

# PANORAMA of EDUCATIONAL THOUGHTS

An Old Educator's Views on Adventist Education

November 2010

## Christian Education:

The book, **EDUCATION** tells us, “True education means more than pursuing a certain course of study. It has to do with the whole person, and with the whole period of existence possible to human beings. It is the harmonious development of the physical, the mental, and the spiritual powers.”

Children soak up the world in a way that adults barely remember. They learn in school, at play and on the Web. Let's help them find some sites where they'll learn to use technology in the classroom without even knowing it.

**Cool Web2.0 Tools for Schools** is just what the name suggests. There are hundreds of cool tools for students and teachers to use. It was suggested to me by a former student, Jeff Clark, <[www.techtiptuesday.com](http://www.techtiptuesday.com)> Be sure to save this site as one of your favorites! <http://cooltoolsforschools.wikispaces.com/page/code/home>

**FreeRice** lets kids can exercise their brains and help others. They'll take quizzes on topics like math, English, chemistry etc. For each correct answer, the site donates rice to the U.N. World Food Program. Students can directly fight hunger around the world. [www.freerice.com/index.php](http://www.freerice.com/index.php)

**YourCause.com** makes promoting your favorite charities simple. Raise awareness or funds through blogs, social networks, etc. You can set and track goals for your students volunteering. There are many charities to choose from. Help your students learn to think of others. [www.yourcause.com](http://www.yourcause.com)

**Discover the forest** might spark your students' passion for nature. They can find a forest or park near them. They can learn about the plants and animals they'll find there. And they can print out a book of fun outdoor activities. [www.discovertheforest.org](http://www.discovertheforest.org)

**Monterey Bay Aquarium** is a great learning experience where your students can continue learning. This site has lots of printable and online activities. Students will learn about underwater environments and the animals that live there. [www.montereybayaquarium.org/lc/activities/default.aspx](http://www.montereybayaquarium.org/lc/activities/default.aspx)

**My Oats** is a site where students create designs using an online drawing application. *My oats* is a place where students can create simple or complex designs, shapes and patterns. The designs that are created can be downloaded as an image, saved to a personal account and edited before re-saving, or made into a wallpaper. Watch the tutorials and enjoy this site. [www.myoats.com/create.aspx](http://www.myoats.com/create.aspx)

**Twisty Noodle** has used top illustrators, artists, and licensed image libraries to offer the most unique selection of coloring pages and handwriting practice worksheets on the Internet. There are literally thousands of pages you can download and print for classroom use. A few pictures of monsters may not be something you want to use in your classroom, but you will be able to find many that you will want to print. <http://twistynoodle.com>

**Tech Tip Tuesday**, mentioned above, is owned by one of my former students. If you sign up for this free service, Jeff will send you an e-mail message every week with a technology tip that you can use at home or at school. When you join up, tell him that you read the PA PET Newsletter. [www.techtiptuesday.com](http://www.techtiptuesday.com)

**Lotus Symphony** is an Award-winning office productivity software from IBM that is easy to use and provided at no charge. For years, I have been bragging about Open Office and using it on my computer. It does all that I want or need. But now I have switched to [Lotus Symphony](http://www.lotus.com). It comes with word processing, presentation and spreadsheet programs. That easily covers everything you need for day-to-day classroom activities. You can even collaborate with others with Lotus Symphony. It is compatible with Microsoft Office documents. Downloaded one of the several templates and plug-ins to make it do even more. I think you will find it to be an office program that your students will use and enjoy. [www-01.ibm.com/software/lotus](http://www-01.ibm.com/software/lotus)

**THE END** That's it for **November's PET** newsletter. I hope you found something you wanted to read, download, and/or use. If you have any questions, comments, or complaints, send them to: [vaughn.jennings@yahoo.com](mailto:vaughn.jennings@yahoo.com)  
Remember, [Circle.Adventist.org](http://circle.adventist.org) has all of the back issues of PET Newsletter.  
Find them at: [http://circle.adventist.org/browse/?browse\\_node=691](http://circle.adventist.org/browse/?browse_node=691)

I pray you continue to realize the blessings God has for you as you minister to His kids,

(Note: Links above are live. You can click on them to go to the site.)

Vaughn Jennings III

