

Practical Ed Tech Podcast - Episode #20 - November 22, 2019

News & Notes:

- Google released a whole bunch of new things this week.
 - Smart Compose Mode in Google Docs
 - Create tours in the web version of Google Earth
 - Add feedback/ contact forms to Google Sites
 - Re-use rubrics in Google Classroom
 - Add Different Page Numbers to Different Sections in Google Docs
- Microsoft Forms now supports file upload.
- Old friend Padlet now has mapping templates.
- NASA Game
 - Rocket Science Ride to Station
 - H/T to Larry Ferlazzo
<http://larryferlazzo.edublogs.org/2019/11/13/nasa-unveils-game-w-here-you-can-plan-run-a-space-mission/>
- New Chrome Extension called Hewizo reads aloud news articles of your choosing.
 - <https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/hewizo/bkjmiikejlljmcmennfomjofjigefe?hl=en&ref=producthunt>
- DocsTeach has a new section that features historic comic books. Could be a fun way to interest students in history lessons.
- Speaking of read-aloud tools, Announcify seems to have stopped working.
- Pi Hole Project
 - <https://www.raspberrypi.org/blog/pi-hole-raspberry-pi/>

Thoughts from the Field

- I was out of the classroom for most of the week. I had a very capable substitute teacher in my place who really knows his stuff. Most of my students did a great job with the sub. In fact, my freshmen did more than I expected! Still a couple of students chose not to do the projects they've been working on. Frustrating to say the least.

Questions from Readers, Listeners, and Viewers

Hello Richard, What is the best way to take attendance for clubs or groups that will not be bringing a device with them to the activity? It may be a group working on STEAM activities and you want to keep a record of the number of times the children come to the meetings. It would be something that they could use an iPad or a computer to sign in when they came to the activity. What app or website would help the best with this? It would be more for my records not for office.

Chris

I attended one of your Tech Conferences held at Sunday River a few years back. I have this dilemma.

I have a Data Table in Excel. It is a list of NH cities and Towns (approx 230) and in a second column we have indicated that we have completed standardizing the location data. So that metric is just a yes or no.

What I want to do is

1. Use a map of NH that shows all the cities and towns and has them labeled correctly with the city or town name.
2. Merge it with my Excel spreadsheet.
3. So the result would be: The city or town would be colored in when the data table shows that standardizing the data for this info is complete. It would be blank white if the data wasn't processed yet.
4. Then at a glance we could see which municipalities we still need to process.

My map is needed for NH Audubon. I am working with some historical data of bird sightings. When we get the locations standardized we upload them to e-bird. We are trying to make a map to show which NH municipalities we have finished analyzing the data for and which still need to be done.

I tried using GeoChart in Google Sheets but I can't take this down to the city level.

Also I have only older versions of Excel. These versions do not offer Power Map. Is there something I am missing?

Melissa

I am a long-time follower of your blog FreeTech4Teachers. Your tips and tricks have enhanced my teaching practice enormously, thank you!

I was hoping you could help out with a bit of a dilemma we are having with Google Docs.

Currently, we are not a school that uses Google Classroom; this issue would be easy to resolve if we did!

My colleague wants students to add "comments" using the commenting box to a Google Doc that contains links to articles. He would like students to share their thoughts with the entire class by commenting. However, with comments enabled, they are also able to add "suggested edits." This is causing havoc on the doc as students are adding spaces, line edits, striking out sentences, etc. as they attempt to add comments.

I have searched through the Google forums and can find many suggestions for how to turn on "suggested edits," but none for how to turn them off. We may have to provide a different way for students to share their thinking.

Thank you very much for your time. I greatly appreciate the help!
Rebecca

How can I manage to create like this activity? I mean which software of applications can I use to insert the audio files in such a way?

www.cambridge.org/elt/peterroach/resources/ExtraExercises/EPP_WS_ExtraExercisesUo9.pdf

The exercises are found here:

<http://www.cambridge.org/elt/peterroach/exercises.htm>

regards,
Anissa

Hi Richard,

I've been tasked with creating a STEM lab in our library. I've heard you talking about your students doing some Arduino projects. In looking through the project hub I'm a bit overwhelmed by the options. Can you make some suggestions on what I should look for? Thanks for any guidance you can give me.

Susan

Richard,

I hope that this email finds you well. I am looking to get some direction on an activity I am planning to do with my 5th graders.

I have taught them to build ppts, but I am looking for other multimedia tools to teach. I am going to use Prezi and Adobe Spark. Do you have any others you would recommend?

Thanks,

Larry