

Number 7

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Tips & tricks for using  
educational technologies...

Links to sites that may help  
enhance classroom instruction...

Videos to motivate, teach, or  
help lighten the mood...

# W.D. Tech NEWS



## Jim's Favorite Site of the Month

### Site: **SafeShare.tv** *(Video)*

Most teachers can relate to watching a video on YouTube when all of a sudden an inappropriate comment or advertisement appears on the site.



Not only can this be embarrassing but it could lead to potential problems for the teacher. This is where **SafeShare.tv** can be the perfect solution. All a teacher needs to do is copy the URL from the YouTube video the teacher wants to show to the class, paste it into **SafeShare.tv**, click the Generate Safe View button, submit the video, and then copy the new URL. There will be no ads to worry about and the teacher can even do some minor editing to help remove any questionable content.

(<https://safeshare.tv/>)



### Site: **The Office Stare Machine** *(Language Arts, Entertainment)*

The Office Stare Machine is unlike any site you've ever visited. All you need do is enter an emotion in the "I Want..." text box and video clips from "The Office" television show will play. Not all emotions are represented but the ones that are included are fun and entertaining.

(<http://theofficestaremachine.com/>)

*Editor: Jim Roberts \* Western Dubuque Director of Instructional Technology and Student Reporting*

*Text and images are the property of the respective sites shared. The use of the text and images is for educational purposes and to provide information about the shared sites, apps, or videos.*

## Site: **CREATING MUSIC** (MUSIC)



**Creating Music** is a very nice site for music teachers, particularly elementary and middle school music teachers. Students can learn about Playing with Music, Hearing Music, and About Pitch. This isn't an elaborate site but it's fun and a good learning tool.

(<http://creatingmusic.com/>)

## Site: **TUNESTOTUBE** (VIDEO, CLASSROOM SAFETY)



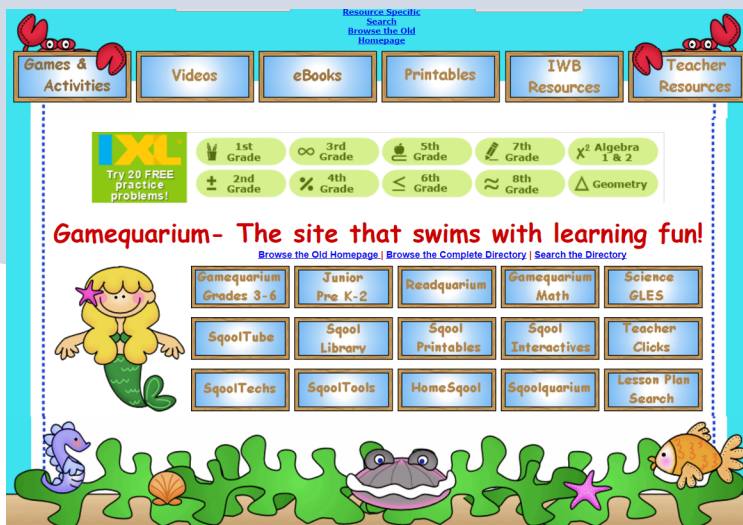
**TunesToTube** allows you to take any of your audio files and convert them to a "video" that can be uploaded to YouTube. No more needing to use a movie editing program to do the conversion!

(<https://www.tunestotube.com/>)

## Site: **FREEOLOGY** (WORKSHEET CREATOR)

Freeology features free worksheets for almost all curricular areas. Nothing fancy... just great worksheets.

(<http://freeology.com/>)



## Site: **GAME-QUARIUM** (EDUCATIONAL GAMES)

(<http://www.gamequarium.com/>)

## Interesting facts for the classroom

### March

**About the Month of March** March is the 3rd month of the year and has 31 days.

**Season:** (Northern Hemisphere): Spring

**Holidays:** Read Across America Day (Dr. Seuss Birthday) Saint Patrick's Day Pi Day Daylight Saving Day Women's History Month National Nutrition Month American Red Cross Month Fire Prevention Month

**Symbols of March:**

**Birthstone:** aquamarine and bloodstone

**Flower:** daffodil

**Zodiac signs:** Pisces and Aries

**History:** The name March comes from the Roman god of war, Mars. For many years, March, being the start of spring, was also the start of the New Year. Much of Europe used March as the start of the year. Britain used March 25th as the beginning of the New Year until 1752.

**March in Other Languages:**

Chinese (Mandarin) - sanyu; Danish - marts; French - mars; Italian - marzo; Latin - Martius; Spanish - marzo

**Historical Names:** Roman: Martius Saxon: Hrethmonath Germanic: Lenz-mond (Springtime month)

**Fun Facts about March:**

- It is the first month of Spring which begins between March 19-21. In the Southern Hemisphere, March is the same as September in the Northern Hemisphere.
- Each year March and June end on the same day of the week.
- It is the time of year when animals start to wake up from hibernation.
- March Madness is a basketball tournament played by the NCAA.
- Easter is sometimes celebrated in March.

<http://www.ducksters.com/history/marchinhistory.php>

## Site: **SILK: GENERATIVE INTERACTIVE ART** (ART, CREATIVITY)



Turn your inner artist loose!  
When you "draw" on the screen while using "Silk", you can create beautiful works of art in seconds.  
(<http://weavesilk.com/>)

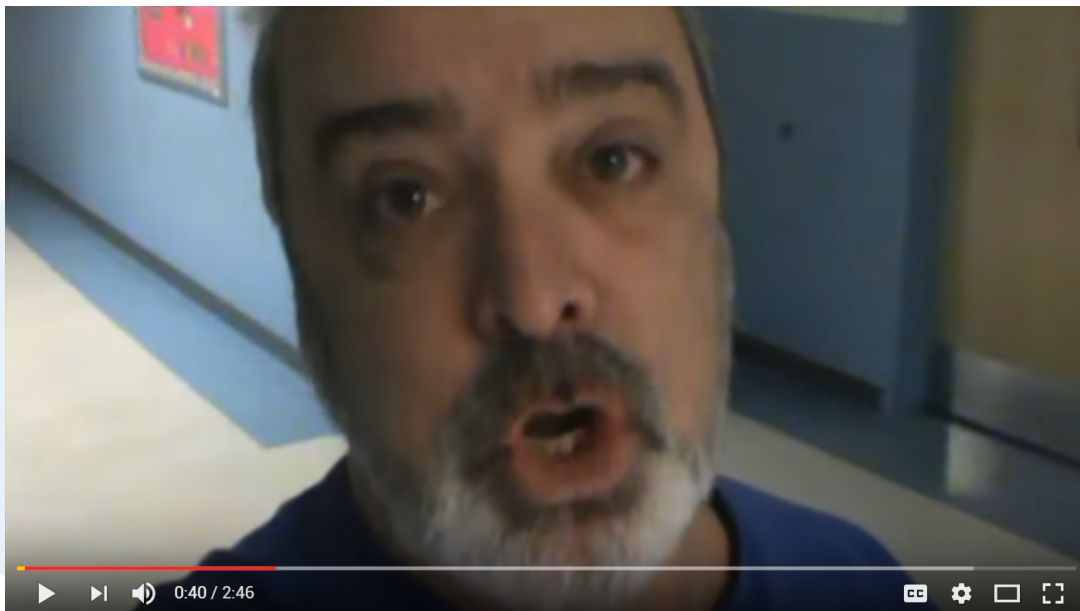
## Site: **SCIENCE KIDS** (SCIENCE)



(<http://www.sciencekids.co.nz/>)

## Video: **Principal Coupon Book**

Gerry Brooks delivers a fun and entertaining glimpse into the world of being a Principal and what kind of gifts to give teachers.



([https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w\\_PirOBhnTQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w_PirOBhnTQ))

*Fun:*

## Trivia Facts for the Classroom

- The black boxes in commercial aircrafts, are in fact orange (so does anybody know why it is called a black box?)
- Snakes hear through their jaws.
- Snails can sleep for three years without eating
- You use more calories eating celery than there is in the celery itself
- The earth weighs about 6,588,000,000,000 million tons
- Teeth are the only parts of the human body that can't repair themselves
- Four is the only number in the English language that has the same number of letters in its name as its meaning. (ask the class the question what makes the word FOUR so special?)
- The Eiffel Tower in Paris has 2,500,000 rivets in it
- A group of frogs is called an army
- A group of crows is called a murder
- The average person walks the equivalent of twice around world in their lifetime
- Food can only be tasted if it is mixed with saliva
- More people are alive today than have ever died
- The elephant is the only animal with four knees
- No words in the English language rhyme with month, orange, silver or purple. (Give your students the challenge to come up with rhyming words first before you tell them that apparently there are none but this can be proven wrong of course)
- The Cambodian alphabet is the largest. It has 74 letters
- Eighty percent of people who are hit by lightning are men
- The biggest palace in the world is the Imperial Palace in Beijing. It has that many rooms that you can sleep for 25 years in a different room each night
- An ant can lift ten times its own weight
- On average, 100 people choke to death on chewing ballpoint pens. (the mind boggles but great discussion point if you have a group of pen chewers in your room)
- Pneumatophobia is the fear of air (use it when they are all yawning)
- There are 701 official breeds of dogs

<http://knowledgebasecentral.co.nz/TUTOR+RESOURCES/Fun+Stuff/Wow+facts.html>