

PowerPoint Projects in the Classroom

October 2004

History/Social Studies

- ~ The Cold War
 - ~ Global Studies-People
 - ~ Causes of WWI
 - ~ Underground Railroad
 - ~ Civil War
 - ~ Colonial America
- ~ **Today in History.** Students research an event that happened on a particular day in history and then create a 10- to 15- slide presentation.

Language Arts

- ~ Alphabets-letters
 - ~ Nouns
 - ~ Parts of Speech
 - ~ Poetry
 - ~ Writing Process
 - ~ Public Speaking-election speeches
- ~ **Visual Poetry.** Students read a favorite poem and create a PowerPoint presentation depicting a visual interpretation of the images in the poem.
- ~ **Language Flash Cards.** First, record your students pronouncing various words or phrases. Second, find images of these words. For example, if you record the phrase "barking dog " you can attach the sound file to an image of a barking dog. The image can be a photo, a piece of clip art or even a drawing by you or one of your students. You can also use this method for entire sentences.

Math

- ~ Fractions
 - ~ Probability
- ~ **Math Drill Cards.** You just set PowerPoint onto automated presentation and it runs itself. Then you have some extra time for marking and lesson planning while students watch your presentation. Good use for multiplication tables. Or used by some language arts teachers who like to use the automated presentation for teaching students to pronounce the vowels and other phonetics.

Back to School Meetings

- 🔗 **Portfolios for Teacher-Parent Meetings.** Set up a PowerPoint presentation called "Teacher to Parent" - and dedicate one page of the presentation to each student. Then do the following for each student: First, take a photo of the student with a digital camera. Second, make a sound recording of the student's voice. You can get them to read poems or stories they've written, or ask them to explain what they think about school or what they want to be when they grow up. Attach this sound file to the image, and play it for the parents when they come in to see you. Parents will be impressed that you have given so much special individual attention to their child. It will also teach them something new about their kids - it may even encourage them to learn more about computers. This way, you'll be helping parents to learn as well.

Music/Band

- 🔗 **Music Class Showcase.** Record students playing songs on their recorders or kazoo solo or the first band performance of the year. If you want to showcase these unique sounds, you can do it by creating a musical performance in PowerPoint.
- 🔗 **Music Class Showcase II.** You can take a picture of the group or solo performers using a digital camera or you can use a regular camera and scan the print image. Attach the sound files to these images. Perhaps you might want to call it New Age interpretive sound. Whatever you call it, your students will love seeing their own performances, and this can be a great item to show parents during parent-teacher meetings.
- 🔗 **Music Appreciation Project.** You can use PowerPoint to make a multimedia presentation on composers from different time periods. For each composer, collect some biographical information your students will find interesting. Write a short presentation on each one - or get your students to do it - then record it. You can also collect samples of the composer's more famous works, find pictures of the composers, and a picture of the instruments their music is usually played on. Just attach the sound files to the images and you'll have a lively presentation. It's also a good exercise to get your students to sit in a relaxing position while listening to the samples. Ask them to lay back, close their eyes, and listen to the music. Then, when the piece is over, ask them to tell you what it reminds them of. You can even record their responses and add them to the presentations.

Science

- 🔗 Animated view of photosynthesis
- 🔗 Weather-clouds, seasons, describe what affects the weather, tornado

- 🔒 Robotics-technology
- 🔒 Static Electricity
- 🔒 Rocks and Minerals
- 🔒 Organic Compounds
- 🔒 Compound Microscope
- 🔒 Vertebrates
- 🔒 Solar System
- 🔒 Rain Forest
- 🔒 Chemistry, atoms, solids, liquids, gases

Art

- 🔒 Basic periods of Art History-Cave painting-Impressionism
- 🔒 Ceramics-introduce viewer to pottery
- 🔒 Photography
- 🔒 Mary Cassatt
- 🔒 Impressionism-Degas, Monet, Seurat

English

- 🔒 Verbs in present and past tense for non-English speaking students
- 🔒 Writing essays

Literature

- 🔒 East of Eden-John Steinbeck, used as an introduction
- 🔒 Shakespeare

Health

- 🔒 Food Pyramid