

GAEA Elementary Division Newsletter

Winter 2006

Technology in the Art Room



From Lisa N. Guyton (Inguyton@bellsouth.net)

E.L.Bouie Elementary

5100 Rock Springs Road

Lithonia, GA 30038 :

I use the Averkey technology that allows me to show web sites on my computer and on my TV simultaneously. This allows more students to see the web site, although my TV is near the ceiling and often the images are rather small. One web site that I use for review of the elements of art is www.artsconnected.org/toolkit. This comes from the Minnesota Museum of Art. This web site has interactive elements that really gets the children's attention and it does a very good job at teaching things like warm/cool colors, kinds of lines, etc.

I have a web site but I never update it so it is basically worthless. I haven't put in the time to keep the website updated and don't know if parents would bother going to it regularly. I'd be curious if other elementary art teachers use a personal web site to communicate with parents.

• From Peggy Cline (peggycline@mindspring.com)

• Poole Elementary School

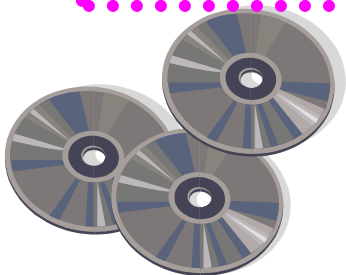
• Dallas, Georgia

• How I use Technology:

• This is the first year having art in the elementary schools in Paulding county, so I am just getting started. I added an Art Gallery link to our school website with links off of it to student artwork, museums, local art centers, wish lists, art contest information, art sites for kids to visit, etc. You can see it at:

• <http://www.paulding.k12.ga.us/elementary/poole/art%20page.htm>

• I take pictures of student artwork using my digital camera and crop and put the pictures on a CD, then put them on our school website. I hope to add more technology in the classroom as my budget allows.





From Sandra Palmer (sandra_palmer@gwinnett.k12.ga.us)
Camp Creek Elementary

As with most elementary art teachers, I am unable to sign up for the computer lab to do a lesson across a grade level. I have been able to plan a few lessons with individual classes, however, that is not practical when you have an 8 day rotation and teach all of the students in a school of almost 1000.

I have really enjoyed the use of the PowerPoint program which I use to create groups of visuals to use in introducing lessons. I have done a few with only a select group of visuals from the internet such as kimonos when the second and third grades were making kimonos as an art project.

I have also done longer PP Presentations to talk about the styles of artists and other similar needs for visual comparisons and contrasts.

For my fifth grade classes, I have made tests about visual examples and ask questions which the students answered by a multiple choice and put on preprinted answer sheets. I hope to soon get a SMART BOARD which will make it possible for me to use these type of activities more often. Right now, I have to check out the Computer projector and roll it down to my room whenever I need to view something. I am just trying to use anything that is flexible enough to be feasible for using in my own situation. I love the idea of all the visual images that are available to us on the internet.

In elementary school, I also like the idea of being in control of the art on the internet that the children in my class view.

Finally, I do have my own website which I am learning to keep updated. It is attached to the school web site. I use it to keep the parents and students updated about what we are doing and what is coming up next. I also have included a Gallery which I use to showcase some of the artwork that have been selected for Tapestry or other shows. I also include suggested art sites which I have linked so that they can bring them up by just clicking. These include craft ideas and activities which teach about art. For instance, I have one this month about Chinese calligraphy.

We are making Chinese Lanterns and writing the greetings for the new year of health and happiness. Anyone who is interested, can check it out from my website.

I think the more I try and emphasize these sources, the more interactions with the website the students will have. I feel I am just beginning but one has to make a start to get good at any things and that is especially true of technology!



From Melanie Stokes (mstokes@long.k12.ga.us)
Smiley Elementary
Ludowici, GA

My artsonia site is

<http://www.artsonia.com/schools/smiley1>

We don't make a lot of money but the rewards are great in arts advocacy and building the self-esteem of students.

That's about it in the technology world at Smiley Elementary.

From Martie Moore (MMoore@marietta-city.k12.ga.us]
ALBurruss Art
Marietta City Schools

I begged when we got new computers for the computer lab, and now have 6 student computers in my art room. All have Microsoft Paint on them, and 3 have Painter Classic, which came bundled with the 3 Wacom tablets I have. Before Christmas, I was able to give all classes (but one) a tutorial followed by a session in the computer lab, so everyone's gotten their first exposure. At present, I'm using them as a center, or as another medium when we have a drawing lesson.

I have a website which I created in Microsoft Publisher. It's linked to my school's web page, which is linked to the system's web page. The Address is marietta-city.k12.ga.us/teacherpages/burrussart/ It was fun to put together and the kids who have visited it seem to like it.

Also, on our system's website, one school per month is featured with its art. There is a direct link to the featured school.



From Claire M. Kalish (claire.kalish@cobbk12.org)
Hayes Elementary School
Kennesaw, GA 30152

- I do have a web page that I began last year. I think it helps parents see what is going on. Also it is good PR for the school and something that new students could see. You can access it by going to Hayes Elementary then Specialists Corner then Art Intro. and Student work.
- I sometimes use technology by accessing a site such as Artlex.com which has great definitions of art terminology related to a lesson we are working on. This site has links to related topics as well as illustrations. This is used mainly for my grade 3-5 students.
- The other thing I have done is have the students develop a power point presentation on a particular topic that we have done such as printmaking and share it with the class.



From Debi West (debi_west@gwinnett.k12.ga.us)
Level Creek Elementary
Suwanee, GA

I begin each unit with a PowerPoint, I use a flex cam (although not often, I prefer them gathering around the table), I use digital photography all the time and have a yearly website, see below as well as use artsonia...and we Google just about daily, using that as our reference or "library in the art room" so to speak.

http://www.levelcreek.org/Teacher_Pages/westmain/westwebsite.htm

<http://www.artsonia.com/schools/creek1>



What is a Flex Cam?

A wonderful piece of technology that was originally intended for science—it connects to your TV like a VCR, & allows students to view “live demonstrations” from their seats, as opposed to “gathering around the table”. It eliminates the “I can’t see.”

How much are they?

Flex Cam-\$350.00 (has audio, doesn’t connect to microscope)

Flex I Cam-\$275.00 (no audio, does connect to microscope)

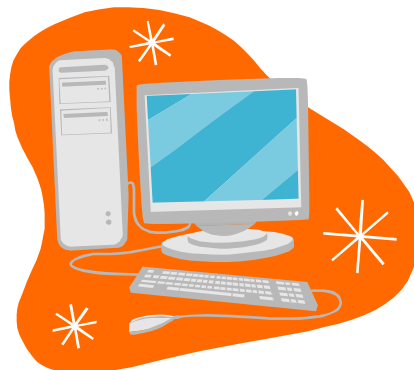
Where can I buy one?

First, check w/ your school’s tech. dept. There is a great chance that your school already owns one, yet no one is using it. Or contact Don Munns don@microscopesandmore.com

What can I use it for? How will it enhance my teaching/instruction??

Many fantastic uses!!!!

- Demonstrating clay techniques
- Showing reproductions from a book
- Demonstrating other techniques—oil pastels, painting, papier-mâché, “drawing on TV,” etc.
- Motivational uses—“Art TV star”
- Whatever else your wonderful imagination thinks of!



From Jeannette Anthos (janthos@rockdale.k12.ga.us)

J H House Elementary

Conyers, GA

Technology has made a great impact on routines & productivity in the art room. I use a Flex Cam every day, and with every class, to demonstrate different techniques to students. Techniques such as clay, papier-mâché, oil pastel blending, painting, etc. The Flex Cam maximizes instructional time. Recently, I was able to purchase a LCD projector for the art room, thanks to the SMARTer Kids Foundation grant, as well as money we raised through Square 1 Art program. This has made a HUGE difference in the art room! Now, the flex cam demonstrations are enlarged to a 48 inch size, and the things we view on the computer are now that large as well. It has really engaged the students in art, in talking about art works, seeing images better, the list goes on & on. When we need to see a video about a certain art method or time period, we can use the LCD projector, so it feels like we are at the movies, which really engages everyone. Using *Power Points* in my classroom has become as natural as showing art prints to my students. I used *Power Points* to introduce a lesson to my students. I also use *Power Points* to show specific techniques to students as well, such as the steps for creating a clay rattle, I show these *Power Points* to my students by using the *LCD* projector. The *digital camera* has been an integral part to my art program. I have used it to photograph things outside to show to the students (I just connect the camera directly to the TV). For instance, one year fifth graders had a hard time understanding various leaf compositions. So I quickly went outside to photograph leaves and showed it to the class via the TV. It instantly made a connection for the students. I have also used the *digital camera* to photograph student artwork on the spot as well as photographing students creating their art. I love incorporating literature into the art curriculum when possible. Some books I have are too small to read to an entire class, meaning the pages are quite small. Therefore, I have *scanned* books and put them into a *Power Point* program and read stories to the children that way. It gives the students bigger images to look at, thus resulting in a more in-depth conversation about the topic.

Technology has also allowed me to take my students on *virtual field trips* to the museums across the world. All we need is an *internet* connection and a *LCD* projector. Currently I have displayed over 1,300 pieces of student art on a *website* called *Art-sonia*. Students get a thrill out of having their artwork online. This would have not been a possibility without the technology of the digital camera, scanner, and internet. *Photoshop Elements* has been a vital program for me to be able to put artwork online. Technology has made a positive impact on student achievement, student empowerment, motivation and spirit of inquiry.

From The *Artsonia* website (www.artsonia.com/jhhouse1) currently has 1,321 pieces of art published and has had over 25,000 visitors! When I mention to students that the current project we are working on is one that I would like to put on Artsonia, that instantly makes them want to do their best job. They know that if the world can see their art, they want to put their best effort into it. The *digital camera* really motivates students because they really want a chance to be a student reporter. It is very empowering for the students for them to take charge and ask the questions, write about the assignment, and photograph it. I had fierce competition last year in deciding upon the student reporters. Students love to use the *three computers* I have in the back of the room. When they finish a project ahead of time, they are allowed to go to the computer and create a piece of art in *Kid Pix*, or in any of the 3 art programs I have: *The Louvre*, *A is for Art C is for Cezanne*, or *Open Your Eyes*. Also, when the upper grades are working on a project that has to do with world issues, or if they want to research an artist, they ask if they can go to the computer and find some research. All of these ideas come from them. Every year we have a county wide art show. I send home parent letters each year detailing the exhibit's events. In this letter, I include a *digital picture* of the student's artwork, so that parents are aware of what to be on the lookout for. I *digitally* photograph the evening, and then put it into a *Power Point* at the school, so all students and teachers can see what happened. This year I finally created a weblog, <http://jhh.blogs.com/anthos/> It's pretty cool, because students can respond with comments. Currently, I have video instructions for students dealing with 1 point perspective. Although I do not believe computers should take over how art is created and expressed, I do believe that they can enhance the art making process when used correctly. Moreover, I am a *firm* believer that technology has a positive effect of how art instruction takes place and how students can excel in the fine arts.

GAEA Elementary Division ListServ

If you or someone you know want to be a part of the
AWESOME GAEA Elementary Teacher email group,
please email Jeannette Anthos
janthos@rockdale.k12.ga.us

Georgia Art Teacher websites:

<http://www.pineridge-online.org/artgallery.htm>
<http://www.dawson.k12.ga.us/BMill/art.html>
<http://www.henry.k12.ga.us/pges/gallery/default.htm>
<http://webtech.cherokee.k12.ga.us/hickoryflat-es/patriciacure/>
http://www.bibb.k12.ga.us/skyview/teacher_pages/art/artroom.html
<http://www.cobbk12.org/~lewis/artpage.htm>
<http://hteweb.rockdale.k12.ga.us/Teachers/Art/Art%20web%20page%202005.htm>
<http://teacherweb.com/ga/timberridgeelementary/jherndon/>
<http://www.cobbk12.org/~cheathamhill/artpage1/arthome.htm>
<http://www.cobbk12.org/~hayes/artintro.doc>
[http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/RockSpringsES/tchr_webpages/sparea/Webpage_Knapp/
index_dik.htm](http://www.gwinnett.k12.ga.us/RockSpringsES/tchr_webpages/sparea/Webpage_Knapp/index_dik.htm)
<http://www.habersham.k12.ga.us/baldwinelem/art.html>
<http://www.henry.k12.ga.us/hfe/ArtGallery.htm>
<http://webtech.cherokee.k12.ga.us/hickoryflat-es/emickel/>
http://www.ccboe.net/Teachers/Owen_Courtney/home.html
<http://www2.fultonschools.org/teacher/reedn/>
<http://www.fultonschools.org/school/creekview/art.htm>
<http://www.harmonywildcats.org/teachers/spencer/index.html>
<http://www.ccboe.net/bae/special.html>
http://www.ccboe.net/teachers/wesley_margaret/home.html
http://www.levelcreek.org/Teacher_Pages/westmain/westwebsite.htm
<http://www.cobbk12.org/~hayes/studentartwork.doc>