

Cool Tools for Social Studies

www.earth.google.com - pictures of the earth from space, gallery of images including effects of global warming, the coral reef, etc.

www.teach-nology.com/web_tools/games - variety of online games; check out the *Lemonade Stand* to teach entrepreneurship concepts

www.brainpop.com/ - free animations, quizzes and activities on the Civil War, Money, and Comparing Prices; others available with subscription (cost \$195-\$1495 depending on package)

www.nytimes.com/learning - Lesson plans & articles; Features include: Crossword Puzzles, News of the Day, Word of the Day, Test Prep and Conversation Starters

<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/schrockguide/> - EXCELLENT Resource: lesson plans & ideas; links to all sorts of history related sites: biographies, timelines, local news abstracts, fashion, food and more

www.eyewitnesstohistory.com - Their tagline is “History through the eyes of those who lived it” – stories from the Burning of Rome to the Battle of Britain, photos, interactive “snapshots,” videos & voice recordings

www.lib.utexas.edu/maps - all kinds of maps: historical, current, political, thematic, maps of current interest; printable maps

<http://valley.vcdh.virginia.edu/> - digital archive tells the story of two American communities during the time of John Brown’s Raid to the Era of Reconstruction; contains letters, diaries, speeches, church records to give a voice to hundreds of forgotten stories

www.pbs.org/teachers - lesson plans, activity ideas, excerpts from programs or watch full videos, free login allows you to save content, chat with other teachers across the country

www.econedlink.org - complete standards based downloadable lesson plans, articles of current events, data links for Real GDP, Unemployment, inflation, etc., Cyber Teach takes “This Day in History” and provides lesson plans to teach using the Internet.

www.stlouisfed.org - free curriculum: *In Plain English* includes DVD, booklets (up to 35) and bonus activities, *The Great Depression* includes lesson plans, online video & photos, timeline, audio, historical documents; *It’s Your Paycheck* downloadable curriculum teaching nine lessons on basic financial concepts; *GDP & Pizza* is a two-day online course for high school students covering civics and economics. *25 Cents Worth of History* is designed for 8-10 year olds is part of the Piggy Bank Primer series. ALSO – online crossword puzzles, flash cards and word searches.

Other Cool Sites for All Teachers

www.shutterfly.com – create online photo albums to share

www.dimdim.com - deliver synchronized live presentations, whiteboards and web pages and share their voice and video over the Internet

www.blogspot.com – create free blog

www.glogster.com/edu – create glog, can create class usernames to protect privacy and content

www.halfbakedsoftware.com – create puzzles, problems, dilemmas for students to solve; must register, free for state-funded programs

<http://skype.com> – video conferencing anywhere in the world; filtered at school

www.cutepdf.com – converts files to pdf format

www.teachertube.com – like YouTube but for educational purposes has many videos produced by teachers/students and others

<http://www.schooltube.com/> - students/teachers can upload videos to share or watch videos that others have created

<http://twitter.com> - enables quick & short ways to communicate with others

<http://www.wiggio.com/> - allows online collaboration & conferencing: shared calendars, mass text or email messages

www.animato.com/education - free for 6 months, online tool helps you create videos to upload & share

www.4teachers.org – rubrics, lesson plans, quizzes, calendars.