects** and the online learning environment **MyAdaptiveSpace**. Similar to learning objects, Activity Objects packages educational content in math and science as single-topic, interactive segments. The system allows students to participate in virtual experiments, scientific inquiry exercises, and problem-based learning. Teachers can use the interactive content as part of a classroom presentation with a projector or through an interactive whiteboard. To help teachers incorporate interactive content into their curriculum, Adaptive Curriculum also offers a flexible online environment, MyAdaptiveSpace, containing instruction management tools for teachers to plan their lessons, assign objects to their students and track achievement through assessment reports. Adaptive Curriculum is Windows, Mac OS and Linux compatible with a standard web browser and is offered on a subscription basis. Licenses for the entire online library start at \$10 per student for the average middle school with 700 students, with flexible pricing plans available at the district level.

MORE INFO: Adaptive Curriculum, 1.480.965.2226, <http://www.adaptivecurriculum.com>

Capstone Publishers has launched a network version of the **Capstone Interactive Library** for use in schools, districts, and library systems. Introduced as a way to improve reading skills in young learners, the library now contains nearly 200 titles, including some in a bilingual format. Along with the network version, Capstone has designed a free companion Web site at <http://www.capstonekids.com>. The site includes educational activities, online quizzes, and links to the Interactive books. The library is compatible with any computer or interactive whiteboard. Trial versions of the library are available through local direct sales representatives.



MORE INFO: Capstone Publishers, 1.800.747.4992, <http://www.capstonepress.com>

Pearson has announced that **Perspective**, the company's online remediation and enrichment tool, now offers tutoring videos from VideoMathTutor.com. Luis Anthony Ast, 24-year veteran tutor for junior high through college mathematics, also known as "The Video Math Tutor," hosts the series. The videos, aligned to state standards, focus on mathematics topics that students most frequently have difficulty learning. Perspective features overviews of a student's performance on assessments and with its Learning Locator, provides students with resources such as the tutoring videos that directly map to student performance on statewide summative assessments designed to improve students' knowledge and skills. These video segments are available for free to existing Perspective customers via the Perspective Web portal.

MORE INFO: Pearson, <http://www.pearsonperspective.com>, <http://www.videomathtutor.com>

Digication Inc., a provider of e-Portfolios, has announced that it has partnered with Davis Publications, a provider of art education textbooks, to combine the power of e-Portfolios and Web 2.0 technologies with the content found in traditional textbooks. According to the companies, with the **Digication e-Textbook solution**, teachers will be equipped with a tool to enhance their teaching and planning while showcasing their students' accomplishments. Teachers can use the Digication platform to access the Davis e-Textbooks and create and customize their lesson plans and course curriculum based on the material. Lesson plans can be broken out by days, weeks, content, assignments, or discussions, pulling from the Davis content library with standard guides. Digication allows teachers to share curriculum with other teachers, principals and administrators across the school district. Substitute teachers can leverage the tools to continue teaching a lesson plan and students' work can be published to share with other students or family members. A demo of the Davis digital textbook is available through the Web site.

MORE INFO: Digication, Inc. and Davis Publications, <http://www.digication.com/about/etextbook>

Scholastic has launched the children's comedy series **WORDGIRL**, airing on **PBS KIDS GO!** The half-hour episodes were created by Soup2Nuts, an animation production studio and division of Scholastic Media. The weekly series is designed to enrich children's vocabulary, instill a love of language and foster better reading comprehension. **WORDGIRL** will introduce children 6-8-years-old to an array of new words—from "obliterate" to "temptation" and "indubitably." **WORDGIRL** chronicles the adventures of Becky Botsford, a fifth grader who, at the call of duty, transforms into "Wordgirl." When there is trouble in The City, the heroine uses vocabulary to defeat outlaws bent on "WORD" domination. The series features the voices of veteran actors and comedians, such as Chris Parnell (Saturday Night Live), who narrates the series, and Jeffrey Tambor (Arrested Development), who voices "Mr. Big." A companion Web site at <http://pbskidsgo.org/wordgirl> features clips, games, and activities for kids. The series airs Fridays on PBS KIDS GO!

MORE INFO: Scholastic, <http://www.pbskidsgo.org>



The nation's most extensive collection of digital learning resources for geoscience education is now based at the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) in Boulder, Colo. The move ensures that the **Digital Library for Earth System Education (DLESE)**, developed with funding from the National Science Foundation, will continue to serve K-12 educators and learners around the country. The move to NCAR will enable DLESE and its users to benefit from NCAR's extensive cyberinfrastructure and expertise in information management. NCAR library staff will maintain the DLESE collection.

MORE INFO: NCAR, <http://www.dlese.org>

Teachingbooks.net, an online portal of book-related teaching resources, is offering free access to short movies and readings by the American Library Association's 2008 award winners. The winners of this year's Newbery, Caldecott, and Coretta Scott King awards, among others, are featured in selected interviews, discussion guides, book readings, and audio files to let students and teachers "'meet'" the authors in a more memorable, personal way than by just reading their books. To access these free ALA resources, visit <http://www.teachingbooks.net> and select "'ALA Awards 2008'" in the Quicksearch field.

MORE INFO: TeachingBooks.net, 1.800.596.0710, <http://www.teachingbooks.net>



Coming Next Issue in **I&L**

Transforming School Communities

Effective communication is one of the most important, most overlooked, and least understood areas of school leadership. Consultant Helen Soulé discusses ways in which Web 2.0 tools can be integrated into your district's communications strategy.

Going on a Desktop Diet

In the face of mounting financial pressures, how can districts continue to build and maintain networks, integrate systems, and expand resources in a way that is reasonably "budget-proof?" Pawtucket (Rhode Island) School Department director of technology Michael St. Jean describes how his district converted their aging desktop computers into thin clients.

Connecting Depth and Learning Styles

When used correctly, educational technology gives new meaning and utility to long established educational paradigms. Researcher Matthew Kuhn explores how ed tech allows teachers to tailor instruction to different learning styles.

Celebrating **35** Volumes