

Educators Guild Post

September 8th, 2006

Announcing Educators Guild Program Changes

The Educators Guild is changing! In an effort to provide the best services possible to educators and professionals committed to gifted education, we are continually evaluating our program. As such we are focusing more effort on cultivating change; therefore you will notice some ineffective aspects of the program have been cut and new facets have been added to be more in line with this goal.

Below are some of the changes you will notice right away:

- Membership will no longer be necessary to have access to services. However, eList sign-ups will still be needed, along with the requirement of active participation in the field. If you are not already signed-up for the eList and would like to do so, please see: <http://www.educatorsguild.org/>
- EGPW (Educators Guild Private Website) will no longer be offered, but the most utilized portions of it will now be on our [public website](#). Please visit it here to see the changes: <http://www.educatorsguild.org/>.
- The Educators Guild team will be focused on effecting change, and will therefore have a larger presence at conferences, key-note addresses and staff development. Please see this link to our public site for details: http://www.educatorsguild.org/Articles.aspx?ArticleID=29&NavID=2_0.

If you have any questions or concerns about these changes, please feel free to email me directly at jbynum@ditd.org. I would be happy to discuss them with you.

Articles

For some of you, this year could be your first experience working with gifted and you might be wondering about how best to work with bright students in the classroom, especially since they have such unique characteristics. Many of you are already experienced teachers in gifted education, but new ideas might be helpful to you as you begin working with a new group of students. As the new school year gets underway, we have included some articles teachers have written to assist other teachers in their journey of promoting a positive working environment for gifted students.

- [**Successful Strategies for Teaching Gifted Learners**](#)
This full text article offers a list of tips for teachers. She focuses on things any teacher can do in the classroom to aid their gifted students and promote their achievement in positive ways. Common blunders are also discussed as well as why

they can be detrimental to the gifted student.

http://www.gt-cybersource.org/Record.aspx?NavID=2_0&rid=11201

- **[With the eyes of a teacher](#)**

This article written discusses the importance of teachers in nurturing gifted students. This article outlines factors that should be evaluated when determining if a child is gifted and signs that gifted children are likely to demonstrate.

http://www.gt-cybersource.org/Record.aspx?NavID=2_0,2_0&rid=14058

- **[Teacher to teacher: Conducting informal assessments](#)**

This brief article is written for teachers by a former public school teacher, and discusses a few simple ways to conduct informal assessments.

http://www.gt-cybersource.org/Record.aspx?NavID=2_0&rid=13659

WebQuests

A WebQuest is an inquiry-oriented activity in which all or most of the information used by learners is drawn from the Web. A WebQuest is designed to use the learner's time well, to focus on using information rather than looking for it, and to support the learner's thinking at levels of analysis, synthesis and evaluation.

- Language Arts: **[The Realm of Fairy Tales](#)**

(grades 4-5 but easily adapted for others)

Analyze existing fairy tales and create a new one. Exemplary scaffolding!

<http://www-ma.beth.k12.pa.us/jhoke/jhwebquest/jhwebquest.htm>

- Math: **[Pizza Party!](#)** (grades 3-5)

First students discover the history of pizza and how it is made, then students use online resources to plan their own pizza party.

<http://www.geocities.com/lisakovar/index.htm>

- Science: **[Roller Coaster Designer](#)** (grades 3-8)

The purpose of this webquest is to provide an activity in which students will take basic physics knowledge and apply that knowledge into the creation and design of an original roller coaster.

<http://www.mrsmcelwee.com/coaster/wqintro.html>

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