

Infusing Technology into the Classroom: A Beginner's Guide

What should I think about first?

Keep in mind that technology is for the classroom, not the classroom for the technology. Therefore, you should invite technology in (don't let it barge through the door!) when it can do at least two of the following things...

- enhance product
- differentiate learning
- save time
- reduce stress
- invite creativity
- develop skills

AND ALSO

- aligns with standards/objectives

If the technology you are considering cannot do that, come back to it later.

What are the standards for what my students should be doing?



Go right to the standards here: <http://bit.ly/nets-profiles>

Where should I start?

According to Brian Housand, here's the process:

1. Identify a tech tool
2. Provide a purpose
3. Give it time
4. Watch it grow
5. Evaluate

(Housand & Clark, 2008)

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And these Twitter hashtags:



- #edtech
- #edchat
- #teaching

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Where do I go from there?

Explore some repository sites:

- <http://cooltoolsforschools.wikispaces.com/>
- <http://webapplications.wikispaces.com/>
- <http://bit.ly/techforelementary>
- <http://p21.org/tools-and-resources/educators>

When you see something you like, check out this site to learn how to use it in the classroom really quickly: <http://www.underthenminutes.com/>

Google (the mother ship):

- start here <http://www.google.com/edu/teachers/>
- cheat sheets: <http://bit.ly/teachgoogle>
- Google apps for K-12 educators <http://bit.ly/g-apps-teachers>
- Google doodles archive <http://bit.ly/googledoodles>
- lesson plan search <http://www.google.com/edu/teachers/lesson-plan-search.html>
- google a day <http://agoogleaday.com/>

What are the top five sites I can't live without and use nearly every single day?



bit.ly	diigo	sxc.hu	hootsuite	google
shorten url's to manageable size	store everything you search, as well as highlight, share, and archive it	best site I've found for free images	keeps my twitter manageable and the information from overloading	the mother ship for educators