Electronic news from the SouthEast Initiatives Regional
Technology in Education Consortium
(SEIR*TEC)

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In this Issue
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1. Online Certification to Use Chess in the Classroom

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Chess is a fun way for children to improve mental skills such as critical analysis, competition and decision-making. And of course, the students don't realize they're learning - they think they're playing games! Knowing this, Alexey W. Root, a senior lecturer, and Tim Redman, a professor of literary studies, both at the University of Texas at Dallas, have developed an online certificate program to help teachers use chess in their classrooms. The course is geared toward elementary and middle schoolteachers. The online course will show teachers ways to incorporate chess into many kinds of class activities. For more information visit "Chess Online" in the UT-Dallas Teacher Development Center

URL: http://www.utdallas.edu/teach/chess.htm.

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2. Website to Integrate Technology into Instruction

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"Web for Teachers" helps teachers integrate technology into instruction. It features various tools for teachers: one for creating quizzes that students can take online, another for organizing & annotating web sites, a third for developing rubrics, & more. A webzine presents brain games, web lessons, & stories about teachers & students using technology. (ED)

URL: http://4teachers.org/

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3. View the World's Oceans from your Classroom

"SeaWiFS Project" (Sea-viewing Wide Field-of-view Sensor) provides data on global ocean bio-optical properties for the earth science community. Resources for teachers include a tutorial on ocean color & slides suggesting how SeaWiFS data can be incorporated into the curriculum for grades 5-12. (NASA)

URL: http://seawifs.gsfc.nasa.gov/SEAWIFS.html

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4. Search for Missing History in "The Lost Museum"

"The Lost Museum" explores P.T. Barnum's American Museum, which epitomized popular entertainment & education in the U.S. for nearly a quarter of a century. The museum -- which also articulated major issues confronting American culture, society, & politics -- was destroyed in 1865 in one of the most spectacular fires in New York City's history. (NEH)

 URL: http://www.ashp.cuny.edu/LM/

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5. Mysteries and Adventures Website Experience

From sleuthing to deep-sea diving and from quick two-minute brainteasers to adventures that unfold in real time over a period of months, these Web sites present great experiences for students.

URL: http://www.techlearning.com/db_area/archives/WCE/archives/myster.htm

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6. Identifying Costs and Sources of Funding

The KickStart Initiative. "In every community, the costs of infrastructure development -- whether for schools, libraries, and community centers -- will vary depending on the technology selected and benefits desired. The possible sources of funding to meet these costs fall into three categories: alternative-funding mechanisms, reprogramming of existing sources of funding, and cost-saving measures. Cost summaries of each model are also available."

http://www.benton.org/Library/KickStart/kick.identifying.html

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7. Computers for Learning

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"Computers for Learning will place hundreds of thousands of computers in our Nation's classrooms and prepare our children to contribute and compete in the 21st century. The program is designed to donate surplus Federal computer equipment to schools and educational nonprofits, giving special consideration to those with the greatest need. The Computers for Learning website allows schools and educational nonprofits to register quickly and easily to request surplus Federal computer equipment."

http://www.computers.fed.gov/School/user.asp

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