An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators. Part II: Question Answering, Electronic Discussion Groups, Newsgroups, Update 1999. ERIC Digest.

ERIC Development Team

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ERIC Identifier: ED429594
Publication Date: 1999-05-00
Author: Morgan, Nancy A.
Source: ERIC Clearinghouse on Information and Technology Syracuse NY.

An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators. Part II: Question Answering, Electronic Discussion Groups, Newsgroups,
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The Internet is an international computer network composed of thousands of smaller networks. As K-12 schools connect to the Internet, a new method of communication opens up to educators and their students. This Digest describes some sample services and resources that are available to the K-12 community by electronic mail over the Internet. Readers should be aware that the resources and their Internet addresses below are subject to change.

QUESTION ANSWERING:

The number of services that use electronic mail to deliver information is increasing. Services that teachers will find on the Internet include:

---AskERIC: AskERIC is the Internet-based education information service of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) system, headquartered at the ERIC Clearinghouse on Information & Technology at Syracuse University. Teachers, library media specialists, administrators, and others involved in education can send a message requesting education information to AskERIC. AskERIC information specialists will respond within two working days with ERIC database searches, ERIC Digests, and Internet resources. The benefit of the personalized service is that it allows AskERIC staff to interact with the user and provide relevant education resources tailored to the user’s needs.

E-mail: askeric@askeric.org

---AskERIC Virtual Library: Resources developed from questions received at AskERIC are archived at the AskERIC Virtual Library:

http://www.askeric.org

---KidsConnect: KidsConnect is a question-answering, help and referral service for K-12 students on the Internet. The goal of KidsConnect is to help students access and use the information available on the Internet effectively and efficiently. KidsConnect is a component of ICONnect, a technology initiative of AASL (American Association of School Librarians, a division of the American Library Association). Students use e-mail to contact KidsConnect and receive a response from a volunteer library media specialist.
within two school days.

E-mail: AskKC@ala.org

http://www.ala.org/ICONN/kidsconn.html

---Internet Public Library Ask-A-Question Service: Answers all types of general reference questions. You'll get a brief factual answer if you've asked a specific question, or, if you have a broader topic of interest, you'll get a short list of sources that you can use to explore your topic further. IPL's website also contains an extensive online collection of library resources.

http://www.ipl.org/ref/QUE/

---Ask Dr. Math: "Ask Dr. Math," a service for elementary, middle, and high school students, is administered by students and professors at Swarthmore College in Swarthmore, PA.

E-mail: dr.math@forum.swarthmore.edu

http://forum.swarthmore.edu/dr.math/dr-math.html

---The MAD Scientist Network: The MAD Scientist Network is an "Ask-A-Scientist" service run entirely on the WWW. They answer questions in chemistry, physics, astronomy, earth sciences, the biological sciences and more. More than 500 scientists at institutions around the world provide answers to science questions.

http://www.madsci.org

---Ask A+ Locator: The AskA+ Locator is a database of high-quality "AskA" services designed to link students, teachers, parents, and other K-12 community members with experts on the Internet. Profiles of each AskA service include identification information (e.g., publisher, e-mail address, contact person, links to services' home pages), scope, Digest.
target audience, and a general description of the service. The Ask A+ Locator is searchable by subject, keyword, grade level, or alphabetical list. Ask A+ Locator is part of the Virtual Reference Desk.

http://www.vrd.org/locator/index.html

**ELECTRONIC DISCUSSION GROUPS:**

---ECENET-L: Early childhood education, to age 8.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@postoffice.cso.uiuc.edu

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe ECENET-L your

FirstName LastName

Archives: http://askeric.org/Virtual/Listserv_Archives

http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/eece/listserv/ecenet-l.html

---EDNET: Forum on educational possibilities of the Net.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listproc@lists.umass.edu

Leave the subject line blank.
In the body of the message type: subscribe EDNET your FirstName LastName

Archives:http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/Listserv_Archives/EDNET-List.html
---Edres-L (also called C-EDRES): Educational Resources on the Internet.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@listserv.unb.ca

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe Edres-L your FirstName LastName

---EDTECH: Educational Technology.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@msu.edu

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe Edtech your
FirstName LastName

Archives: http://www.h-net.msu.edu/~edweb

http://askeric.org/Virtual/Listserv_Archives/EDTECH.html

---K12ADMIN: K12 educational administration.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@listserv.syr.edu

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe K12 Admin your

FirstName LastName

Archives: http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/Listserv_Archives/K12ADMIN-List.html

---KIDLINK: Kidlink Society runs several listservs in support of a global dialog for students 10-15 years of age. Subscribe to KIDLINK listserv to receive information about the other lists.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@listserv.nodak.ed

Leave the subject line blank.
In the body of the message type: subscribe Kidlink your
  FirstName LastName

Archives: http://listserv.nodak.edu/archives/kidlink.html

KIDLINK Home Page: http://www.kidlink.org

---LM_NET: School library/media services.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@listserv.syr.edu

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe LM_NET your
  FirstName LastName

Archives:http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/Listserv_Archives/LM_NET_T.html

Web: http://ericir.syr.edu/lm_net/

---MIDDLE-L: Education of children 10-14 years of age.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@postoffice.cso.uiuc.edu

Digest.
Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe Middle-L your FirstName LastName

Archives: http://www.askeric.org/Virtual/ Listserv_Archives/MIDDLE-L.html http://ericps.crc.uiuc.edu/eece/listserv/middle-l.html

---NET-HAPPENINGS: Internet related news and announcements.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@cs.wisc.edu

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message, type: subscribe Net-Happenings your FirstName LastName

Archives: http://wwwscout.c.wisc.edu/scout/net-hap/index.html

---SPECED-L: Special education issues discussion.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@uga.cc.uga.ed
Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe SPECED-L your FirstName LastName

---TAG-L: General discussion about all topics related to gifted children.

To subscribe, send e-mail to: listserv@listserv.NODAK.EDU

Leave the subject line blank.

In the body of the message type: subscribe Tag-L your FirstName LastName

USENET NEWSGROUPS:

---Usenet Newsgroups are an electronic bulletin board system, accessible via the Internet, that consists of discussion forums on literally thousands of topics. Users should contact their system operator for instructions. Some of the Usenet Newsgroups are:

k12.chat.teacher-General discussion between K-12 Teachers

k12.ed.art-Arts and Crafts Education
k12.ed.business-Business Education

k12.ed.comp.literacy-Teaching computer literacy in grades K-12

k12.library-Implementing Info Technologies in school libraries

k12.ed.life-skills-Life Skills Education

k12.ed.math-Mathematics Education

k12.ed.music-Music and Performing Arts

k12.ed.science-Science Education

k12.ed.soc-studies-Social Studies Education

k12.ed.special-Educating students with special needs

REFERENCES AND READINGS:


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This publication is funded at least in part with Federal funds from The U.S. Department of Education under contract number ED-99-CO-0005. The content of this publication does not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the U.S. Department of Education nor does mention of trade names, commercial products, or organizations imply endorsement by the U.S. government. The U.S. Department of Education’s web address is: http://www.ed.gov/

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Title: An Introduction to Internet Resources for K-12 Educators. Part II: Question Answering, Electronic Discussion Groups, Newsgroups, Update 1999. ERIC Digest. Document Type: Information Analyses---ERIC Information Analysis Products (IAPs) (071); Information Analyses---ERIC Digests (Selected) in Full Text (073); Available From: ERIC Clearinghouse on Information and Technology, 4-194 Center for Science and Technology, Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY 13244-4100 (free while supply lasts). Descriptors: Computer Mediated Communication, Computer Uses in Education, Educational Resources, Electronic Mail, Elementary Secondary Education, Information Networks, Information Services, Information Sources, Internet Identifiers: ERIC Digests, Question Answering, USENET

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