



February 2017

Issue #13

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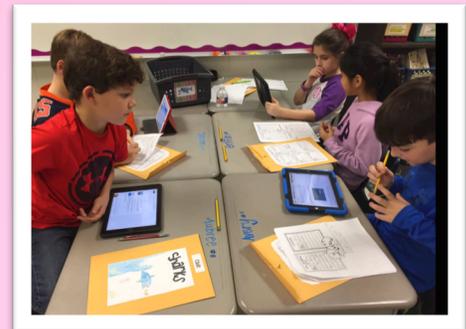
**Awesome February Resources:
Just click on the titles to access!**

WORKING HARD FOR
SOMETHING WE DON'T
CARE ABOUT
IS CALLED STRESS;
WORKING HARD
FOR SOMETHING
WE LOVE IS CALLED
PASSION.

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- ❖ [Groundhog Day Lesson Plans](#)
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- ❖ [Super Bowl: Football by the Numbers](#)
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Groups researching different animals, learning cool facts, and preparing to write a non-fiction article in Mrs. Tracy Pinkley's class at Lewisburg Elementary.



Cassie Sanders,
CTC
CTCW,
DCAC/Magnolia,
Olive Branch & Horn
Lake Zones

Cassie's App of the Month: Pocket



Pocket is your place to quickly save, discover, and recommend the stories that interest you. The next time you find an article, video or link you want to read or watch later, just save it to Pocket. It'll sync across your phone, tablet, and computer so you can come back to it whenever and wherever you'd like, even when you're offline. You can save to Pocket from pretty much anywhere, including your computer, Safari, email, and your favorite apps like Facebook, Twitter, Flipboard, and Feedly. Read and watch everything in Pocket in a clean, easy-to-view layout that's free of distractions. You can customize Pocket to match your reading style. Quickly discover new stories you'll love with personalized recommendations hand-picked by Pocket and the people you follow.

PLUS:

- Unlimited storage
- Tags to quickly get organized
- Listen to your articles with Text-to-Speech
- Save with one click using Pocket's desktop browser extensions for Safari, Chrome, and Firefox

Follow Cassie on Twitter: [@dcsteacher5](https://twitter.com/dcsteacher5)

FAQ: My lamp light is on, do I need a new bulb?

ANSWER: This doesn't always mean that you need a new bulb. Most of the time, it simply means the lamp hours on your projector need to be reset. If your projector is still projecting a clear, bright image chances are you do not need a new bulb, just the hours on the projector reset. If the lamp light comes on, please complete a help ticket and let your coach know that the light is on and we will take care of it.

Cassie's Technology Tip of the Month:

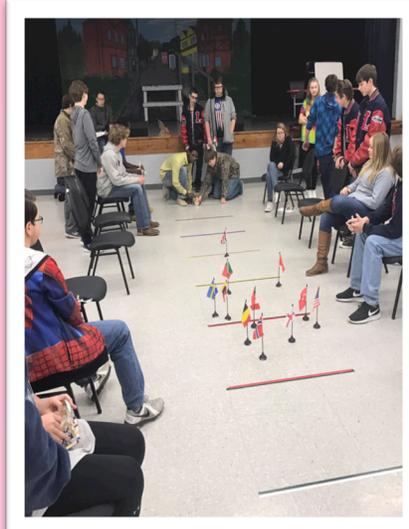
Did you know that you can give your classroom tests online to your students?

DeSoto County Schools has a service that we use to allow you to administer the same paper/pencil tests you give each week, from an iPad or computer! This is done through our PALMS online testing system.

If you are interested in doing this, Michael Putnam is the man to speak to! You can contact him via email at michael.putnam@dcsms.org.



Students use iPads to research for their argumentative essays in Mrs. Kacy Covington's classroom at CHMS.



Students built catapults, collected data and modeled flight of projectile with quadratic equations in Mr. Constant's classroom at LHS!



Click the picture above to view a beautiful story about a girl and her cloud.



**Shelby Elmore,
CTC**

Hernando, Southaven,
& Lake Cormorant
Zones

Shelby's App of the Month: YouTube



Okay, so YouTube has had an app for a while now--this is nothing new. Think again! With Virtual Reality headsets and Google Cardboard viewers, YouTube has become something special! You'll need the latest YouTube for iOS app on your device to take advantage of this one, (if you're having no luck, re-install the app). In the search box, type #360video into YouTube, look for the VR icon and strap on a viewer to see 2D online videos via your headset. With 360-degree camera rigs now available for budding internet stars, there are all sorts of possibilities and future applications for educational use!

Follow Shelby on Twitter: [@ctselmore](https://twitter.com/ctselmore)

FAQ: I've got my Google Classroom account, what's the best way to get started?

ANSWER: Google Classroom is loaded with all kinds of great features, so much in fact that it might be a bit overwhelming at first. I suggest starting small. Begin using Classroom with a small group of students. Navigate the ins and outs of daily use with this group until you feel confident enough to go paperless in your classroom. Yes, I said paperless. That doesn't mean you HAVE to go totally paperless, just that you have the confidence to do so. Once you and your students have mastered this in a small group setting, add classmates. Your pilot group will now be your teacher assistants while the rest of the class and you get the hang of utilizing this awesome technology. Your Classroom Technology Coach is just a click away should you need guidance.



Shelby's Technology Tip of the Month:

Incorporate Two-Way Communication Experiences With Your Students Into Your Lesson Plans



Encourage feedback, conversations, and discussions about learning in your classroom using technology. Utilize tools--like Remind, Google Hangouts, SeeSaw, Storybird, and Voicethread, that allow students to create and communicate with one another. In our technology-rich society, social media commands their attention.

Why not incorporate ways they already communicate and use it as a learning opportunity? Not only will they get a better understanding of the content you're teaching, they'll get life-lessons in how to be a responsible and productive digital citizen!



Jennifer Klinger, CTC

CTCE, Center Hill, DeSoto Central & Lewisburg Zones

Jennifer's App of the Month:

EasyBib:

Automatic Bibliography Generator & Citation Machine



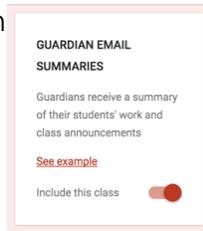
Bibliographies Are Frustrating. They Don't Have to Be. EasyBib is the world's best and most accurate citation generator.

EasyBib allows you to automatically create citations for your bibliography in seconds: - Perfect and accurate citations because they're checked by librarians and teachers - Instantly create citations by scanning book barcodes with your phone's camera - Use the search tool to create citations for books and websites - Export to email so you can send your citations to your inbox quickly - Switch between MLA, APA, Chicago, Harvard and over 7000 citation styles, including ASA, AMA, CSE and ACS formats with one click.

Follow Jennifer on Twitter: [@dcsctc](https://twitter.com/dcsctc)

FAQ: Will you turn on Guardian emails for my Google Classroom?

ANSWER: By default, Guardian Email options are turned **OFF** for your Google Classroom teacher account. If you do not see the option to turn ON Guardian emails, please email your Tech Coach.



Guardian email summaries include:

- **Missing work** - Work that's late at the time the email was sent
- **Upcoming work**—Work that's due today and tomorrow (for daily emails) or work that's due in the upcoming week (for weekly emails)
- **Class activity**—Announcements, assignments, and questions recently posted by teachers

As the teacher, you must invite the parents to receive the Guardian email.

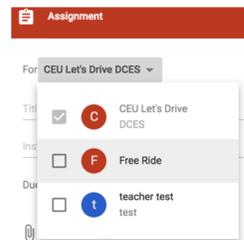
- You can turn the email summaries on or off for each class.
- You cannot invite parents with a code. You must have their email address if they want to be invited.
- A gmail account is not required. However, they have more options if they do have a gmail account. For more information about managing guardian emails, click here <https://goo.gl/ETM5S7>

Jennifer's Technology Tip of the Month:

Google Classroom - Did you know...

- If you teach multiple sections of the same course, Google Classroom will create the assignment in each section?
- You can now post work and announcements to individual students in a class?

How to post an assignment to additional classes



- (Optional) Next to the class name, click the Down arrow
- Check the box next to the class you want to include.
-

For more information about creating and posting assignments,

click here <https://goo.gl/RsMhpx>



Tina Streeter
District Webmaster
&
Learn360
Coordinator

Tina's Website of the Month: Learn360



Learn360 includes a wide range of exciting content and features that make it a powerful tool for flipped classrooms, blended instruction, project-based learning, and 1:1 environments. Learn360 is correlated to educational standards as well as 21st century skills, with captions and searchable, interactive transcripts for thousands of titles. Create and share playlists by using pre-made clips, full videos, or custom segments to engage students. Use videos in lesson plans, create quizzes, or download content for use in PowerPoint or Keynote software.

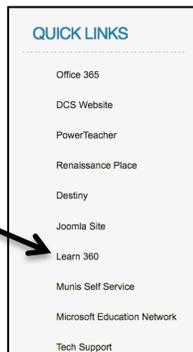
Learn360 showcases some great content with award-winning media resources from more than 200 top educational producers including: A&E, History Channel, Biography Channel, Reading Rainbow, National Geographic, Jim Henson, Prime Radicals, Mazzarella Media, BBC, Slim Goodbody, Rock the SAT...and many others!

Follow Tina on Twitter: [@TinaStreeter2](https://twitter.com/TinaStreeter2)

Learn360 FAQ: How do I access Learn360?

There are two ways to access Learn360:

1. Go to the DCS Quick Launch page and click on Learn360.



2. From an internet browser, type in <http://learn360.infobase.com> and login. NOW, you can login with your Gmail or Google Classroom login or for login credentials, put in a tech ticket with the subject line, "Learn360".

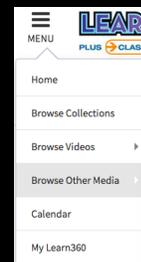
What is the benefit of logging in to Learn360?

- You and your students can make playlists.
- Save your favorite videos to the "MyLearn360" area for later use.
- Don't want to show the entire video? Make your own custom segments just by dragging the beginning and ending points!
- View the district "custom videos" while on your school campus. See what other teachers are requesting to be added to Learn360!
- Create assignments, quizzes and blogs to share with your students.
- **NEW! Share your playlist to your teacher website for your students to view!**
- Link your Learn360 to your Google Classroom and add videos for your students to view.

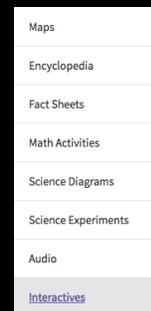
Learn360 Tip:

Did you know there are thousands of maps, interactives, fact sheets, math activities, encyclopedia articles, online games and science experiments on Learn360?

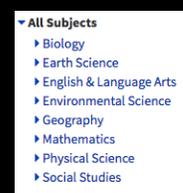
- ❖ Go to Learn360
- ❖ Choose Menu/Browse Other Media



- ❖ Choose the media you would like to view



- ❖ Filter by grade level and subject



Computer 101 with Mr. Hicks: MacBook Trackpad Gestures



Pete Hicks
Asst. Director,
Instructional
Technology

Earlier this year, I shared some keyboard shortcuts for both Macs and Windows PCs. These can save time by helping you complete your work more efficiently. For those teachers who use MacBooks, you have another set of tips that can help you improve your productivity.

Instead of using a mouse, most teachers use the device's built-in trackpad. The Mac OS has many "touch gestures" that can make navigating much easier. Below are just a few of the most useful gestures you can incorporate into your daily Mac usage:



Tap to click
Tap with one finger to click.



Secondary click
Click or tap with two fingers to perform the equivalent of Control-click or right-click.



Smart zoom
Double-tap with two fingers to zoom in and back out of a webpage or PDF.



Scroll
Slide two fingers up or down to scroll.



Show desktop
Spread your thumb and three fingers apart to show your desktop.



Launchpad
Pinch your thumb and three fingers together to display Launchpad.