A Metasite is a Web site that attempts to comprehensively cover a particular discipline topic or subject area. The site is usually divided into sub-categories and may include hundreds or even thousands of links to other Web sites, all of which are related to the topic, discipline or subject being covered. It may or may not include original content. The Metasites included in this listing were selected from the nearly 500 Metasites reviewed. They may be accessed via the "K12CyberPedia" at http://WWW.Lib.CSUFresno.EDU/CurriculumJuvenile/K12CyberPedia. The sites link to lesson plans, a wide variety of educational content (curriculum, instructional, and teaching materials), and other information of interest to educators. All of the material is available free of charge and geared toward use in preK-12 educational settings. Each of the top 100 sites includes a concise annotation based on the compiler's personal experience with the site. A second group of 100 "honorable mention" sites is listed (without annotations). Additional detail regarding the listings' content, organization/navigation, intended audience, and updates, along with the compiler's qualifications and a disclaimer, are included. (Author/AEF)
Education Metasites

By

Mike Tillman
Education Metasites

A Metasite is a Web site that attempts to comprehensively cover a particular discipline, topic or subject area. The site is usually divided into sub-categories and may include hundreds or even thousands of links to other Web sites, all of which are related to the topic, discipline or subject being covered. It may or may not include original content. Some Metasites claim to be "best of" sites; other Metasites are less selective and may include sites of varying quality.

The Metasites included in this listing were selected from the nearly 500 Metasites reviewed by the compiler. They may be accessed via the K12CyberPedia at http://WWW.Lib.CSUFresno.EDU/CurriculumJuvenile/K12CyberPedia/. The sites link to lesson plans, a wide variety of educational content (curriculum, instructional, and teaching materials) and other information of interest to educators. All of the material is available free of charge and geared toward use in preK-12 educational settings. Each of the top one hundred sites includes a concise annotation based on the compiler's personal experience with the site. A second group of one hundred "honorable mention" sites is listed (without annotations). For additional detail regarding the listing's content, organization/navigation, intended audience, and updates, along with the compiler's qualifications and a disclaimer, read the following sections of this introduction.

CONTENT

The Education Metasites listing attempts to cover all types of sites of interest to preK-12 educators, be they teachers or parents. The various types of sites included cover lesson plans; educational content; subject specific material, i.e. mathematics; topic specific material, i.e. the Civil War; sites that are specifically for teachers, parents, or students; etc. Sites were selected based on whether or not they were substantive and could support or enrich preK-12 curriculum.

The top one hundred links are described with a concise annotation based on the compiler's personal experience with the site. The objective was to be selective yet comprehensive. Sites were deemed to be both educational and engaging. Please remember that there are areas within the field of education that are not as well represented on the Web as other areas; for instance, there are more Web-based curriculum materials for high school students than there are for preschool students.
NAVIGATION / ORGANIZATION

Navigation of the Education Metasites listing is of the no-frills variety. The compiler decided to use the maximum amount of screen space for content rather than navigational devices, many of which are not significantly superior to the navigational devices that are a part of any Web browser. Navigation efficiency is facilitated through concise annotations that help users decide if a site meets their needs. An attempt has been made to avoid unnecessary top pages whenever possible. A decision was made not to divide the sites into sub-categories, i.e. sites for students, sites for parents, social studies sites, lesson plan sites, etc. due to the fact that so many of the sites would be listed under multiple sub-categories. The compiler believes that the present listing is most easily navigated in its present form (an alphabetical listing of all sites).

INTENDED AUDIENCE

The intended audience is educators, be they teachers or parents, who are interested in stimulating yet educational content available via the Internet. The materials are of the stand-alone nature and thus may be used inside or outside of a classroom situation. Additional intended audiences include elementary and secondary students as well as School of Education students and faculty.

The site is particularly geared toward busy classroom teachers and college of education students. The compiler has spent 7 years teaching at the K-12 level and therefore realizes that neither of these groups has the time or energy to thoroughly search the Internet. Yet both of the groups could benefit from a comprehensive list selected by an educator with significant K-12 classroom experience.

UPDATES

The Education Metasites listing will be updated on a regular basis during the school year. Links will also be checked on a regular basis. Appropriate adjustments will be made for discontinued links and links that have changed their address. Links may be eliminated due to significant alterations including, but not limited to, becoming too commercial in nature.
COMPILER’S QUALIFICATIONS

Mike Tillman, Head, Curriculum/Juvenile Library, California State University, Fresno compiles the Education Metasites listing. He has obtained an undergraduate degree in education and graduate degrees in library science and instructional design/technology. Prior to spending the last seven years as a curriculum librarian, he spent seven years as a classroom teacher at the K-12 level.

FEEDBACK

The intent is to continuously improve the Education Metasites listing. One of the most effective ways to do this is through feedback from those who utilize the database. Comments, questions, or suggestions can be sent to Mike Tillman, compiler of the Education Metasites listing.

DISCLAIMER

In providing this service, the compiler and California State University, Fresno do not take responsibility or accept liability for information or publications of third parties on the Internet, even if they are accessed through the Education Metasites listing or the Madden Library’s Curriculum/Juvenile home page.
Selected Metasites

**Activity Search** - a component of a book publisher’s Web page that allows you to search for activities based on their curriculum area and designated grade level
http://www.eduplace.com/search/activity2.html

**The American Civil War Home Page** - timelines, graphics, images, letters, diaries, accounts, etc. http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war/

**American History From the Colonial Period Until Modern Times** - outlines American history and links to information and pictures about people, places and theories important to American history http://odur.let.rug.nl/~usa/

**Armadillo’s K-12 Resources** - this site is attempting to collect and incorporate evaluations completed by the users of various educational Web sites
http://chico.rice.edu/armadillo/Rice/Resources/reshome.html

**ArtsEdge Subject Area Resources** - provides lesson plans that integrate the arts and other subject areas such as science and social studies, also includes primary sources
http://artsedge.kennedy-center.org/db/cr/icr/cover.html

**ArtsEdNet** - lesson plans, curriculum ideas and image galleries
http://www.artsednet.getty.edu/

**AskERIC Lesson Plans** - a selective listing with online search capabilities and searching tips http://ericir.syr.edu/Virtual/Lessons/

**AskERIC Virtual Library** - educational content, infoguides covering various education related topics, ongoing internet related education projects, education listserv archives and companion materials for educational television series http://ericir.syr.edu/Virtual/

**Awesome Library** - a site developed by the Evaluation and Development Institute, an organization promoting world peace; the site links to thousands of other resources covering a wide variety of subjects, categorizes materials by target audiences, e.g. teachers, parents, kids, teenagers, etc. and includes a search engine
http://www.neat-schoolhouse.org/awesome.html
Berit's Best Sites for Children - each site is rated on a scale from one through five, targets sites for younger children http://db.cochran.com/li_toc:theoPage.db

Bill Nye the Science Guy - background information and experiments for each episode of the television series http://nyelabs.kcts.org/

Blue Web’n - rated sites that include many in-depth reviews http://www.kn.pachell.com/wired/bluewebn/#table

Busy Teachers Web Site - emphasizes connections to educational content rather than lists of lists http://www.ceismc.gatech.edu/busyt/k12wel.html

California Department of Education - statistics, press releases, initiatives, conferences, legislation of interest to California educators http://www.cde.ca.gov/

CNN Current Events - up to the minute U. S. and world news, business, sports, politics, showbiz, etc. http://www.cnn.com/

Chemistry Teaching Resources - comprehensive listing of curriculum and other topics of interest to chemistry teachers http://www.anachem.umu.se/eks/pointers.htm


Classroom Connect - a keyword search engine that retrieves rated educational content, also includes links to lesson plans and a variety of methods for integrating the internet into the classroom http://www.classroom.com/

Community Learning Network - thousands of links to educational resources, also has sections covering the internet in general, the integration of the internet into the classroom and the internet and learning theory http://www.cln.org/cln.html

Content Knowledge - searchable collection of K-12 national standards for a wide variety of subject areas http://www.mcrel.org/standards-benchmarks/
The Council for Exceptional Children - current events and background information of interest to parents and teachers http://www.cec.sped.org/home.htm

Cyberguides – Web-based units related to children’s and young adult literature with teacher and student guides, also includes a bilingual section http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/score/cyberguide.html

Cyberkids - intended for students rather than teachers, contains a variety of contests, interviews, articles, games, and puzzles http://www.cyberkids.com/

Dave’s ESL Cafe - interact with ESL students and teachers from around the world http://www.pacificnet.net/~sperling/eslcafe.html

EDSITEment - top humanities sites and lesson plans selected by the National Endowment for the Humanities http://edsite ment.neh.fed.us/websites-art.htm


Education Virtual Library - sites are listed alphabetically, by education level, and by resource type, e.g. teaching methodologies http://www.csu.edu.au/education/library.html

Education Web Search – a somewhat limited search engine that leads to education related sites that are rated and assigned a grade level http://www.tkm.mb.ca/education/

Educational Hotlists - with almost 30 well-developed categories, this is one of the largest educational content directories http://sln.fi.edu/tfi/hotlists/hotlists.html

EdWeb - attempts to bring together various information that will help one maximize utilization of the Web as an educational tool http://edweb.gsn.org/resource.cntnts.html

Electronic Mail Discussion Lists - a large listing of education listserves, the site also provides a detailed description of how to subscribe to a list http://edweb.gsn.org/lists.html
ERIC Database - an internet accessible version of the largest and most important education database includes records for items entered into the ERIC database from 1989 to the present http://ericir.syr.edu/plweb-cgi/fastweb?searchform+ericdb

ERIC Digests - a searchable database that includes the full text for more than a thousand education related reports http://www.ed.gov/databases/ERIC_Digests/index/

ExploraNet - produced by the Exploratorium, one of the top science museums on the internet, the site contains a wide variety of original, interactive educational content and games as well as a monthly listing of other top web sites http://www.exploratorium.edu/

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence - federally supported education resources that may enrich the internet as a tool for teaching, contains a search engine http://www.ed.gov/free/subject.html

Free Internet Encyclopedia - internet resources listed alphabetically http://clever.net/cam/encyclopedia.html

The Human Languages Page - language and literature sites from around the world http://www.june29.com/cgi/HLPsearch.cgi?stype=DIV&DIVS=Languages+and+Literature

Idea Box - preschool activities organized by subject area; idea of the week and idea of the day categories http://www.theideabox.com/

The Jason Project: Virtual Expeditions - students experience the thrill of exploration and discovery through electronic field trips; includes an archive of past expeditions, curriculum and a teacher's guide http://www.jasonproject.org/front.html

Just for Kids - listing of pages for elementary, middle school, and high school students; includes a special section covering creative writing sites http://www.sirs.com/tree/kids.htm

Kathy Schrock's Guide for Educators - a large listing of educational content that may be browsed via a detailed subject listing or searched via a keyword search engine; instructions for searching the site via a commercial search engine and a “New Sites This Month” section are also components of the site http://www.capecod.net/schrockguide/
Kid Safety - covers safety on the Internet and other types of safety such as fire safety and personal safety http://www.uoknor.edu/oupd/kidsafe/start.htm

Kids Web - a digital library for K-12 students that list sites that are relatively easy to navigate and understand http://www.npac.syr.edu/textbook/kidsweb/

KIDPROJ - internet activities and projects for kids ages 5-15 http://www.kidlink.org:80/KIDPROJ/

Learning Disabilities Online - extensive background information, recent findings, first person accounts of the challenges of dealing with learning disabilities, an ask the expert section, interactive bulletin boards covering various topics, and student art and writing submissions http://www.ldonline.org/index.html

Learning In Motion's Top Ten List - selects and describes ten new sites for teachers and students each month; previous selections are categorized by subject area; one of the best education metasites http://www.learnmotion.com/lim/links/linkmain

Lesson Plans and Resources for Social Studies Teachers - along with lesson plans and resources the site contains a section on current events, a what’s new this month category and social studies standards and curriculum from across the country http://www.csun.edu/~hcedu013/index.html

LiveText Educational Resources - successful classroom internet projects that model the integration of technology across the curriculum and demonstrate aspects of constructivist teaching methodology http://www.ilt.columbia.edu/k12/livetext/curricula/index.html

Math Archives - links to other sites that include lesson plans, software, and math topics http://archives.math.utk.edu/k12.html#lessonplans

The Math Forum - search the internet for math or browse through a large collection of selected math resources http://forum.swarthmore.edu/~steve/steve/mathlists.html

The Math Forum Internet Resource Collection - search for math resources by type of resource e.g. lesson plans, math topic and grade level http://forum.swarthmore.edu/~steve/index.html
MEGA Mathematics - unusual and important mathematical ideas; includes activities, vocabulary, background information, evaluation, etc. http://www.c3.lanl.gov/mega-math/menu.html

Midlink Magazine - covers topics of interest to students in the middle grades http://www2.ncsu.edu/unity/lockers/project/midlinknc/vy/may98.menu.html

Multicultural Pavilion - emphasizes multicultural resources, how the internet can be used to provide a multicultural education and how to evaluate internet sites from a multicultural perspective http://curry.edschool.Virginia.EDLT/go/multicultural/

Museums Online - science museums, many with online interactive exhibits http://www.nmmnh- abq.mus.nm.us/nmmnh/online.html

Mustang: A Web Cruising Vehicle - a guided tour of Web66 which concentrates on all aspects of integrating WWW resources into an existing curriculum http://mustang.coled.umn.edu/


National Council for the Social Studies - discussion, links categorized by the themes of the Curriculum Standards for Social Studies, conferences, etc. http://www.ncss.org/home.html

National Council of English Teachers - teaching ideas, teacher talk and national guidelines http://www.ncte.org/

National Council of Teachers of Mathematics - math education resources, conferences, and national standards http://www.nctm.org/

National Science Teachers Association - legislative update, news, information, projects and online resources http://www.nsta.org/

National Library of Education - a recently established hub that intends to coordinate a national network of education libraries, archives and other information providers http://www.ed.gov/NLE/
Net Resources for Educators - developed by the Illinois Learning Mosaic, the site was built based on feedback from educators about how the Internet can best be used in the classroom http://zeppo.ncsa.uiuc.edu/Edu/ILM/resources/

Network-Based Activity Collection - hundreds of network based educational activities organized by activity type and content http://www.esu3.k12.ne.us/institute/harris/activity-structures.html


Online Educator - weekly supersites and an archive that is searchable by grade level, subject or keyword http://ole.net/ole/

Online Teacher - concise listing of websites for a wide variety of topics covered in Time (the magazine) http://cgi.pathfinder.com/time/teach/online.html

PBS Online - links to current events and teacher resources, listings and descriptions of educational television programs and a significant collection of preschool educational content http://www.pbs.org/

PE Central - probably the most comprehensive physical education Web site; includes lessons, assessment ideas, professional information and material related to adapted physical education http://pe.central.vt.edu/PEC2.html

Smithsonian Institution - selected sites hosted by Smithsonian Institution museums http://www.si.edu/newstart.htm

Space Science Education - NASA's outreach page; includes NASA missions, lessons, activities, facts and curriculum http://ssdo.gsfc.nasa.gov/education/education_home.html

Special Education Resources on the Internet - background information; legal, parent, educator, and inclusion resources; and links to specific categories, such as learning disabilities and attention deficit disorder http://www.hood.edu/seri/serihome.htm
Study Web - categorizes sites by subject area and indicates the visual content, grade level and contributor for each site http://www.studyweb.com/

Teachers Helping Teachers - educational resources, lesson plans, teacher chat, and a weekly topic, poem and stress reduction tip http://www.pacificnet.net/~mandel/

TeachNet - lessons, activities, resources, education news and additional classroom management tips http://www.teachnet.com/

USA Today - current events, sports, economics, weather and entertainment http://www.usatoday.com

USA Today Weather Index - over 350 weather related topics covering everything from “Why a baseball travels farther at higher altitudes” to “How to calculate air density” http://www.usatoday.com/weather/windex.htm


Volcano Web - an indexed site that includes a “What’s New Section”; volcano information, pictures, movies and games; and a volcano of the week feature http://volcano.und.nodak.edu/


The Weather Underground - curriculum units and projects, weather data from around the world, visible and infrared maps, radar images, etc http://groundhog.sprl.umich.edu/

Web Sites and Resources for Teachers - lesson plans, classroom projects, interactive web sites, etc.; organized into eight subject categories including ESL/bilingual http://www.csun.edu/~vceed009/

Web Sites With Lesson Plans - smaller specific collections of lesson plans and larger general collections of lesson plans http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/fil/pages/listinterneti.html
Yahoo K-12 Education - a searchable collection of topics teachers might be interested in; sites were selected by the people at Yahoo http://www.yahoo.com/Education/K_12/

Yahoo Lesson Plans - a searchable collection of science, math, and current event lesson plans; sites were selected by the people at Yahoo http://search.yahoo.com/bin/search?p=lesson+plans&y=y&e=74294&f=0%3A74294&r=Computers+and+Internet

Yahooligans For Kids - a searchable collection of topics kids might be interested in; sites were selected by the people at Yahoo http://www.yahooligans.com/

You Can With Beakman and Jax - interactive science demonstration (shockwave plug-in required); detailed information related to scientific questions kids might ask, such as "Why do cats cough up fur balls?" http://www.beakman.com/
Additional Metasites

Adventures In Education - http://adventuresineducation.org/

The American Association of School Administrators - http://www.aasa.org/

American Library Association Home Page - http://www.ala.org/

Argus Clearinghouse - http://www.clearinghouse.net/

ArtSource - http://www.uky.edu/Artsource

The Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development - http://www.ascd.org/

Attention Deficit Disorders - http://www.ns.net/~BrandiV/

Autism Resources - http://web.syr.edu/~jmwobus/autism/

The Backgrounds Archive - http://www.pixelfoundry.com/bgs.html

B.J. Pinchbeck’s Homework Helper - http://tristate.pgh.net/~pinch13/

Blindness Resource Center - http://www.nyise.org/blind.htm

Breadloaf School of English - http://tigger.clemson.edu/bnet/resources/edtech.html

Boulder Valley School District Resources for Teachers - http://bvsd.k12.co.us/resources/teacher.html#history
Building Chicana/o Latina/o Communities Through Networking -
http://cInet.ucr.edu/

California Library Association Home Page http://www.cla-net.org/

Children’s Literature Electronic Resources -
gopher://lib.nmsu.edu:70/11/subjects/Education/childlit

Classical Net - http://www.classical.net/

ColorCenter - http://www.hidaho.com/colorcenter/

CyberSchool - http://CyberSchool.4j.lane.edu/


Dr. Internet - http://www.ipl.org/youth/DrInternet/

Education Internet Resources - http://zeppo.ncsa.uiuc.edu/Edu/ILM/resources/

Education Place - http://www.eduplace.com/index.html

Education World - http://www.education-world.com/

Educational Hotspots - http://sln.fi.edu/tfi/jump.html

Educational Resources - http://www.acm.cps.msu.edu/~spiveyd/Education.html

Eisenhower National Clearinghouse - http://www.enc.org/


Explorer - http://unite.ukans.edu/

Expo - http://sunsite.unc.edu/expo/

Family Village - http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/

The Global School House - http://www.gsn.org/


Frank Potter’s Science Gems - http://www-sci.lib.uci.edu/SEP/SEP.html


The History Channel - http://www.historychannel.com/index2.html

How Do They Do That With HTML? - http://www.nashville.net/~carl/htmlguide/


Info Highway - http://www.uwsp.edu/acad/math/infohwy/infohwy.html

Instructor Magazine - http://www.scholastic.com/Instructor/home.html

Internet Public Library - http://www.ipl.org/

Internet Resources - http://www.sln.org/resources.html
Internet in the Classroom Tutorial - http://www.indirect.com/www/dhixson/class.html

Jerome & Seborah’s BIG PAGE of Curriculum Resources and Research Areas for Teachers - http://www.mts.net/~jgreenco/jerdeb.html

K-12 Education Resources - http://www.nceet.snre.umich.edu/listEd.html

Knot a Braid - http://camel.math.ca/Recreation/kabol/knotlinks.html


Macromedia Shockwave Epicenter - http://www.macromedia.com/Shockwave/

Magellan - http://www.mckinley.com/

Math Archive http://archives.math.utk.edu/


Maya/Aztec/Inca Center - http://www.realtime.net/maya/


Nebraska Department of Education Social Studies Resources - http://www.nde.state.ne.us/SS/ss.html


Online Educational Resources - http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/OER/EDRC22.html

Online Teacher Toolkit - http://pathfinder.com/time/teach/online.html

Owl Magazine - http://www.owl.on.ca/

Profusion - http://topaz.designlab.ukans.edu/cgi-bin/profusion/db/personalAssistantPF

Scholastic - http://scholastic.com/

SchoolNet - http://www.schoolnet.ca/home/e/info/sitemap.html

SchoolNet Ocean Site - http://schoolnet2.carleton.ca/english/manuals/virtualprod/ocean/


Scienceline Web Site - http://www.pbs.org/scienceline/

Scotter's Low Vision Land - http://www.community.net/~byndsght/welcome.html

Shareware.com - http://www.shareware.com/
Skylight Training and Publishing Inc. - http://www.iriskylight.com

Starting Point - http://www.stpt.com/

Teacher Talk Forum - http://education.indiana.edu/cas/ttforum/lesson.html


A Teacher’s HomePage - http://pluto.njcc.com/~harris/

Tenet - http://www.tenet.edu/


University of Wisconsin Instructional Materials Center - http://www.soemadison.wisc.edu/IMC/Intedres.html

Ultimate Winsock - http://www.tucows.com


Virtual Schoolhouse - http://sunsite.unc.edu/cisco/schoolhouse

Web66 - http://web66.coled.umn.edu/

Web Directory of Educational Sites - http://www2.osstf.on.ca/www/links/edusort.html


World Wide Art Resources - http://wwar.com/

World Wide Web Yellow Pages - http://www.mcp.com/directories/

World Wide Web Virtual Library -
http://www.w3.org/hypertext/DataSources/bySubject/Overview.html

You Seek You Find - http://www.useekufind.com/

ZD Net - http://www.zdnet.com/
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**Author(s):** Mike Tillman

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