

Number 2

Volume 4

October 2016-2017

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

## DO YOU EVER GET TIRED OF TEACHING?

*"Maybe you're ready to throw in the towel. Before you do, read on."*

Do you ever get so tired of teaching that you just want to walk away and not be in the classroom any longer? If you feel this way you aren't alone. According to a government survey, about 17% of all new teachers leave our profession after five years ( John Fensterwald, July 16, 2015, "EdSource").

Who can blame them? If you go into the profession thinking that it's an 8:00-3:30 job, everybody loves you, and all you do is stand in front of kids and talk, then you're not the person who should be educating our youth.

As most of you who are reading this probably know, being a quality teacher is a very rigorous thing. If you care about your students, you will work in the evenings and on weekends, you will contact parents with news about their child (both good and bad), and you will strive to keep up with the latest tools and tech-

niques to keep yourself informed and knowledgeable.

When you start to feel down and you begin questioning the career decision you have made, try these:

- Find a website that allows your students to explore.
- Let the students share their on-line discoveries.
- Have your students create a production about something you are studying in the classroom. Then, video it and share it with the class.
- Be an active part of your PLC. Share your thoughts and welcome the thoughts that everyone shares (even if they contradict yours).
- Talk with a veteran teacher and ask questions both personal and professional. The odds are s/he has felt the same as you.



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Please submit your ideas and questions to Jim at  
[james.roberts@wdbqschools.org](mailto:james.roberts@wdbqschools.org).

## Site: LISTENWISE (Reading/Listening)

Listening comprehension is a fundamental building block to reading comprehension development. Now there is new research evidence concerning a growing number of children who fail to develop adequate reading comprehension skills primarily due to poor listening comprehension. Listenwise can assist you in helping students develop listen skills that will assist them in the future with college and/or their jobs. <https://listenwise.com/>



# Sites: HALLOWEEN FUN (CREATIVITY/VISUAL/ART)



[http://www.abcya.com/pumpkin\\_carving.htm](http://www.abcya.com/pumpkin_carving.htm)



<http://www.smartygames.com/igre/math/halloweenMath.swf>



<http://onlinepumpkin carving.com/oldVersion/index.php>



<http://flash.hoodamath.com/pumpkinremove.swf>

Let your students be creative during the month of October. Click on any of the sites at the left and they can have some Halloween fun.



<http://www.onlinepumpkin carving.com/>



<http://mylifeandkids.com/30-awesome-halloween-games-for-kids/>

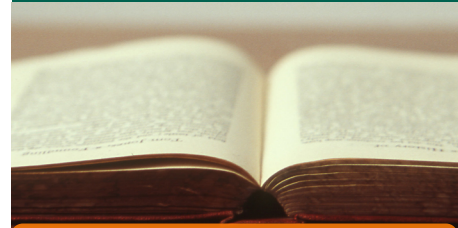


<http://pbskids.org/halloween/>



<http://itswrittenonthewalls.blogspot.com/2011/09/lucky-13-fun-halloween-party-games.html>

## Interesting facts for the classroom September Events



Oct. 1 [Homemade Cookies Day](#)

Oct. 2 [Peanuts Comic Strip](#) First Published In 1950.

[International Day of Non-Violence](#), birthday of Mohandas Ghandi (born 1869)

Oct. 4 [Sputnik I Launched](#) in 1957 (first space vehicle)

Oct. 6 [Thomas Edison](#) Shows 1st Motion Picture In 1889.

Oct. 7 [First Compact Disc and Player](#) released by Sony in 1982 (Billy Joel '52nd Street')

Oct. 9 Moldy Cheese Day

[The Count's Birthday](#) (Sesame Street Character)

Oct. 13 Molly Pitcher (Revolutionary War Heroine) born, 1754

Oct. 17 [Black Poetry Day](#)

Oct. 19 [Star Spangled Banner](#) First Sung In 1814.

[Thomas Edison](#) Demonstrated Electric Light Successfully in 1879.

Oct. 23 [iPod First Revealed](#) (2001)

Oct. 24 [National Bologna Day](#)

Oct. 26 [International Red Cross Organized](#) In Geneva, Switzerland in 1863.

Oct 28 [Bill Gates](#) born, 1955

Plush Animal Lover's Day

[Statue of Liberty](#) dedicated in 1886.

Oct. 31 [Halloween](#)

<https://www.theteacherscorner.net/calendars/may.php?printable=1>



## Site: FREE STUFF (REALLY!) *(Sites/Money)*



Yes, you CAN still find some things that are free. Check out these sites:

### Freeflies:

<http://www.freeflys.com/MoreFreeSamples.php>

### BzzAgent

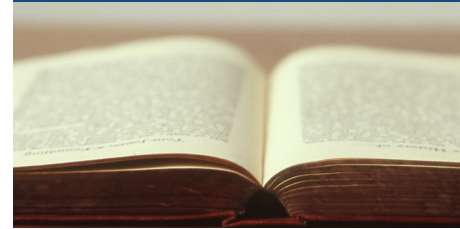
<https://www.bzzagent.com/>

### GoFreebies

<http://www.gofreebieswelcome.com/step1.php?o=2478&t=2&a=1120&s1=3098&hoTID=10211bdca762150e08475c12116b01&email={email}>

## Productivity:

## Ideas for Teachers



## Ways to Help Motivate Students

1. Praise Students in Ways Big and Small
2. Expect Excellence
3. Spread Excitement Like a Virus
4. Mix It Up
5. Assign Classroom Jobs
6. Hand Over Some Control
7. Open-format Fridays
8. Relating Lessons to Students' Lives
9. Track Improvement
10. Reward Positive Behavior Outside the Classroom
11. Plan [Dream Field Trips](#)

<http://www.teachhub.com/top-12-ways-motivate-students>

## Video: Gerry Brooks (Principal) candidly shares his educational thoughts

If you've never seen Gerry Brooks, you have to check this out. He offers a series of videos about schools, teachers, administrators, students... you name it, he has something to share.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IglhSNNk7Qk>

