

Wednesday, October 31, 2007

Quick Tips

Google: A Wealth of Instructional Resources

You use Google to search for Websites, but, Google offers an assortment of other no-cost options. And, as compared to Open Source products, Google's online services are top-notch and top rated.

Here is what you can find on the Google site; Link to the Google Options Page; More Services than you can "Shake a Stick at" Here is a listing of the services that you can get from Google; without charge.

Some cautions are in order for any of these products or services that require installation on the local computer. Your school district's IT Department may frown on any unauthorized installations, and unauthorized users may not have adequate logon accounts with permission to install software.

Even so, Google offers an impressive array of products to choose from.

And, did I mention that every one of these is without cost? Alerts

Get E-mail updates on the topics of your choice Blog Search

Find Blog's on your favorite topics Book Search

Search the full text of books Catalogs

Search and browse mail-order catalogs Checkout

Complete online purchases more quickly and securely Desktop

Search and personalize your computer Directory

Browse the Web by topic Earth

Explore the world from your computer Finance

Business info, news, and interactive charts iGoogle

Add news, games and more to the Google homepage Images

Search for images on the Web. Note: Remember to set preferences for safe images Maps

View maps and directions News

- now with archive search New!

Search thousands of news stories Notebook New!

Clip and collect information as you surf the Web

(Does not work with Windows Vista)

Note: You may not be able to use this product at school since you have to download and install software. Patent

Search New!

Search the full text of US Patents Product Search

Search for stuff to buy (for your classroom or for yourself). You do have a tiny bit of disposable income, don't you? Scholar

Search scholarly papers Special Searches

Search within specific topics Google Toolbar

Adds a search box to your browser

Note: The IT Department in your school district may not allow you to download and install the Google Toolbar on school district computers Video

Search for videos on Google; Video and YouTube;

Web Search

Search over billions of Web pages. This is the Google; Search that you know and love Web Search Features

Find movies, music, stocks, books, and more Custom Search New!

Create a customized search experience for your Website. Note: This service is probably only useful to you if you manage a Website Communicate & Share Blogger

Build a curriculum-based Blog -- fast, easy, and free Calendar

Organize your schedule and share classroom and school events with parents, students, colleagues and friends Docs

Docs

Create and share your projects online and access them from anywhere

Groups

Create mailing lists and discussion groups Gmail

Fast, searchable, no-cost E-mail with a great Spam filter

Orkut

Strange name for a service that helps you meet new people and stay in touch with friends Picasa

Find, edit and share your photos SketchUp

Build 3D models quickly and easily. Note: Another product that you have to install on the local computer. The same

school district IT Department cautions apply

Talk

Google's version of Instant Messenger. To communicate with your friends through your computer, they must also have an Google Talk account

Translate

View web pages in other languagesYouTube

Watch, upload and share videos. Note: Your school district's content filter may block the YouTube site because there is so much inappropriate material there. (Let your students continue watching this stuff at home.) Access to videos requires a broadband connection. Pack

A free collection of usable software. Note: Some of the programs listed above in an easy to install package.

Special Note: Installing the Norton AntiVirus service may interfere with the AntiVirus program that your school district employs.

Posted by Classroom Toolkit Newsletter in Quick Tips at 07:00