

WHAT'S new



Planning Software has released **Principal's Pal** and **Classlist Creator**, software that schedules "special" classes (e.g., art, music, PE, etc.) and forms class lists of students for each of the school's classrooms. According to the company, Principal's Pal forms a complete, conflict-free schedule fitting parameters, such as maximum size of classes, preferred blocks of time, and times of availability for teachers. Classlist Creator provides a way to form class lists with distribution of students of varying abilities, special needs, and gender. Principals can specify compatible student-teacher pairs and pairs of students whom they do not wish to be in the same class. A single-user license costs \$150, and both programs are available for the package price of \$250. Multiple licenses are available at reduced prices.

MORE INFO: Planning Software, Inc., 1.866.742.6345,
<http://www.principalspal.com>

Wikispaces has unveiled **EduWikis**, a site that helps educators create and manage their own educational wikis. The site aims to inform teachers how to use wikis in education by providing them with articles and resources, a comprehensive list of existing educational wikis to use as guides, and a place to post and discuss ideas. Its Private Label service, which allows for unlimited wiki spaces in a package designed for an entire school or organization, is available free for the first month and after that costs \$100 a month or \$1,000 a year. Wikispaces also offers one free wiki space under its basic plan. Other prices are available at <http://www.wikispaces.com/site/pricing>.

MORE INFO: Wikispaces, <http://educationalwikis.wikispaces.com>



Funds for Learning, LLC has announced the latest release of **E-rate Manager for Applicants**, an online set of tools that helps applicants navigate through the E-rate program, which provides discounts for eligible telecommunications services. According to the company, more than 30,000 schools and libraries apply for E-rate funding every year, with many requests denied due to process and procedure errors. The suite enables school districts to stay on top of fluctuating deadlines and paperwork, track remaining E-rate funding, monitor sites where funding is used, and respond to E-rate program auditors. The updated version reflects this year's deadlines and regulations. The online suite is available as an annual subscription per user fee based on a student population. A one-year subscription for as many as 9,999 students starts at \$199.

MORE INFO: Funds For Learning, 1.405.341.4140,
<http://www.fundsforlearning.com>



Corsair has launched its **Flash Padlock** USB 2.0 drive, a secure data storage device. The drive secures data through the hardware-enabled "Auto-Lock" function, which automatically locks the drive after removal from a computer. Users enter a customizable security PIN to unlock the device. The flash drives work on Windows, Mac, and Linux platforms. The 1GB flash drive sells for \$29.99. The 2GB drive is \$39.99.

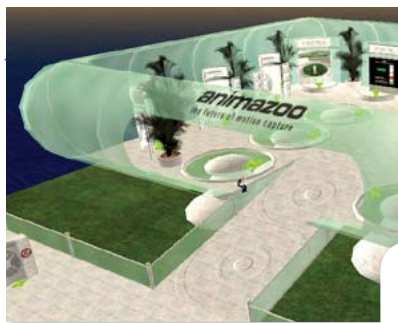
MORE INFO: Corsair, <http://www.corsair.com>



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.

SMART Technologies Inc. has announced the release of the **SMART Learning Marketplace**, a content subscription service of learning resources for lesson creation. The Web-based service offers access to more than one million professionally developed, copyright-cleared, multimedia learning resources through SMART Technologies Inc. and Cambridge University Press. The search engine options allow educators to search by subject area, curriculum, or grade level to find images, text documents, audio files, video clips, and learning objects. Subscribers can search from the SMART Notebook collaborative learning software or the SMART education solutions Web site. The service is also integrated with the SMART Board interactive whiteboard. Pricing details have not been announced.

MORE INFO: SMART Technologies Inc., 1.888.427.6278, <http://www.education.smarttech.com>



The motion capture company Animazoo has opened a shop in Second Life providing avatar animations. According to the company, residents can enhance their avatar's movement and style by purchasing crafted animations that appear much more lifelike than existing animations within Second Life. **The Animazoo shop** is located at Animazoo, QA Business Park, and can be found by searching for Animazoo in the Search window within Second Life. Prices start at L\$50 (50 Linden dollars, about 18¢), rising to L\$300 (about \$1.10) for the best dances. The range is updated regularly, and Second Life residents also have the option of ordering custom-made animations.

MORE INFO: Animazoo, <http://www.animazoo.com>

Learning.com has announced the debut of **Aha!Math**, an interactive supplemental math curriculum for grades K–5. The curriculum is designed to help teachers improve students' foundational math skills. It features problem-solving activities, such as building geodesic domes using students' knowledge of math facts and shapes. The Web-delivered solution also provides teachers with instructional modules, interactive lessons, teacher-led activities, educational games, and online quizzes to incorporate into their math curriculum. Aha!Math is built on the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) Curriculum Focal Points and is aligned with state math standards. The product is available for \$12 per student per year with volume discounts available.

MORE INFO: Learning.com, 1.800.580.4640, <http://www.learning.com>



The Little Pim Corporation has released **Little Pim: Foreign Language & Fun**, a foreign language DVD series for babies, toddlers,

and pre-schoolers. The three initial discs, available in Spanish, French, and Mandarin Chinese, are designed to foster foreign language acquisition in a child-friendly format. They present 225 words that children first speak in their native tongue. According to the company, children receive a total immersion experience because the program is entirely in the foreign language. Each disc can be purchased for \$24.95 as a 35-minute DVD or downloaded in five-minute podcasts for video iPods and portal media players.

MORE INFO: The Little Pim Corporation; <http://littlepim.com>

Coming Next Issue in L&L

Nailing Digital Jelly to a Virtual Tree

Given the rapid pace of technology innovation, which ed tech investments are worth the time, money, and effort required to improve student achievement? Ferdi Serim and Kathy Schrock, co-chairs of ISTE's Emerging Technologies Task Force, outline a strategy to define emerging technologies that support teaching and learning.

Sowing the Seeds of Creativity

We have progressed from the Industrial Society through the Information Society to the Knowledge Society. MIT Media Laboratory's Mitchel Resnick describes Cricket and Scratch, two new technologies that offer children the power to create and control things in the physical and virtual worlds in the emerging Creative Society.

The ABCs of Privacy Practice

Incidents of private and confidential student information being lost or compromised are increasing. Security experts Melissa Dark, Clewin McPherson, and Joanne Troutner go over the essential practices school administrators and teachers should consider to preserve and protect sensitive student data.

Celebrating **35** Volumes