



TECH BYTES



Orange Board of Education

May 2018January 2013



Ten Ways Google Tools Can Make the End of the Year ROCK

<https://tinyurl.com/yb2t36c4>

When the end of the school year is in sight, it's a time of excitement coupled with the importance of finishing the year **STRONG**. The end of the year is a time unlike any other. State tests are behind us. Many students are working on big projects or papers. It can be a great time of reflection on how far students have come. It's review time!

Thankfully, some of the tried and true Google tools – and some that we don't use that often – can help us make the most of the end of the school year.

Here are 10 ways Google can make those last weeks of school **ROCK**:

1. **Create a PDF ebook in Google Slides.** Ebooks are super visual. They can include clickable links, which makes them more interactive than a static research paper.
2. **Have students create a website to showcase their work.** When students create something for class, the audience for their work is only ONE if the teacher is the only one seeing it! Creating a website in Google Sites is an **EASY** way to give student work a wider reach
3. **Drop detailed "INFO pins" on a map with MyMaps.** Is what your students are learning geography-based? If they're studying locations, history, even novels set in a real location, Google MyMaps can help!
4. **Create visually-rich, brain-friendly infographics in Google Drawings.** Infographics blend the best of images and text.
5. **Give students something to do with their free time.**
 - **Quick, Draw!** – In this game, you're given an object/idea to draw and Google's artificial intelligence tries to guess what you're drawing. It's a fun introduction to AI for students.
 - **AI Duet** – "A piano that responds to you." Google's artificial intelligence uses tons of data to guess what it should play in response to what you play.
 - **Google Trends** – Learn what other people are search for all over the world.
 - **Google Earth Time Lapse** – This shows what the world looks like as it changes over 20+ years. Watch the time lapse in motion. See the whole earth at once or zoom into your hometown!

- **GeoGuessr** – Use context clues to guess where you’ve been dropped in Google Maps. The closer the guess, the more points you earn!

6. Create stop-motion animation with Google Slides. Anything that students can envision in their minds IN MOTION, Google Slides will let them create in animation! Google Slides is your free animation creation tool.

7. Review key concepts with Flippity and Google Sheets. The end of the year is high time for practicing with vocabulary and important concepts.

8. Make Google Slides engaging with Pear Deck. Make those review sessions more interactive with slides from Pear Deck. Pear Deck lets you ask questions on your slides that students can answer on their devices.

9. Laugh along with Google’s [April Fools Day pranks](#)! At the end of the year, we all need a little comic relief, right?

10. Pass around student-created Google Forms quizzes. By using Google Forms (Google’s survey tool), students can create their own quizzes.

5 Powerful Benefits of Blogging



Blogging comes in many forms, it addresses countless topics, and it can, without a doubt, be divided by its quality. But when it comes to education, blogging can be an excellent tool for improving a student’s involvement, excitement, and most importantly, writing skills.

The benefits of blogging are tremendous, especially for young people. They can develop much improved writing skills which will stick with them forever, their thinking muscles will be in continuous development, and they will also develop a better understanding of the world that surrounds them.

1. [Blogging Exercises Student Creativity](#)
2. [Regular Writing Sharpens the Brain’s Performance](#)
3. [Promote Expression of Self](#)
4. [Blogging Boosts Confidence](#)
5. [Improve Communication Skills](#)

[Read Entire Article](#)



Cinco de Mayo, or the fifth of May, is a holiday that celebrates the date of the Mexican army's 1862 victory over France at the Battle of Puebla during the Franco-Mexican War. Cinco de Mayo 2018 occurs on Saturday, May 5. A relatively minor holiday in Mexico, in the United States Cinco de Mayo has evolved into a commemoration of Mexican culture and heritage, particularly in areas with large Mexican-American populations.

Resources

[Teacher Stuff](#)

[Teachnology](#)

[The Teacher's Guide](#)

[Teacher Planet](#)

[Mr. Donn](#)



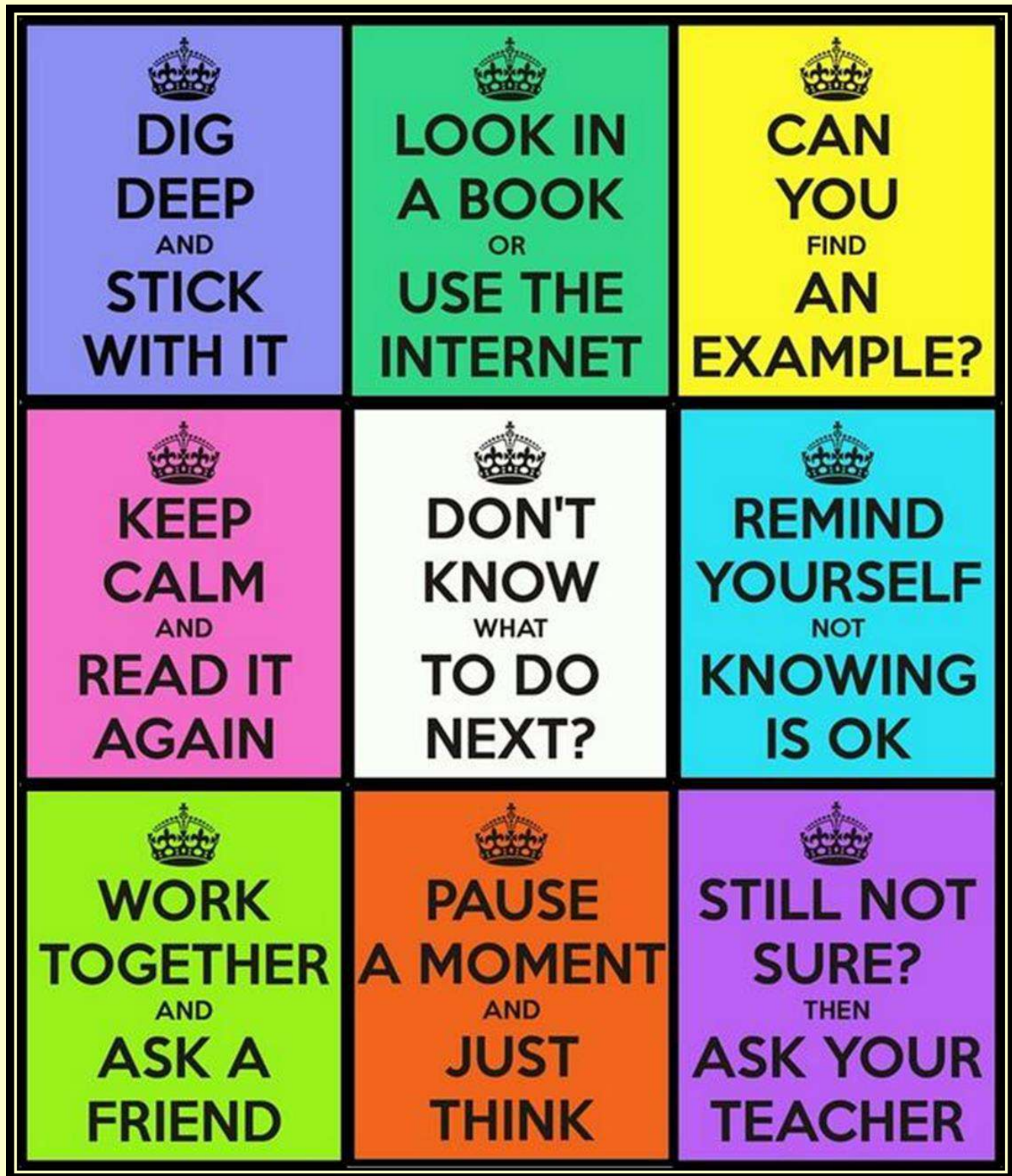
Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for remembering the people who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the American Civil War in 1868. By the 20th century Memorial Day was extended to honor all Americans who died while in the military service.

[TeachVision](#)

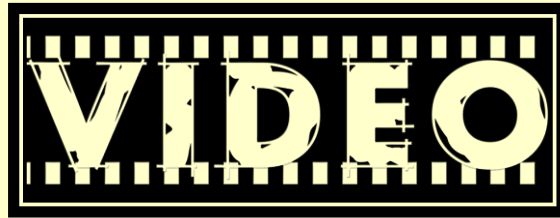
[Hot Chalk Lesson Plans](#)

[The Teachers Corner](#)

What to Do When You Don't Know What to Do!!!!



EDU in 90



<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLP7Bvyb3ap44ZF6qR7SLf5AXFHv8IJM50>

Want to keep up with the latest news and updates to your favorite Google tools, but don't have time to read all of the blog posts, twitter updates, and Google + posts? Check out the new YouTube Channel - EDU in 90 by the Google in Education team. They are posting short (about 90 second) videos with quick explanations and updates for educators. The most recent post is about Google Classroom (view below), but you should subscribe to the channel so you don't miss anything!

EDU in 90 is a new video series from Google for Education. Each episode, we'll focus on an important topic for educators, administrators, and school leaders - things like product updates, new programs, and helpful resources for the classroom.

FREE WEBINAR



Summer Fun with Digital Citizenship

Tuesday, May 22, 2018 @ 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm EDT

Worried about summer brain drain?

In this edWebinar, Suzy Lolley, Instructional Technology Specialist at Cherokee County School District in Canton, GA, shares ideas for keeping your students learning while having fun all summer long. As summer fast approaches, learn tips for keeping kids engaged when school is closed, including:

* Tools for engaging students academically and creatively

* Tips for helping students stay digitally safe

* Ways to promote healthy media balance

through fun outdoor activities and screen time limits

There will be time to get your questions answered during this live, interactive event. This edWebinar is geared toward K-12 teachers in all subject areas as well as librarians. Attend this session to learn new ways to keep your students engaged when school is closed to avoid summer brain drain!

Register here: <https://www.anymeeting.com/AccountManager/RegEv.aspx?PIID=ED54D689>



<http://www.videonot.es/>

Automatically synchronized. All the notes you type are automatically synchronized with the video. Later, just click on a line for the video to jump to the relevant part. Integrated with Google Drive. Create and manage your VideoNotes directly via your Google Drive and access them from everywhere. Easy to share. Manage your permissions and share your VideoNotes with your friends, fellow students, or make them private anytime



https://www.pre-kpages.com/computer_center/



CYBER SAFETY



An Interactive Guide To Staying Safe On The Internet

The Internet is without a doubt one of the best resources available to us. Unfortunately it's also extremely dangerous if you aren't aware of who and what lurks behind the scenes. Everyone should know how to be safe when surfing the web, but internet safety tips and tricks are spread out all over the web without a go-to resource. Since the majority of internet scam and virus victims are students and young people, Open Colleges is a perfect place to post the very first full guide to being safe on the internet.

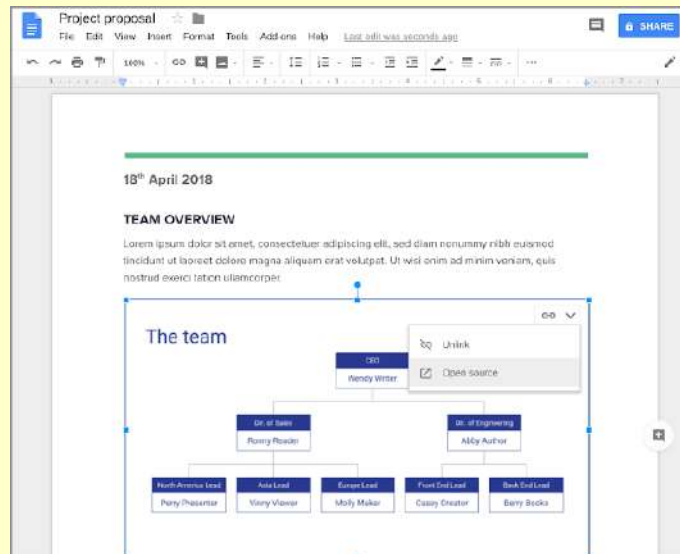
G Suite for Education



New in Google Slides

Insert slides from Google Slides into Google Docs

You can now insert a slide from a Google Slides presentation directly into Google Docs. If you want, you can then link that slide in Docs to its source presentation in Slides and sync any changes with just one click—similar to the way you can insert and link charts from Google Sheets. This should save you from doing duplicative work and ensure that the content in your documents is always up to date.



<https://support.google.com/docs/answer/7009814>



The use of technology among children and teens, especially personal devices such as iPads, has increased tremendously in the last decade. Now that schools are leveraging the amazing educational digital tools and resources available on the Internet, students are able to connect, learn, and share in ways never before possible.

All of this access and connectedness can be great for learning, but brings its own challenges as well. More ways to communicate and explore means an increased need for educating and monitoring our students as they navigate the digital world. Parents and teachers need to work together to help students develop digital citizenship skills, set appropriate limits for screen time, and recognize the dangers of accessing inappropriate content.

The resources below can help you find answers to many of the questions you may have about parenting in the digital age.

[Raising Digital Citizens](#) - "This is a collection of resources intended to support and encourage the responsible use of digital tools."

[How Do We Get Electronics Out of Our Kids' Bedrooms?](#)

[Cyberbullying Q&A](#) - Common questions many parents have regarding cyberbullying and answers from experts. You can search questions by age group to find topics that fit what you need.



BEST CODING RESOURCES FOR TEACHERS

Computer coding in schools is not as prevalent as it should be. Whether you're already teaching AP Computer Science, or just want to introduce a little code to the classroom, where do you start? Try these five teaching resources – there are games, posters, tutorials and more for every age group. From simple to sophisticated, these resources will make computer coding a breeze.

Grok Learning
The Coding Train on Youtube
Careers with Code's teacher resources
<https://careerswithcode.com/2018/01/30/5-best-computer-coding-resources/>



50 Essential Twitter STEM Feeds for Educators

While you may not have thought of Twitter as a source of STEM education advice, it can actually be great source learning more about the latest initiatives, finding lesson plans, watching videos, and even keeping up with engaging science and technology news you can share with students. We've chosen just a few of the great STEM-related feeds out there for this list, giving educators a great jumping off point for using Twitter to inspire, educate, and build a love of all things math and science in the next generation. Make sure you stay in the loop when it comes to STEM education by following these great feeds. [50 Feeds....](#)

Administrator's Resource Center

What Principals Really Think About Tech



By Benjamin Herold
<https://tinyurl.com/ydbts2fy>

As digital devices and social-media platforms become an ever-larger part of children's lives, the nation's school principals find themselves in an uncomfortable—if familiar—bind.

On one hand, principals say they're worried about technology's potentially harmful effects: A full 95 percent believe their students are using screens too much at home, and 83 percent say they're at least "moderately concerned" about how students use social media outside of school, according to a new national survey of school-based leaders conducted by the Education Week Research Center.

At the same time, however, principals are welcoming technology and technology-driven trends into their own buildings. More than half described personalized learning as either a "transformational way to improve public education" or a "promising idea." The relatively new idea of offering computer science education to every student is already on most principals' radar screens. [Read more.....](#)

TECHNOLOGY HUMOR



"I'm supposed to write an essay on what is meant by 'The pen is mightier than the sword'. First, I need to go to Google and find out what a pen is."

© Randy Glasbergen www.glasbergen.com



"How do you expect me to write with this? It doesn't even have a USB port for a keyboard!"

GLASBERGEN

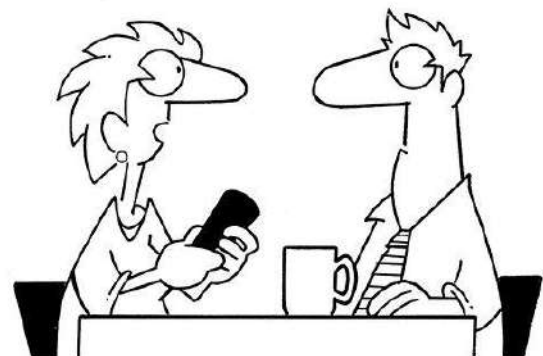


"No joystick? No mouse? No keyboard? How do you turn the pages?"

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"Today's students aren't reading the classics anymore. I'm rewriting War and Peace in 140 characters or less."

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