

Practical Ed Tech Podcast #11 - September 27, 2019

News & Notes

- Dark theme for Gmail Android and iOS apps.
- Google for Education Transformation Reports now available
 - Google's attempt to show that using G Suite "transforms" education.
- Dan Russell's new book, The Joy of Search hit bookshelves this week.
 - <https://amzn.to/2lDQ6cl>
- Speaking of books, I published the 2019-20 edition of the Practical Ed Tech Handbook.
 - Get a free copy at [Practicaltech.com/free-handbook/](https://practicaltech.com/free-handbook/)
- Microsoft has a new "all about Immersive Reader" center.
 - <https://education.microsoft.com/courses-and-resources/resources/all-about-immersive-reader>
- Notion.co has a new tool called Nimble Notes that they call the "anti-Evernote." Might be worth a try for those who are looking for an Evernote alternative.
- With the news of a possible impeachment proceeding in the news, all the YouTubers were out in force with commentary and explanations. My buddy Tom Richey was one of them.
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZdbDR28U6Zs&pbjreload=10>
- Open Culture had a great article this week about how bicycles can change lives. Interesting bit about people (including those with children) who have the means to buy cars but choose to use bicycles only.
 - <http://www.openculture.com/2019/09/how-bicycles-can-revolutionize-our-lives.html>
- Justin Cahill at Keeping Kids in Motion offers a Halloween-themed fitness program for kids (and adults). You can get the calendar and certificates for free from his site.
 - <https://keepingkidsinmotion.com/>
- Clif Mims offered a good overview of coding programs "that work." Designed for introductory lessons on coding.

- <https://clifmims.com/5-coding-programs-that-work/>
- Reflections on my first full week of teaching computer science.
 - Reminded that adults often think kids know more about technology than they really do.
 - The most important skill any of us can give to students is the ability to think and problem-solve.
 - There are kids in my 3rd year class who have incredible skills but now need to know how to apply them outside of classroom-assigned projects.
 - Freshmen will be freshmen...even the most engaged kid needs frequent brain breaks.

Questions of the Week

Do you have any tips for creating data visualizations? I have a group of seventh graders who are learning about data collection methods in social studies and I'd like for them to be able to make more than just bar graphs?

~Laurie

- Google Sheets Explore
- Gap Minder and Better World Flux

Hello Richard,

I hope everything is well with you

I was very glad to read your post about the app .(glide)

Do you think I could build one for my classes? so that they could practice grammar and vocabulary? I teach german A2. That would be great.

thanks

regards

~Isabel

I'm not sure if you can help me, but I've been stuck for a few weeks and thought of you this morning.

So.... I wanted to created a jeopardy styled powerpoint for unit review.

Someone created the framework and the game worked fine UNTIL I tried to save and share. He saved it as a ppm file and it has to be saved as ppx in order to upload and share with the formulas in tact. The person who created it can no longer help me - but I really want to complete this project.

Can you direct me to try to figure this out or do you do contract work. I think it's a simple fix - when the students answer a question correctly, I need the box to add 100 points. It does this in the ppm file but not when saved as ppx.

Thanks

~Kimberly

Hey Richard,

Have you come across any online, chrome-based software to easily allow students to create a morning show-type video? My school has teacher PC's, but we were trying to give more control to the students and allow more flexibility in working on the show.

Thanks.

~Brian

I am looking for ideas about how to build a digital escape room using Google for upper elementary classes. Can you point me in the right direction?

Thanks,

Larry
