

Free & Inexpensive Resources

Here's a list of resources compiled from a variety of places. Some of them appear dated and may not still be available but are definitely worth checking out!

1. The Power of Positive Students (POPS) Foundation provides low cost booklets, pins, posters, stickers, and other materials for use in promoting positive thinking. Materials are provided for students, administrators, teachers, and parents. A positive parenting booklet, for example, is available for \$4.99 (with discounts for quantities), a booklet on attitude boosters is \$3.95, and stickers sell for \$3.50 per roll of 100. To receive a current catalog and information on POPS, write to: POPS Foundation, 4325 Dick Pond Road, Myrtle Beach, SC 29575, 803-650-7681.

2. Brøderbund Education Forum is a series of publications, each focusing on an educational topic. The publication features articles written by well-known educators and includes a matrix analyzing Brøderbund products for use with the target population. Past issues feature: Computer Technology and the Gifted Student, Special Education, and Students-at-Risk. All three titles are available free to educators by contacting Brøderbund Software, Inc., 500 Redwood Blvd., Novato, CA 94948-6121 U.S.A.; or call in the U.S.A.: 800/521-6263.

3. The Computer Museum Store in Boston has catalogs (educational and gift) filled with many unusual items. For the catalogs, write to or call: Computer Museum Store, 300 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210 USA, Telephone: 617-426-2800, ext. 307.

4. For a free catalog of books, directories, market studies, etc. dealing with all aspects of multimedia technology, applications, and markets as well as a free issue of the newsletter, "The Monitor," published monthly since 1983, contact:

Multimedia & Videodisc Monitor
PO Box 26
Falls Church VA 22040
703/241-1799 or Fax 703/532-0529

5. The Foundation Center publishes catalogs of resources about fundraising and grants. To request the catalogs and other information about The Foundation Center services, write to:

The Foundation Center
79 Fifth Avenue
Dept. PG
New York, New York 10003-3076 U.S.A.

6. The Education Division of the National Air & Space Museum (NASM) publishes the SKYLINES newsletter for teachers. The newsletter is free to educators in the United States and includes information on topics related to air and space science, and listings of NASM resources and events for educators. Three issues of "Skylines" are sent to subscribers each year. To become a subscriber, write to SKYLINES, Education Division, MRC 305, National Air and Space Museum, Washington, D.C. 20560, USA.

7. For educators in the United States, complete units on specific scientific topics are available on request for Grades Kindergarten through 12 from the Education Resource Center located in the National Air and Space Museum (NASM) at the Smithsonian Institution. Requests for curriculum packages must include subjects and grades taught and must be made by teachers on school letterhead. Send requests to:

Education Division, MRC 305
National Air and Space Museum
Washington, D.C. 20560 USA

8. Educators may access [NASA's Spacelink](#) by using their telecommunications software to call (205) 895-0028. This free electronic service contains excellent information about NASA and NASA programs for educators and students. Spacelink may also be accessed via the Internet. In Michigan, dial one of MichNet's public access numbers and type "Spacelink".

9. The Izaak Walton League of America (IWLA)'s Save Our Streams program was established in 1969. The program targets ways to "ensure a safe and clean future" for waterways in the United States. Those who get involved in the program adopt a stream and "become part of a national network of stream activists."

If you are interested in adopting a stream, send \$8 for the Save Our Streams Adoption Kit. A registration card comes with the kit. If you register your project, you will get a subscription to SPLASH, the Save Our Streams 8 page quarterly newsletter.

For additional information and to order the kit, write to:
The Izaak Walton League of America
Save Our Streams Program
1401 Wilson Blvd., Level B
Arlington, VA 22209
Telephone 703-528-1818

10. In celebration of last year's National Science & Technology Week (April 25-May 1, 1993), the National Science Foundation is providing schools with activities featuring invention and discovery in a half dozen or more free pamphlets which could be duplicated for use in classrooms.

To see if copies of those activities are still available and/or to check on other materials, contact

National Science Foundation
1800 G. Street, N.W. Room 527
Washington, D.C. 20550
Attn. NSTW Coordinator

11. A variety of materials relating to the global climate are available from the National Agricultural Library. They include information on global warming and the greenhouse effect, global climatic change, and information resources related to global climate change. To receive a free Information Packet, send a mailing label with your request to:

Reference Section, Rm 111
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Blvd.
Beltsville, MD 20705 U.S.A.

12. The newsletter UNIVERSE IN THE CLASSROOM is available free of charge to teachers who request it on school stationery from the Astronomical Society of the Pacific. To receive this science newsletter, write to:

Teachers' Newsletter Department
Astronomical Society of the Pacific
390 Ashton Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94112

13. ACCESS ERIC is your gateway to ERIC, the Educational Resources Information Center. Education practitioners, librarians, policymakers, researchers, parents, and students can stay abreast of the most up-to-date developments in the education field through ERIC. ERIC's database, the world's largest single source of education information, contains citations of more than 760,000 documents and journal articles on education research and practice.

Call ACCESS ERIC if you want to: find out where you can have an ERIC database search done. The database contains citations for more than 20,000 curriculum and teaching guides alone. Order a free copy of "A Pocket Guide to ERIC" or "All About ERIC" to learn more about the System and receive a subscription to "The ERIC Review," a free journal published three times per year.

ACCESS ERIC is a toll-free service to keep you informed of the wealth of information offered by the ERIC network and other education sources. ACCESS ERIC staff answer questions, refer callers to education sources, and provide information about ERIC network.

Call 1-800-LET ERIC (1-800-538-3742) for more information.

14. Discis Inc. offers an 8-page, full-color newsletter written by educators for educators. K-12 educators share successful and innovative activities using Discis Books and ideas about integrating Discis Books with other classroom software. In the United States, for a free subscription call 1-800-567-4321 or

Submit your own ideas to Discis Knowledge Research Inc., attn. Fiona Ferguson, 45 Sheppard Ave. East Suite 410, Toronto, Canada M2N 5W9. If published, educators receive a complimentary copy of the latest Discis Book title.

15. The Apple Library Users Group (ALUG) has released Macintosh Libraries 5.0. This 98-page book and HyperCard® stack includes sixteen chapters by ALUG members, including "New Horizons in Library Training: Using HyperCard for Computer-based Staff Training" by Pauline Bayne and Joe Rader from the University of Tennessee, "A Teacher's Dream...A Student's Nightmare" by Keith Johnson at New Prague Middle School, "Digitizing Document Transmission Using HyperCard" by Eric Lease Morgan and Tracy Carorso at North Carolina State University, and "Macintosh in a Supercomputer Library" by Mary Layman from the San Diego Supercomputer Center.

Macintosh Libraries is available free by sending a self-addressed mailing label to Apple Library Users Group, 10381 Bandy Dr. M/S 8C, Cupertino, CA 95014 U.S.A. (indicate book, stack, or both). Requests can also be sent via

AppleLink® to Ertel.M or through the Internet to ertel.m@applelink.apple.com.

16. NASA provides a newsletter for educators three times a year. According to NASA, the newsletter "synopsizes the latest education events and scientific news from NASA Headquarters and Centers. It provides opportunities for teachers to interact with NASA and NASA's Centers through participation in workshops or seminars, through the acquisition of educational products such as publications and videos, as well as through cable television programming and teleconferencing."

To be put on the mailing list for "NASA Educational Horizons," write to:

NASA Headquarters
Education Publications
Code FEP
Washington, D.C. 20546

17. The Department of the Treasury provides free materials to help students learn about taxes. Taxes in History is designed to complement middle school U.S. history programs. It includes three student videos, one teacher video, posters, and a teacher's guide. One resource package is provided for every three teachers.

Understanding Taxes is a "set of ready-to-use classroom materials for senior high school and junior high school students. It helps students learn about the preparation of basic tax forms as well as the history, economics, and politics of the Nation's tax system." The resource package includes a notebook complete with lesson plans, transparencies, and blackline masters. Software and video programs are also part of the package.

To receive the resource kits, contact your local IRS Taxpayer Education Coordinator. There are offices in all states; Washington, D.C.; Puerto Rico; and Guam.

18. Wings for Learning/Sunburst of Scotts Valley, California offers the following free newsletters for educators:

"The MIMI Experience"--for teachers of Grades 4-8. This newsletter features ideas for interdisciplinary activities related to MIMI software and resources.

"Solutions"--for teachers of Grades K-5. This newsletter targets mathematics and science.

"Connectors"--for teachers in Middle Schools and High Schools. This newsletter targets mathematics and science.

To be placed on the mailing lists for the newsletters, in the United States, call 1-800-321-7511. Educators outside the United States may call collect 408-438-5502.

19. "The Consumer's Resource Handbook," published by the United States Office of Consumer Affairs, assists consumers in the United States by providing resources for handling consumer complaints. The Handbook includes addresses and telephone numbers that may help when tackling problems.

Single copies of the Handbook may be obtained by writing to:
Handbook
Consumer Information Center
Pueblo, Colorado 81009
USA

20. The "Consumer Information Catalog," a publication of the U. S. General Services Administration, is a catalog of free and inexpensive federal publications for residents of the United States. The publications listed are of interest to consumers and include such topics as cars, children, employment, education, exercise, food, nutrition, health, housing, money, small business, travel, hobbies, etc. To receive the next edition of the free catalog, write to:

Consumer Information Catalog Request
Consumer Information Center-2A
P.O. Box 100
Pueblo, Colorado 81002
USA

(Nonprofit groups such as schools and libraries may request 25 or more copies of the "Consumer Information Catalog" each quarter. A mailing list application will be sent to the nonprofit group.)

21. ORGANIZATION: Stacks. All Levels

HyperCard stacks that have been developed for use in the Delta County School District in Delta, Colorado are available to other educators. These stacks may be used as they are or as examples or templates for new stacks. Stacks included are:

- File Index--educator/designer Kevin Sheppard uses this stack to keep track of computer related information, especially information with an educational orientation.
- Quiz Stack--can be configured for any different number of questions.
- Calendar Stacks--designed to print out on letter size paper on a laser printer, but according to Sheppard, they should print easily on most printers. The purpose of the calendar stacks is not as an on-screen calendar, but as a quick way to produce printed calendars. The calendars are updated yearly, and are available in Calendar Year and School Year Stacks.
- Other Stacks--Multimedia Templates, Multimedia Instruction, Math Skills, Computer Skills, Reading Skills, and Writing Skills.

If you are interested in receiving copies of or samples of the Delta County Stacks, contact Kevin Sheppard at the address below. The cost for mailing, disks, and handing ranges from \$5 to \$10.

Kevin Sheppard
2000 Plateau Drive
Austin, CO 81410
(303) 874-5262 wk
(303) 835-8490 hm

22. ***Freebies***

Lodgings and Plane rides for Youth:

The U.S. Air force provides varieties of free, & unique experiences for our nation's youth. (Especially national scouting groups.) The Air Force opens its facilities to these groups for special events, such as jamborees, olympics, meetings, and conferences. Overnight accommodations from camping sites to beds in barracks are available. The youth groups can participate in training exercises, obtain orientaion plane rides, and get tours of the Air Force facilities. Aerospace education, career programs, and every once-in-a-while surplus properties are available. Films, on topics as diverse as space communications, history of the Air Force, missile development in space, and expert motorcycle riding can be borrowed. Information, assistance or support in any above ares, youth groups and scouts should contact the "Youth Organization Project Officer" from the Air Force Installation where you wish to conduct an activity. Write address correspondence to: Base Commander, (List Appropriate Name) Air Force Base, State, Zip Code, Attention: Youth Organization Project Officer. For regional and national events, youth groups should write the appropriate regional officer or director. List of officers appear below.

Director, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, Kelly Air Force Base, Texas 78241-5000. (512)925-5384

Northeast Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, McGuire Air Force Base, New Jersey 08641-5000. (609)724-2905 ext. 3728

Southeast Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, Dobbins Air Force Base, Georgia 30069-5000. (404)424-4990

East Central Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, O'Hare ARF Facility, Illinois 60666-5000. (312)694-6088

South Central Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, Carswell Air Force Base, Texas 76127-5000. (817)735-7134

North Central Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri 65305-5000.

Western Region, Air Force Office of Youth Relations, Travis Air Force Base, California 94535-5260. (707)438-5100

Adopt-A-Horse

In order to control the population of wild horses and burros grazing on public land, the U.S. Department of the Interior offers these wild animals for adoption to qualified individuals. For more information and adoption applications contact: Adopt-A-Horse, Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Department of the Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

Anti-Jet Lag Diet

This freebie provides info on how you can reduce the adverse side effects of air travel by changing your diet. To receive a copy, send a SASE to: Anti-Jet Lag Diet, Office of Public Affairs, Argonne National Laboratory, 9700 South Cass Avenue, Argonne, IL 60439.

Art for Loan

Educational materials, including color slide programs, videocassettes and films on works in the National Gallery of Art's collection and special exhibition can be borrowed at no charge. Receive a free catalogue by writing to: Extension Programs, National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC 20565.

Biking and Hiking Maps

Brochures with maps of trails throughout the National park Service are available at no charge. To place your order, specify the geographical area that your interested in. Contact: U.S. Department of Interior, 18th and C streets NW, Room 1013, Washington, DC 20240. (202)343-4747. (Memo: If you call, you will hear a recording. Stay on the line to talk to someone.)

Birthday and Anniversary Greeting for the President of the U.S.

The President will send birthday greeting to couples married 50 years or longer, and anyone 80 or

over. Notify the President of the event, in writing, at least 2 weeks (preferable 1 month or more) before the celebrated occasion. Include in your letter: the name(s) and address, zip code of the person(s) to be honored, and info about the event including the date, number of year being celebrated and whether it is a birthday or anniversary. Write: White House, Greeting office, Washington, DC 20500.

Boating Lessons

A range of free courses, from 1 to 13 classes, on safe boating are offered by the U.S. Coast Guard. For more information contact your local U.S. Coast Guard Office, or Commandant (G-BAU-1), U.S. Coast Guard, Washington, DC 20592. (202)426-1077

Business Loans for Children and Teenagers

The U.S. Department of Agriculture loans up to \$10,000 to youths from ten to 21 years of age. You can use the loan to support farm and non-farm ventures, such as small crop farming, livestock farming, roadside stands and custom work. They are normally made in conjunction with youth groups and require parental consent. Write to: Production Loan Division, Farmers Home Administration, Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250. (202)447-4572

Congressional Pages and Interns

Approximately 100 pages work for Members of Congress during the school year. More positions for pages as well as interns are available during summer months. Contact your U.S. Senator and Representative for more info.

Hotline to the President

Call 456-7198 in DC area or (800)424-9090 elsewhere to hear the United States President announce the latest news from the White House.

Tell the President What You Think

White House operators at (202)456-7639 will take messages for the President, or write to the President and tell him what you think about current issues. The address is: White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20500.

23. Smithsonian *Publications for Teachers*

Art to Zoo is the Office of Elementary and Secondary Education's quarterly journal for teachers of grades four to six. Each issue provides background information, a lesson plan, classroom activities, and resources for further information on a science, art, or social studies topic.

Current issues of Art to Zoo will be placed online. Past issues or free subscriptions are available by writing to the following address:

*Art to Zoo
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Arts and Industries Building 1163/MRC 402
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560*

Or, you may telephone 202/357-2425 during business hours (8:45 a.m. through 5:15 p.m., Monday through Friday).

The following back issues of Art to Zoo are now available in hard copy from the above address:

**Reveled and Revered: Toads, Turtles, Snakes, Salamanders, and*

Other Creepers and Crawlers (December 1992) Reptiles and amphibians; representations of reptiles and amphibians; endangered species; herpetology.

** Digging Up Dirt: How Paleontologists Bring Dinosaurs Back to Life (April 1992) Paleontology; relationship of geology with paleontology.*

** Kiting Up the Sky: The Vehicles of Understanding (September 1991) Importance of kites; how kites fly; history of kites; writing about kites; kite making.*

** What Makes Time Tick, or Has the Industrial Revolution Really Made the Clocks Go Faster? (April 1991) Time; machines; timing of lives of people*

** Turn About's Fair Play! Mirrors and How They Reflect (October 1990) Learning about Mirrors; activities related to mirrors.*

** Ticket to Philly in 1769: Thinking about Cities, Then and Now (May 1990) Exploring Philadelphia in 1769; studying cities; urban life during the colonial period.*

Let's Go to the Smithsonian

Let's Go to the Smithsonian is a quarterly newsletter highlighting exhibitions, resources, and publications of interest to teachers (grades prekindergarten through grade twelve) in the Washington, D.C., area.

The current issue of Let's Go to the Smithsonian is available online. Copies are mailed only to schools in the metropolitan Washington, D.C., area.

The Resource Guide for Teachers

The Resource Guide for Teachers is a biannual catalog that lists the educational materials available from the Smithsonian's sixteen museums, the National Zoo, the Kennedy Center, the National Gallery of Art, and Reading Is Fundamental. The catalog includes publications, audiovisual materials, and posters by type of resource and subject area. Copies of the Guide are available by writing to the following address:

*Resource Guide for Teachers
Office of Elementary and Secondary Education
Arts and Industries Building 1163/MRC 402
Smithsonian Institution
Washington, DC 20560*

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24. The One Computer Classroom Video can be borrowed for 30 days for free from Tom Snyder Productions. Call 1-800-342-0236 They also offer a free booklet called Great Teaching & the VCR.