primary source-based learning into the classroom. Recently, Mr. Roberts met with IU1 curriculum specialist, Mr. James Dowler, Ph.D., to reinforce how primary source-based learning relates to Pennsylvania Academic standards. Primary source-based learning correlates well with Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening standards and supports literacy across curriculums, thereby helping students to better prepare for high achievement on PSSA tests.

On-site Teacher Coaching

Elementary teachers from the California area school district will be the first group of teachers to participate in a pilot project, whereby a Teaching with Primary Sources staff member, Mr. Nicholas Roberts, will deliver professional development in workshops and then remain at the school for an extended period of time to be a resource for teachers wanting to implement in the classroom the skills and competencies learned during the workshops. Mr. Roberts will act as a teaching coach for those teachers who want to incorporate primary source-based learning into their curriculums.

Research has shown that professional development is most effective when it is ongoing; hence, the decision to place Mr. Roberts in the schools to help teachers implement the skills and competencies learned in the professional development workshops. We are currently seeking other schools to participate in this extended professional development program and invite interested others to contact our office as we build our work schedule for the remainder of the school year.

In addition to this pilot project, we are offering a train-the-trainer professional development opportunity. Mr. Roberts will work with small groups of teachers to empower them to help fellow teachers effectively integrate primary source-based learning into the classroom. Recently, Mr. Roberts met with IU1 curriculum specialist, Mr. James Dowler, Ph.D., to reinforce how primary source-based learning relates to Pennsylvania Academic standards. Primary source-based learning correlates well with Reading, Writing, Speaking and Listening standards and supports literacy across curriculums, thereby helping students to better prepare for high achievement on PSSA tests.
TEACHING WITH PRIMARY SOURCES

ANNEMARIE SAYS!

AnneMarie Walter, Associate Director, LC/TPS Mars Hill College

Annemarie says, “Medicines in My Home is an interactive and educational program about the safe and effective use of over-the-counter medicines that helps middle school students learn about the safe and effective use of over-the-counter medicines. It is designed for use in health education courses. Although health curricula differ among states and school systems, this information on the safe use of over-the-counter medicines may integrate with learning objectives related to home safety, medicines and common health problems, or consumer products. Materials can be downloaded as a word document or a pdf file.”

http://www.fda.gov/medsinmyhome/

Neuroscience for Kids

Here is a way for your students to explore the brain and nervous system with experiments, activities and games. Learn about brain development, the structure of the brain, the skull, blood supply, brain fitness, neurons, the autonomic nervous system, sensory systems, the spinal cord, laughter and the brain, face recognition, drug effects, neurological and mental disorders, and more. http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/neurok.html.

PRIMARY SOURCES FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Judging from the small quantity of publications on the subject—and my own intuition—when one imagines “primary sources,” the likely disciplines to emerge are education, the humanities, and social studies. And yet, the scope and value of primary sources extends throughout the academy. As such, I’d like to offer educators and practitioners in the “hard sciences” a few of the Library of Congress’ tools that warrant praise:

Enter webcasts. Webcasts are online videos that can be “streamed” (i.e played, not downloaded) online. Currently, 111 science and technology related webcasts are available at www.loc.gov/today/cyberlc. Webcasts represent an advantage in classroom/technology integration that has not existed with previous teaching tools (e.g. VCRs, overhead, slide, and film projectors).

Searching through the Webcasts for Teachers collection, I found content in richly diverse scientific disciplines, including: aeronautics, engineering, physics, quantum computing, medicine, epistemology, optometry, neuroscience, brain imaging, entomology, biotechnology, genetics, agriculture, and ecology. Although it could be argued that webcasts may not be primary sources in themselves, they are often replete with them and are led by Library of Congress experts, invited authors, and researchers.

Another tool is Science Reference Services, which offers journals, abstracts, web links, science fairs, and technical dictionaries. This is available at www.loc.gov/rr/scitech/collect.html#a&i.

Lastly, there are two American Memory collections named The Nineteenth Century. According to their descriptions, they’re “particularly strong...in science and technology.” To begin your search, visit memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlcpcoop/moahome.html, click on “Books” or “Periodicals,” and click “Search by Keyword.” Next, enter a keyword, such as “soil” or “science.” Enjoy!

TECHNOLOGY IN THE CLASSROOM

Take a ‘Byte’ from the Apple: Education World Techtorials

It’s 10:00 p.m. and you’re brain-dead, bunny-slipper clad, and hunting for great technology ideas for tomorrow’s class. Perhaps your new computer lab, laptop cart, or handhelds are about to be delivered and you have no clue how to use them. Alternatively you are a veteran teacher who uses technology regularly and needs some fresh ideas. No matter what you teach, what you know about technology, or how much technology is available to you, Education World Techtorials are for you!

WHAT ARE TECHTORIALS?

Education World Techtorials are weekly step-by-step instructions on using some aspect of technology in the regular classroom. Short, practical, and educationally sound, Techtorials provide classroom teachers with simple, straightforward tips they can use today! Each week, Education World posts a new Techtorial dealing with topics related to software applications, internet use, computer maintenance and troubleshooting, special interest technology, and more, with a strong focus on the beginning or reluctant computer user. The Techtorials provides help in both classroom management and creating computer-based activities for students and includes tips for both PC and Mac users.

This information was retrieved on November 15, 2007. For more information go to: http://www.education-world.com/a_tech/techtorial/techtorialintro.shtml.

For more information, please contact:
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To receive the electronic newsletter via email, send a request to hoak@cup.edu.