

# Teaching Elementary Social Studies

STRATEGIES,  
STANDARDS, AND  
INTERNET RESOURCES

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S E C O N D • E D I T I O N



## Topic 10

Internet Resources,  
Sources, and Safety

# Teacher's Tip

- You can select almost any person, place, thing, event, or date, and a quick search on the Internet is likely to make you better informed and provide you with better resources to teach the topic than spending the same amount of time in a library.

# Primary Types of Assets on the Internet

- 1. Content background information sites** where you can learn more about a topic before you plan a lesson or use the information to create grade-appropriate supplemental reading materials for your students.
- 2. Lesson plans, activities, and class materials** developed by other teachers, organizations, and textbook companies for use in the elementary classroom setting.
- 3. Children's sites** that contain online interactive simulations and activities for use with children in the classroom, library, or resource center.

# Searching the Internet

**General Search** with any search engine like Google or MSN

**Site-Specific Search** A number of sites are dedicated to a specific field of social studies instruction. Three examples are

- *National Geographic*  
<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions/lessons/matrix.html>
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- *EconEdlink*  
<http://www.econedlink.org/lessons/index.cfm>
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- *Civics OnLine*  
<http://www.civics-online.org/>

**Multidiscipline Sites for Teaching Resources**

**Government Websites**

**Teacher's Tip**

Given the current state of equity issues with technology, teachers regrettably cannot assign homework on the assumption that all students have easy access to a PC or a Mac. Assignment requiring students to use a computer should be planned so that they can be accomplished during the school day.

# Internet Safety

1. When using the Internet in presentations with children, the teacher should preview the site(s).
2. When students are doing an activity designed by the teacher, the teacher should preview and limit the sites to be used by the students.
3. When students are expected to search the Internet, the teacher must state the objectives for going to sites that are appropriate to the goal of the lesson and should monitor students throughout the activity.

## **A S S I G N M E N T 1 0 . 1**

### **Search a Multidiscipline Website**

- download Houghton Mifflin's Reading 3, "Our Earth," from the Online Study Center
- search for a lesson or activity based on the content.

## **A S S I G N M E N T 1 0 . 2**

### **Internet Resources: General Search**

- Download either Reading 21, 23, or 25 from the Doubleday Core Knowledge
- Identify a person, place, thing, and event from the reading and conduct an Internet search for a resource