

Thoughts from Jen

Dear Friends –

October just always seems to fly by – and with the passing of Halloween, the holiday season is upon us and soon it will be 2008. Hard to believe, isn't it??

I hope you have the chance to attend at least one session of the K12 Online Conference (<http://k12onlineconference.org/>) but if you have not, no worries....it will stay available 24/7 for quite a long while. (The 2006 conference is still available too!)

During the month of October, a new software called UStream.tv circulated through my network with a vengeance and people are using this tool to attend conferences and then stream them out to watching guests. Check out these sessions at Teacher Talk!

(<http://ustream.tv/search/all/Teacher%20Talk>)

As some of you know, I live in Southern California – and was pretty much between the 2 major fires. Malibu is about 1 ½ hours to the north and San Diego is about 2 hours to the south. It is a somber feeling when you turn on the TV and all the major news channels are talking about where you live. Makes the world a much smaller place, doesn't it?

For those wondering, I am safe – always was....but we have families and teachers at my school who have lost their homes and all their possessions. Thank you for keeping them in your thoughts and prayers.

Until we chat again, stay healthy, happy, and safe.

Jennifer

Sites to See

Topic for November Thanksgiving Fun

[Apples for Teachers](#)

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/thanksgiving/jigsaw-puzzles/>

[Scholastic.com](#)

http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/

[Thanksgiving Webquest](#)

<http://www.hazelwood.k12.mo.us/~cdavis01/webquests/kpw/>

[The Holiday Zone](#)

<http://www.theholidayzone.com/thanks/interactive.html>

[Plimoth Plantation](#)

<http://www.plimoth.org/kids/homeworkHelp/thanksgiving.php>

[Coffee Cup Software](#)

<http://www.coffeecup.com/k12/>

CoffeeCup Software's K-12 Donation Program allows public schools to request our Educational Software Package (ESP) Free for classroom use to elementary and secondary public schools, and public libraries. School Administrators, Principals, Teachers and PTAs are encouraged to complete a form to get software for their classroom computers today.

Includes a site designer, calendar, news flash, form builder, and photo gallery!

Technology Tip

Digital Story Telling Photo Story 3 Part 1

Digital Story Telling is an excellent way of bringing creativity, good writing skills, imagination, and editing skills into your classroom.

And for PC users – it can't be any simpler because you have free software to download called [PhotoStory3](#) that makes it almost too easy. (Mac users – you have iMovie available!)

Follow this link:

<http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/usin g/digitalphotography/photostory/default.m spx> and download the software to your computer. Once it is downloaded, install it and then launch the program.

Click on "Begin a New Story" and then click on next.

(For this idea, we will be using the pictures you already have in your MY PICTURE folder on your PC)

You now need to click on IMPORT and find pictures on your computer. You will need to navigate to your MY DOCUMENTS folder and then find the MY PICTURE folder.

You can bring in the pictures one at a time or you can hold down the CONTROL key down (on your keyboard) as you select the pictures you wish.

Once the pictures are imported, you can rearrange them on your story board line (at the bottom of the window) by clicking and dragging.

(Part 2 continues in December!)



Perhaps it is just that I am so enamored with the colors of fall friends are sending me from all over the USA...but when I saw this page, I just had to share!!

Mrs. Pinion, the award winning Mrs. Pinion, has put together a very nice site for students, parents, and teachers.

Her drop down navigation choices at the top of the page makes this a very easy to view page.

She has created an exception link of resources on education sites and also check out her math links. It is also nice to see that she is using Accelerated Reader and helping parents stay aware of their child's progress.

But what I like most about her page is that she is hoping to take it global. Take notice of her maps, her weather charts, and other ways she is making a visit to her site very educational!!

Mrs. Sharon Pinion
4th Grade Teacher
Sawnee Elementary
Georgia

<http://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/13042013114104713/lib/13042013114104713/PinionPost/index.htm>

Want to nominate a teacher site for next month's Teacher Site Review?

Please send an email to jlw@technospud.com with the teacher's name, school, and website address.

Please remember that:

1. The site needs to load quickly!
2. The site may not have any inappropriate ads.
3. The site cannot ask you for personal information nor have the need to download anything to view the site.
4. The site needs to have been updated within the last few months.
5. If graphics are used, an appropriate link of acknowledgement needs to be listed on the site somewhere.