

Open Source Giving Software Away Free, You are kidding!!

Wikipedia explains Open Source

Open source software refers to computer software and the availability of its source code as open source under an open source license to study, change, and improve its design.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Open_source

The Official Open Source Definition

<http://www.opensource.org/docs/definition.php>

SourceForge

SourceForge.net is the world's largest Open Source software development web site, hosting more than 100,000 projects and over 1,000,000 registered users with a centralized resource for managing projects, issues, communications, and code. SourceForge.net has the largest repository of Open Source code and applications available on the Internet, and hosts more Open Source development products than any other site or network worldwide. SourceForge.net provides a wide variety of services to projects we host, and to the Open Source community.

<http://sourceforge.net/docs/about>

Software Map at SourceForge

<http://sourceforge.net/softwaremap/>

Don't want to give Bill Gates and Microsoft any more money that absolutely necessary. Try Open Source!! Many schools are using open source!

- Open Office for Windows: <http://www.openoffice.org/>
- Neo Office for Mac: <http://www.neooffice.org/neojava/en/index.php>

Basically, these re the same as Microsoft Office, but FREE!!

Other Open Source Alternatives.

- Comprehensive list & download source of Open source for **Mac**
● <http://www.opensourcemac.org/>
- Comprehensive list & download source of Open source for **Windows**
● <http://www.opensourcewindows.org/>

- Alternatives for Photoshop
- <http://www.osalt.com/photoshop>
- Alternative for InDesign
- <http://www.osalt.com/indesign>
- Alternative to Dreamweaver
- http://www.experts-exchange.com/Web_Development/Software/Q_20839772.html
- Schools and Open Source
- <http://opensource.schools.org/>
- <http://www.networkworld.com/weblogs/smb/2006/012877.html>
- http://www.schoolforge.org.uk/index.php/Main_Page
- <http://www.geodsoft.com/opinion/oslimits/schools.htm>
- <http://www.techreport.com/onearticle.x/2619>

PODCASTS about Open Source

Open iTunes > Click on Music Store > Click on Podcasts > now do a search for Open Source. You will be surprised at how many you find.

If you do a search for Open Source Software you will find many, many more. The point is, why **do you** and **me** and **schools** spend lots and lots of money for software when you can find GREAT, well tested software that is just as good and FREE. For example, we are using Moodle rather than the expensive Blackboard. And personally, I use NeoOffice rather than Microsoft Office.

How about you? What do you think? What did you find that you are excited about installing and using. Before you post your findings in Moodle, visit our Classroom 2.0 site and read what the *Teachers from the Trenches* are saying about open source, please explore a few of their comments and respond to a couple. Remember we are in a discussion with these *Teachers from the Trenches*. Your formal reflection should be post in the Moodle Forum **Open Source.**