

10 Useful Websites to Explore at Home!

1. Voyager VMathLive <http://www.vmathlive.com/>

VMathLive is an interactive website that creates a stimulating environment for students of all ages and ability levels. Students are able to practice their skills, prepare for high-stakes tests, and play in real-time competitions of speed and skill with students from around the world or just across the room. Skills are set and based upon state standards and national norms and teachers can assign specific tasks based upon the curriculum being taught. Once students have mastered the assigned tasks at grade level, they are able, and encouraged, to attempt the skills at the next grade level. Students are also rewarded with daily and weekly points, which allows them to earn free gifts and



2. Voyager Ticket to Read <http://www.tickettoread.com/>

Ticket to Read, created by the Voyager Expanded Learning company, is a fun and motivating online reading program aimed at helping students become active readers.

The program is designed for grades K–6, and students work independently on leveled fluency and reading skills. This online program facilitates independent practice from school or home. It teaches, builds, and challenges reading skills at the students individual level with adaptive instruction in phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. Students are motivated and rewarded each time they pass a test. They earn points to buy and decorate items for their personal online clubhouse.



3. TikaTok <http://www.tikatok.com/>

Students use their imaginations to create a story. Tikatok is an online resource where you can transform imagination into stories and publish those stories into books to share with family and friends. On this website, students write their very own creative story, upload drawings, pictures, or other images to illustrate their story, and then, for a fee, publish their very own book in hardcover, softcover, or PDF formats.

This is a wonderful project to encourage students to write, stretch their imagination, and then take pride in their finished product, while working on state standards and improving writing skills.



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4. REFDESK www.refdesk.com/

RefDesk is a free and family-friendly web site that indexes and reviews quality, credible, and current web-based resources. The site is a great source for facts on the Internet: news, weather, sports, reference, encyclopedia, facts on file, dictionaries and encyclopedias, tutorials, search engines, free stuff, games and much more.

Students can use this site for quick information necessary for assignments, reports, or general curiosity. There is also a link to access newspapers anywhere in the world: locally, nationally, and worldly!



REFDESK <http://www.refdesk.com/paper.html>

This is a specific link of REFDESK that allows the access of newspapers locally, nationally, and even globally. With the click of a link, anyone can access information of daily current events all over the world, see photos, and learn of different cultures. Teachers and students can explore events right outside their door, or go beyond to view other countries to see what is occurring. There are thousands of newspapers available at hand.

5. TIME for Kids www.timeforkids.com/TFK/

TIME For Kids is a website designed for students K-6 that can motivate kids to read nonfiction text and learn about current and world events! This website includes articles that cover a wide range of real-world topics kids love to learn about and serves as a powerful teaching tool. Through the magazine website, students are exposed to a variety of topics that affect not only their lives, but also the lives of others. TIME For Kids builds reading and writing skills and is easily integrated across your curriculum, including social studies, science and math. Included within the website are links to worksheets, printables, supplemental mini-lessons, and graphic organizers at grade levels.



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6. Comic Life <http://comiclife.com/>

Comic Life is an exciting, fun, technology-based way for students to present information researched or create pieces of artwork! It provides a library of templates and layouts to drag and drop pictures in, image filtering for photos, built-in iPhoto and Finder images, and bendable comic lettering and fonts. Once images are in place, students use the speech bubble icons to create captions that present information they have learned or researched. This website can be used for any curriculum at all levels of education.



WELCOME TO **MAKEBELIEFS COMIX.COM**
CREATE YOUR OWN COMIX STRIP - IT'S EASY AND FUN!
CREATED BY BILL ZIMMERMAN - ART BY TOM BLOOM - COMIX STRIPS BY YOU!
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7. Make Beliefs Comix <http://www.makebeliefscomix.com/>

Have creative, witty, and imaginative students who like expressing themselves in a visual or comical way? This website is perfect for students who like to be visually creative while expressing their thoughts and ideas. This website provides comic strip templates, character images, thought/speech balloons, and other objects that can be placed throughout the comic strip. This website can be used for any subject area, any grade level, and even provides 7 additional languages besides English! Students simply drag and drop images, and type speech or thoughts into the bubbles to create their own personal comic strip.

8. The Smithsonian website is modern, well-rounded, and for individuals with diverse interests. It chronicles the arts, history, sciences and popular culture of the times. Tabs

with links are available on the site for exploration and research of History and Archaeology, People and Places, Science and Nature, Arts and Culture, Travel, Photos, Videos, and Games and Puzzles. Students can discover facts about current events, learn about the past, and even learn about possibilities of the future! It is a great link to explore how the past, present and future are connected and the effects they have on one another.

Smithsonian.com

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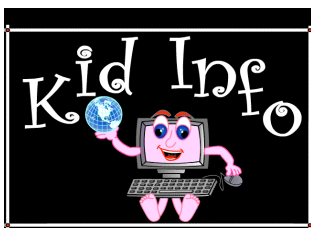
Welcome to: Celebrating 5 years online
A thousand sites in one!

9. Mr. Nussbaum www.mrnussbaum.com **MrNussbaum.com**

Mr. Nussbaum is an interactive website designed specifically for students in grades K-8. On MrNussbaum.com you will find dozens of interactive games, activities, worksheets, and teacher tools that pinpoint essential skills. Activities are also color-coded to identify the grade-level appropriateness of the activity. Students can practice skills through activities and games in several subject areas including Science, Social Studies, Math, and Language Arts. There are also tools for teachers, such as the QuizMaker, different worksheet generators, and online spelling tests. It is even possible to sign up for interactive tournaments intra-class or globally! This site has been trademarked as “1,000 sites in one”, which speaks for itself.

10. Kid Info <http://www.kidinfo.com/>

Kid Info is reference resource / website directory for all levels (Pre K-12) of quality educational websites, videos, powerpoints, games, and a homework helper. Kid Info contains links to countless informative sites for a wide variety of interests and subject areas. Specific tabs for students, parents, and teachers help with the navigation and time-saving. This site provides several tools to enhance interest and knowledge with its all-in-one package. Any student, teacher, or parent has unlimited access to educational videos, games, search engines, power points, references, and more!



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