I. The History of Friend Feed

1. Purpose

The purpose of FriendFeed is to gather information from all different social networking sites in order to allow the user to get newsfeeds based on their interests. #1

Friendfeed allows users to find useful content on the internet. Friendfeed can be joined by all kinds of users including individual and businesses. #2

FriendFeed allows the user to follow what their social networking friends are doing online. #3

FriendFeed allows the user to subscribe to only the topics that interest them. This allows users to follow new and up-to-date material online. The different materials that can be shared between users include, but are not limited to:

- Web Pages
- Pictures
- Videos
- Music
- Blogs #3

2. History
FriendFeed is a website that was created by four former employees of the popular search site Google that branched off into their own project. The founders of this new application are Bret Taylor, Jim Norris, Paul Buchheit and Sanjeev Singh. Taylor and Norris, who both built the Google Maps application, teamed up with Buchheit and Singh, who helped create Gmail software to create this new application, FriendFeed.

FriendFeed was created using private investments from the creators. They are not looking for individuals to invest in their creation. Also, there are no advertising spots on this application.

#Table of Contents

3. How FriendFeed Works and How to Get Started

*FriendFeed is a powerful service you can use to follow all the public online activity of your friends. It takes all your friends’ activity on Twitter, Digg, del.icio.us, Flickr, YouTube, and 30 other sites and creates one giant uber-feed that you can display it all in one place.*

FriendFeed is an application that gathers all of your friends’ information that you are subscribed to and puts them all in one site for you to look at. So, if you are on Twitter, Facebook, or any of the different applications that FriendFeed has to offer, you can have it all in one Web site. This can save you from having to bookmark different pages and Web sites so that you can get all of the updates in one place.

Signing up is easy...
Step 1. Join. Go to the site and sign up.

Signing up on FriendFeed and creating account only takes seconds. After creating your account, FriendFeed gives you a list of recommended friends to subscribe to. The recommended friends are popular friends-of-friends. These recommended friends may have feeds you may find interesting. FriendFeed gives you the option to add friends from your address books from various online e-mail services. Then, it matches those addresses to existing FriendFeed users. It is an easy way to stock up your network with all of your friends and doing this does not spam any of them. The main window shows content from everyone and everywhere.

Step 2: Reading FriendFeed

FriendFeed shows you a list of all the public things the people you’re following are doing on the Web. But it gets tricky: It’s not strictly ordered by time, with the most recent activities on the top of the list. While new items do start on top, an old item that’s scrolled down can move back up to the top if another user comments on it.

The grouping of comments on items, and the persistence of heavily commented-upon items at the top of the list, is what makes FriendFeed a very good way to get a look at what is popular in your social network at any given moment. To help you grasp the outlook even better, FriendFeed automatically includes items from friends of your friends in your main content window.

This means, however, that items from friends of yours who are not Web 2.0 celebrities can quickly scroll off your main content stream. FriendFeed’s founders are working on new features to help you track the people who matter to you personally, even if their items do not get the comments that stick them to the top of the feed. In the meantime, you might want to limit the number of celebrities you subscribe to.
Step 3. Add your personal feeds.
If you like what FriendFeed does, you'll probably want to join in as well, so your friends who are on FriendFeed can follow you, too.

First, gather up your user IDs for the sites on which you contribute. Then, click on the "me" tab in FriendFeed and begin adding services. Click the name of the service you want to add and then enter in your ID. From then on, anytime you update that service, the update will be reflected on FriendFeed and all the people who are following you will see it there.

*If you contribute to a blog and want your work on it to show up on FriendFeed, you can put that in as well.*
II. How FriendFeed Relates to Other Applications

1. Comparison to Competitors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Benefits of FriendFeed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Learns your preferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Organizes based on user preferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User is able to customize the information the send and receive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>User can make information private or public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Layout of FriendFeed is clean and organized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FriendFeed is spam free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Posts are always current and relevant to user interests</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitates interactions in a user-friendly setting</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

FriendFeed is an application that allows its users to mainstream all of their social networking pages into one location. Users can act directly on their homepage or tell the Web site to post certain information from many other social networking Web sites. FriendFeed works with many different Web sites that include places such as Facebook, Gmail, Pandora, Twitter, and YouTube. Unlike many of the other sites out there, FriendFeed incorporates many more services. Facebook will allow users to incorporate information on the news feed from up to a dozen different Web sites, while FriendFeed offers almost sixty. FriendFeed even allows users to post status updates from Facebook. There are also many other unique characteristics of FriendFeed. Users are allowed to comment on items that they like. This will cause the information to move up to the top of the homepage. This takes the most important content to the top. FriendFeed also has a "FOAF", or friend-of-a-friend. This feature allows a user to follow along on posts from a friend's friend. This allows users to be exposed to other people that they might find more interesting and become their friend.

Although FriendFeed might appear to be a copied version of Facebook, there are in fact many differences. Facebook only allows users to follow along on their friend's real-life activities. Facebook is also mainly a private Web site. FriendFeed can let users follow along on information such as news and other topics. It also includes more of the unprotected parts of the Web. There are never requests for users to subscribe or share their information. It is also more of a one-way relationship instead of the two-way relationships that Facebook offers.

*Here is an example of sharing news to FriendFeed.*
2. Unique Uses of FriendFeed Outside of the United States
A unique feature that comes with FriendFeed is the real-time feature that was recently created. In the past, the creators noticed people complaining about constantly having to refresh their pages so that they are updated with new information about their friends. The new real-time feature allows users to constantly be updated on the information. Whenever a user posts an update on a Web site, the information is automatically updated on the FriendFeed homepage.

This feature can be more relevant to those outside the United States in terms of being consumers. Companies can post information about their products to consumers over the internet. The consumers can then look over this information and interact with companies about what they do or do not like. Companies can create a room and also invite consumers to it so that they can attract customers. Businesses can then start conversations and interact with the consumers. This information can then be embedded on their corporate Web site. Owners can then monitor the conversation and welcome others to their site. This is a great way for countries across the globe to attract attention of consumers in other countries.
"It is easy to translate FriendFeed into many different languages. FriendFeed has begun to take the most commonly used languages across the globe and transferred their information into that language." FriendFeed is available in seven different languages. These include English, French, Japanese, Spanish, German, Russian, and Chinese. The site is currently working on making it easy for other languages to also be imbedded into the site. "Users can easily translate their account into different languages by selecting the language from the account setting. Users are also able to change the language at the bottom of each page in their account. Each language has their own user-supported help so that users can contact the staff if a problem arises."

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### III. Real World Applications

#### 1. FriendFeed Use In the Classroom

FriendFeed can be used as a very helpful tool inside the classroom. Along with being a great means of staying connected with students outside of the classroom, FriendFeed can also be used as a fast and effective means of gathering information that the students may need.
FriendFeed can allow teachers to communicate to each other very easily in order to share ideas and lesson plans. It is always great to be able to bounce ideas off of people in your same profession and to see what they have done in their classroom. Teachers can see what methods of teaching they have found to be effective in their classroom and some methods that may have failed. They are then able to deliver feedback on what could be changed. It is a great way for teachers to learn from one another and to become more effective in the classroom with their students.

FriendFeed can also be used as an effective way to stay connected with students outside of the classroom. This application can be used as a tool to gather more information for your students and present it to them in ways that are not available in the actual classroom setting. "It can also be used as a tool for encouraging the students, as they can see live-stream feedback on the things they are doing online. This can show the students how much you care about what they are doing and encourage them to keep working hard in the classroom."

The ability of FriendFeed to gather information on topics that you are interested in can be an effective research tool, as you can be automatically alerted when a specific topic is being discussed. This can give students and teachers the ability to gain information at a much faster pace by filtering only the information that is relevant to the topic of interest.

FriendFeed can be used in a variety of educational settings. Used with proper teaching techniques, FriendFeed can greatly enhance the student's learning experience. Here are a few lesson plans that include FriendFeed that teachers can use in their classrooms. These lesson plans can be used in elementary, middle, and high school classrooms.

### Elementary School Lesson Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary School - Grade: 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overview</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will practice solving math word problems about time and money.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- They will practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and simple fractions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will work with a partner to make up their own word problem.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Problems will be posted on FriendFeed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will work with their partner to answer other groups' word problems.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students are able to answer math word problems using addition, subtraction, multiplication, and simple fractions with 90% accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Students will be able to make a post of their word problem on FriendFeed with 100% accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Students will be able to answer their classmates' word problems that were posted on FriendFeed with 80% accuracy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Math in everyday life - Grade 3.doc
Math in everyday life - Grade 3.pdf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary School - Grade: 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overview</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will understand that the World Wide Web is a helpful place to find information on certain topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students should note that this could be done with a variety of different topics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will work in groups and use two ways to locate information on a chosen topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will post their findings for classmates to read on FriendFeed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students will navigate around the web finding information about a specific topic with 100% accuracy.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Students will post their findings on FriendFeed for other classmates' to read with 100% accuracy.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All about computers - Grade 4.doc
All about computers - Grade 4.pdf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary School - Grade 5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overview</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will take two class periods to learn about a specific snake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Students will learn that not all snakes are the same by reviewing the information found by other classmates.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Objectives</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Students will be able to complete a search and do research on their snake.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Students will join a group designated for their snake research and post their findings to FriendFeed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Students will read information posted by their classmates and write a one to two paragraph synopsis on the information of a snake.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Animals in the wild - Grade 5.doc
Animals in the wild - Grade 5.pdf

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Elementary School - Grade: 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overview</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Objectives |

Telling Time - Grade 2.doc
Telling Time - Grade 2.pdf
### Overview
- Students will practice telling time on an analog clock by documenting 4 events that occur every day for a week.
- Students will post the 4 events and the time they occurred each night on FriendFeed for their peers and teachers to see.

### Objectives
1. Given an analog clock, students will be able to read any time on the clock asked of them with 100% accuracy.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Graphing Precipitation</th>
<th>Elementary School - Grade: 3-4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Overview
- Gather information on local precipitation and precipitation of a nation with a rainforest.
- Make graphs to chart precipitation at the two locations.
- Compare the levels of precipitation in a short paragraph.
- Post the results on FriendFeed to share with fellow classmates.

### Objectives
1. Students will be able to create bar graphs comparing local precipitation levels to precipitation levels in another nation that contains rainforest.
2. Students will be able to make comparisons based on the graphs they have created.

---

### Middle School Lesson Plans

- **Online at the Library**
  - **Overview**
    - Students will learn about the benefits of using the Internet at the school library.
  - **Objectives**
    1. Identify four possible advantages of using the Internet at a library.
    2. Investigate the specific Internet opportunities and related restrictions.
    3. Be able to hold an open discussion of what they have learned.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Identifying High-Quality Sites</th>
<th>Middle School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Overview
- Students will be able to identify high-quality sites.

### Objectives
1. Explain how the ease of publishing on the Internet may affect the usefulness of some sites' content.
2. Interpret the criteria on a site evaluation checklist.
3. Apply the checklist to a site, evaluating its usefulness.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Investigating Search Engines and Directories</th>
<th>Middle School</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### Overview
- Students will be able to find a variety of useful search engines and directories on the Internet.

### Objectives
1. Compare search engines, directories, and meta-search engines.
2. Describe the features of one or more specific search sites.
3. Explain why smart searching includes trying more than one search engine.

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**Table of Contents**
## Discovery of Atlantis

### Overview
- Students will learn about the lost continent of Atlantis.

### Objectives
1. Students will learn that Atlantis is the name of a continent that some believe may have once existed.
2. Students will understand that there is no mainstream scientific evidence that such a continent existed.
3. Students will analyse unexplained phenomena that could be explained by the existence of such a continent.
4. Students will utilize FriendFeed to share their research with the class.

## Exploring Cyberspace

### Overview
- Students will explore the dynamic uses of the internet in creating art and music.

### Objectives
1. Students will understand the advantages of the Internet to make music and art not readily available to the public.
2. Students will learn that the Internet also creates ethical and aesthetic issues for creative artists.
3. Students will learn that displaying and viewing a work of art is a dynamic process that affects the viewer, the artist, and the work itself.
4. Students will utilize FriendFeed to share their thoughts and opinions with classmates.

## Exploration of Mars

### Overview
- Students will learn about spacecraft, the solar system, and NASA.
- Students will learn about the technology that has enabled scientists to make discoveries about the Solar System.

### Objectives
1. Students will learn about the use of spacecraft to discover places in our solar system, such as Mars.
2. Students will be able to describe the three-phase strategy: reconnaissance, surveillance, and in-depth study.
3. Students will analyse how missions to Mars have raised questions that scientists are working to answer.

## Thomas Jefferson, Secretary of State, President

### Overview
- Students will learn about Thomas Jefferson as Secretary of State.
- Students will learn about Thomas Jefferson as President.
- Students will incorporate FriendFeed into the research and group discussions.

### Objectives
1. Students will be able to summarize Jefferson's role in the creation of the US Department of State.
2. Students will be able to describe how Jefferson's role as Secretary of State prepared him to be President.
3. Students will be able to describe how Jefferson's foreign policy as President was influenced by his work as Secretary of State.
4. Students will be able to successfully use FriendFeed in order to collaborate with their classmates and share their ideas and research findings.

## Future and Present Trends in the Animal Science Industry

### Overview
- Students will learn about the latest trends in animal science.

### Objectives
Future and Industry
Overview

- Students will learn about present and future trends in the animal science industry
- Students will learn the importance of research and participation
- Students will learn how to apply internet applications to classwork

Objectives

1. Students will be able to effectively research a current trend or issue in the animal science industry
2. Students will be able to write an effective summary
3. Students will know about the different trends in the animal science industry
4. Students will know how to use FriendFeed to complete and share their work

Present and Future Trends in the Animal Science Industry.docx
lesson plans.pdf

#Table of Contents

- Post-Secondary Lesson Plans

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>9/11 Backlash: Being Muslim in America</th>
<th>Post-Secondary Level</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Overview</td>
<td>Students will learn about how the media influences our perception of different groups of people.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Objective</td>
<td>1. Students will be given time in class to research how television programs and movies affect our perception of ethnic groups. 2. Students will watch a movie and share their ideas through a debate on FriendFeed.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9-11 backlash being muslim in america.doc
9-11 backlash being muslim in america.pdf

cold war into guerilla war.doc
cold war into guerilla war.pdf

#Table of Contents

2. Integration of FriendFeed at the Corporate Level

FriendFeed can also be very useful outside the classroom and at the corporate level. There are many different ways that employers can use FriendFeed with their employees to stay constantly connected and updated on many pieces of useful information for their business. Below are a few examples of how FriendFeed can be used every day in the corporate atmosphere.

Natalie Deacon works in the Deans’ Office in the Purdue University’s Krannert School of Management. All employees are required to attend 3-5 events per year that help them to further themselves as workers. These events are compiled on their annual performance evaluation, but aren’t ever discussed. These are a few of her lesson plans that could be used together with FriendFeed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Incorporating Social Network Aggregation Applications</th>
<th>Business &amp; Industry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Objectives</td>
<td>1. Employees will be able to incorporate FriendFeed into team activities and project development with 100% effectiveness. 2. Employees will be able to effectively discuss the merits of social network aggregators in a professional setting.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using FriendFeed for Research and Information Sharing

Objectives
1. Employees will be able to contribute information relevant to a given research topic to a feed with 100% accuracy.

Using FriendFeed to Address Training Opportunities

Objectives
1. Using their FriendFeed accounts, employees will provide information on upcoming events and their reactions or reflections on advancement workshops/conferences that they have attended.

IV. Demonstration of Educational Value

FriendFeed is currently being used by many of the social networking sites such as Facebook, Twitter, Dig, Flickr, etc. For a full list of Web sites that use the FriendFeed application you can go to: [http://www.squidoo.com/friend-feed]
FriendFeed can allow you to follow some of the top rated bloggers online. This can allow you to access some of the most up-to-date and relevant information on the Web.

In order to protect privacy, the feature called Rooms allows for the user to pick which people you want to let join a special FriendFeed information stream. Users can make rooms public or private, and can share information privately with one another. This option can be useful in the classroom so that information can be shared with only members of the class.

This tool has the potential for teachers to hold individual lessons online through FriendFeed. Students could add pictures and video links in the room along with other information they have gathered. In the future, classes may be able to be taught completely online through FriendFeed because of its ability to easily share information between teachers and students.

Users can also join groups or create them, which would be allow teachers to create a group for their class and all their students would be able to join and share information.

Summing up, FriendFeed will allow one thing for certain. People anywhere in the world will be able to connect with the lives of those they care about in many different ways such as with visuals, sounds, texts, etc.

V. Using FriendFeed Internationally
International Benefits of FriendFeed

FriendFeed is available to people all across the globe.

Research is constantly being done so that they can try to better understand their users outside the U.S. #13

International Drawbacks of FriendFeed

It is a challenge to adapt to the differences of users across the globe because the creators are from the United States.

International users of FriendFeed may not experience all of the benefits of FriendFeed users in the US.

“FriendFeed is a social media aggregator that allows people all across the world to stay in close contact with one another. Media aggregators are Web sites that take what users do on other social networks and then centralize all of it into one location. They enable live streaming, which is constantly taking the information and publishing it. These live streams allow users to keep track of what their friends are doing. In short, they are tools that allow the users to observe the activity of friends on various Web sites. FriendFeed combines different forms of media into one site and allows its users to view friends’ and others’ activities. This allows users in other countries to keep themselves constantly updated with information around the globe.” #14

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>International Benefits of FriendFeed</th>
<th>International Drawbacks of FriendFeed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FriendFeed is available to people all across the globe.</td>
<td>It is a challenge to adapt to the differences of users across the globe because the creators are from the United States.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Research is constantly being done so that they can try to better understand their users outside the U.S. #13</td>
<td>International users of FriendFeed may not experience all of the benefits of FriendFeed users in the US.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Here is a list of online references that were used in our research and development of this page:

[#Table of Contents]