

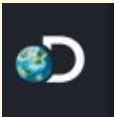
Technology Tidbits

connect → research → abstract → analyze → communicate → collaborate → create

Resources for Social/Emotional Learning

We usually associate Discovery Education with science lessons, but there is so much more to it. All content is vetted, so you can confidently use the resources and know they are safe, appropriate, up to date and accurate.

Recently, they have added a lot of content to support instruction in social/emotional learning. [Click here](#) to explore these resources available to you through your Discovery Education account. Contact me if you need help using this amazing resource.



How Can I Help You?

My job is to support digital learning, which means everything from helping adults navigate the world of technology, to working with students in classrooms, to learning about the newest tricks and tools available so I can share with you! I also teach several technology based graduate courses each year.

While my desk is in the technology office, I am often not at my desk. Do you know that you can ask me to come help you learn about how an app works, or what tools will help your students be ready for MCAS on an ipad, or how to use a green screen, or how to fix the mess that is your Google Drive?

One of my favorite parts of this job is that every day is different. I go to all of the schools and central office and I work with everyone who wants help. Sometimes, I work directly with students and occasionally, I help parents. I get to work with everyone from those who love technology to those who fear technology and everyone in between. I learn a lot from both ends of that spectrum and I love talking people off the technology ledge!

Technology isn't going away and it changes so fast, no one can keep up, but we have to try. I work to help everyone in the district manage and understand the changes, and embrace them as we prepare our students to be successful. **We can't just tolerate technology, we need to tailor it and make it work for us.** I can help you figure how to do that.

So, while I might not be standing at my desk awaiting your call or email, I am out doing my job on the go with the technology we have at our fingertips. Don't hesitate to ask me for help, or even share something really neat that

you learned. Techology requires us to keep learning and I love to learn from you!

Noteworthy Apps

Pic EDU and Pic Collage are two apps that allow you to make collages. You can:



- add pictures, video and text
- arrange them in a grid or toss them together
- add text over a picture

High school students and staff have Pic Collage with the icon that you see above and everyone else has Pic EDU with the apple. Students LOVE this app because it's very easy to use. What a great way to have students *connect, communicate and create!* [Click here](#) to see a video with some suggestions.



Save Password: Yes or No?

No. Nope. Don't do it.

Computers and devices ask if you want to save your password. Not only does that put you at risk because if you leave your device logged in, anyone could get access to your "stuff", it also encourages you to forget your password. When I tell people to log in with their gmail password, I get a lot of blank looks because they don't type it thanks to that supercool "save password" option. Then we have to go through the uncomfortable conversation about whether I mean gmail login, network login, Apple ID, etc. So much time is lost on what should be a simple entry.



This goes for anything you log into. I won't mention how many of you have your ipads remember every credit

card password, bank password, etc. Don't do it! If you always let the device remember your password, you will likely have no idea what it is when you actually need it and you'll spend too much time trying to remember it or, where you put that paper where you write down all of your passwords. Sometimes, you will lock yourself out of whatever you're trying to log into because you tried too many times. P.S.: sliding that paper behind your ipad inside the case isn't a good



idea either. Challenge yourself and manually enter your password every time. Then you won't forget it and won't leave everything open to a security breach.

Augmented Reality

What is it? Usually listed as AR, it's defined as: "a technology that superimposes a computer-generated image on a user's view of the real world, thus providing a composite view." Basically, you can put things into a scene that aren't really there. It's been available on Amazon since last year so you can see what a piece of furniture would look like in your home. Sound famillair? Some companies use AR to train employees for dealing with situations that can't easily be enacted with real people. It's all very new and not all of the kinks are worked out.

I've been playing with a free AR app called 3DBear, and I encourage you to download it if you're willing to play around. It works well on an iphone because it's small and easy to handle but it can also be used on ipads that are Air 2 or newer. On the Air 2, it has some limitations. We aren't sending it to students yet. I'd like to hear from you how you think you could use it. It's FUN but would it have a purpose in the classroom?



[Click here](#) to see a compilation of some things I've made with it. [Click here](#) to see if you've won a prize.

The Tidbits

Did you miss an issue? Back issue of Technology Tidbits can be found on the Technology Website. [Click here.](#)

Spring Technology Course: I'm working on a new 3 credit technology course for the spring and I'd like some input from you about what you'd like in a course. [Please fill out this survey.](#)

Google Course: Register now, on DYPD, for my 1 credit course **Mastering the Google Drive**. Thursdays, 4pm-7pm, January 3-31 at Mattacheese. Open to all.

Follow @dyadvantage and @dysupt on Twitter. If you have an event coming up, please let me know so I can tweet it!

Doing something awesome with technology? Show me!

Writing a grant proposal? If it involves purchasing technology, please be sure to consult with the Technology Office first.