Overview

Students will understand that the World Wide Web is a helpful place to find information on certain topics. They will work in groups and use two ways to locate information on a chosen topic. Students will then post their findings for classmates to read on friendfeed.

Objectives

1. Given access to the internet and instruction from the teacher, students will navigate around the web finding information about a specific topic with 100% accuracy.
2. Given access to the internet and instruction from the teacher, students will post their findings on friendfeed for other classmates’ to read with 100% accuracy.

Standards

Standard 4.2.2: Analysis of Grade-Level-Appropriate Nonfiction and Informational. Use appropriate strategies when reading for different purposes.
Standard 4.2.9: Recognize main ideas and supporting details presented in expository (informational texts).

Materials

1. Computer with internet access
2. Account on friendfeed

Procedure

1. Ask students to share what they know about using the Internet or the World Wide Web. Encourage them to talk about Web sites they have visited and what they learned from their visits. Make sure everyone in the class understands that (a) the Web can be a helpful place to find information on certain topics, including many topics studied in school, and (b) a Web site is a place where groups of people share information and resources on the Internet.
2. Ask students how they would go about using the Web to find information on a topic. Share with the class three ways to begin:
   - Ask your teacher or librarian for the addresses of one or more Web sites that offer information on your topic.
   - Use the Internet Public Library, which features Web resources organized, as in an ordinary library, according to the Dewey Decimal System. The address for the Youth Division of the Internet Library is http://www.ipl.org/youth/dewey/.
   - Use a search engine. The Classroom Connect Class Web Research Page provides links to numerous search engines for elementary school students. The address for this Web page is http://www.classroom.net/resource/search.asp.

Students should understand that all of the above methods provide the researcher with a Web address, or URL, which stands for uniform (or universal) resource locator. By going to that address, the researcher may find the needed information. If not, he or she should try other addresses.
3. Ask students to contribute to a list of topics they might want to research on the Web, and record their topics on the chalkboard. You may add topics of your own to the list.
4. Divide your class into groups, and give each group time to use a computer with Internet access to research a topic of its choice. (You might have groups submit their first-, second-, and third-choice topics to you so that you can avoid duplication of topics among groups.)
5. Encourage groups to visit at least three Web sites while researching their topics.
6. Groups should use the information they have found on their topics to prepare information in bullet or paragraph form to be posted on friendfeed and viewed by other students. Students should log onto their friendfeed account and in the ‘room’ created by the teacher, the students should post the information they have found. Students should include the websites that they used to find their information.
7. Start a classroom library of URLs, listed by topic. The URL library might take the form of a card file, or be kept online for students to access.
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<th>Evaluation</th>
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<td>The student should accurately research their topic thoroughly and include at least three URLs in their posting on Friendfeed. Students should present their information on Friendfeed in a clear and concise manner with correct grammar.</td>
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^1^ Adapted from: http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/programs/allaboutcomputers/