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### Tots and Technology: Call for Presenters

We invite you to share your knowledge and expertise with other TCEA members by presenting a 60-minute Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) session at the summer [Tots and Technology conference](#). This two-day event on June 13-14, 2011 will focus on learning with technology in PreK-5th grade classrooms. Located at the San Luis Resort and Conference Center in Galveston, the conference will offer presentations from beginner to advanced level within five strands based on 21st century skills and one leadership strand.



The [Call for Participation to submit proposals](#) is now open, and will remain open through Monday, Feb. 28, at 5:00 p.m. All proposals will be carefully reviewed and selected by a committee of TCEA members. Applicants will receive acceptance or regret notifications in April 2011.

All presenters and co-presenters must register for the conference. The lead presenter will receive a complimentary registration to the conference. Once your proposal is accepted, we will make the adjustment to your registration.

The conference will include continental breakfast and lunch both days for participants, along with a fun, end-of-the-day, hands-on "Technology in Action" activity of their choice. Possibilities include:

### Upcoming Events

["Surviving and Thriving at Convention 2011" webinar](#)  
- Feb. 2

["Surviving and Thriving at Convention 2011" webinar](#)  
- Feb. 3

["Surviving and Thriving at Convention 2011" webinar](#)  
- Feb. 4

["Hardware, Software, and Network Management" workshop](#) - Feb. 7

["Lunch and Learn: Bringing Experts into Your Classroom" webinar](#) - Feb. 16

["Harness the Power of Google SketchUp Pro" webinar](#) - Feb. 22

["Teaching with Primary Source Documents: Making History Come Alive" webinar](#) - Feb. 22

["Cyber Safety and Security" workshop](#) - Feb. 23

["Lunch and Learn: Microsoft's Mouse Mischief" webinar](#) - Feb. 23

### Quick Links

[Free Google SketchUp Pro Licenses](#)

[TCEA 2011 Update](#)

- Creating Fantastic Flipcharts for Your Promethean Board
- Digital Cameras in the Classroom
- Flipping Out with Flip Video Cameras
- Nifty Notebooks for Your SMART Board
- Podcasting Basics for Babies
- Web 2.0 Sharing
- Geocaching in Elementary Curriculum
- iPad Learning Adventure
- WeDo Robotics

[Registration](#) is open now and is \$149.00 for members and \$179.00 for non-members (includes a complimentary, one-year membership). Sign up to present at this exclusive event for elementary educators, curriculum specialists, librarians, and administrators!

## Proposed TA TEKS Revisions

The State Board of Education (SBOE) has legislative authority to adopt the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills (TEKS) for each subject of the required curriculum. SBOE members nominated educators, parents, business and industry representatives, and employers to serve on the review committees for the Technology Applications TEKS recently.

Public comments on their drafts will soon be needed from teachers and administrators. TCEA will notify you when this happens.

You may download the proposed TA TEKS in PDF format:

- [Kindergarten - Grade 2](#)
- [Grades 3 - 5](#)
- [Grades 6 - 8](#)
- [High School Courses](#)
- [Computer Science Courses](#)

## TCEA 2011 Update: Volunteers Needed and a Tweetup



Dedicate an hour or two of your time while at the convention as a volunteer and take an active part in the largest educational technology convention in the southwest. Volunteer spaces are still open for fun events, including helping at the social! All volunteers receive a t-shirt and are entered for a chance to win one of the daily door prizes. Sign up [here](#).

If you're a fan of Twitter, then you'll be excited to hear there will be a convention Tweetup on Wednesday, Feb. 9 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. There'll be free WiFi and happy hour drink specials. Come meet in person the people in your PLN! If you haven't registered yet, click [here](#) to let us know you're coming. Sponsored by SMART.

## Top 10 Sites for Images and Clip Art

By David Kapuler

Finding images on the Internet for classroom use has been a problem for many educators for reasons such as copyright privileges, inappropriateness, etc. While there are a number of paid solutions for finding images such as [Nettrekker](#) or [Discovery Streaming](#), there are a number of free alternatives that work nicely as well.

Keep in mind, however, that most of the sites listed below do not have built-in filters for images. These image search engines should be used either by educators (adults assisting students) or go in hand in hand with a school district filtering solution and

### [the Classroom](#)

### Great Educational Apps for the Android

There are some fantastic free apps available for those with Android-based phones and tablets. Here are just a few.

#### Elementary:

- ABCs
- Sight Words
- Multiplication Tutor
- ABCs Tracing Cursive Letters
- 123s ABCs Handwriting Fun Set 1
- KidCreation
- Shapes
- Numbers
- Colors
- Chicktionary
- Kids Numbers and Math
- The Word Puzzle
- Zebra Paint

#### Secondary:

- Math Formulary
- Hubble Space Images
- 50 States
- Words, Words, Words!
- Countries of the World
- U. S. Presidents
- Science Facts
- GeoQuiz
- Google SkyMap
- Plink Art
- Deluxe Moon

### Advocacy e-Newsletter Now Available

TCEA will be launching a second bi-monthly e-newsletter beginning Feb. 8, 2011. This one will focus on what is going on

## Acceptable Use Policy.

1. [Pics4Learning](#) - Very popular site to find free, safe-to-use images for teachers and students.
2. [Cyclo.ps](#) - Search engine that searches the most popular free image engines around and provides one-stop shopping.
3. [School Clip Art](#) - Great site for free school clip art.
4. [Ookaboo](#) - Creative commons (free) site for finding great images for class work.
5. [Picsearch](#) - Excellent image search engine, if used with a district's filtering solution.
6. [Veezzle](#) - Wonderful free stock photo search engine.
7. [Google Swirl](#) - Innovative way to search for images and see their relationships with each other (use with Google Safe Search enabled).
8. [Free Photo Bank](#) - Easy way to find creative common images.
9. [Open Clip Art](#) - Great way to find free clip art.
10. [Find Icons](#) - Nice site for free icons.

David Kapuler is an educational consultant with more than 10 years of experience working in the K-12 environment. For more information about his work, [contact him](#) via email or read [his blog](#).

## Backchannel for Increased Learning

If the people you are learning with, either students or staff members, have access to BYOD or 1:1 technology, then you can help to increase the learning that occurs by using a backchannel. The backchannel is everything going on in the room that isn't coming from the presenter. It's where people ask each other questions, pass notes, get distracted, and give the presenter the most immediate feedback he'll ever get.

Instead of ignoring the backchannel, leverage its power. Tapping into the backchannel lets you tailor and direct your presentation to the audience in front of you, and unifying the backchannel means the audience can share insights, questions, and answers with each other and not just the presenter. Below are some great backchannel resources:

- [Today's Meet](#)
- [Wallwisher](#)
- [Meeting Words](#)
- [Corkboard](#)
- [Pindax](#)
- [Twiddla](#)
- [Backchan.nl](#)
- [Using the Backchannel in Your Classroom](#)
- [How to Present with Twitter \(and Other Backchannels\)](#)



in Austin and Washington, DC with the legislatures, the Department of Education, the Texas Education Agency, and the State Board of Education. Sign up [here](#) to receive this free advocacy resource.

## Quick Tech Tip Sheets

- [Voicethread](#)
- [Google Maps](#)
- [Wikispaces](#)
- [Google Advanced Search](#)
- [Boolean Searches Explained](#)
- [Animoto](#)
- [Google Forms](#)
- [Google Earth](#)
- [Twitter](#)
- [Wordle](#)
- [Stickies](#)
- [Audacity](#)
- [Excel 2010](#)
- [Word 2010](#)
- [PowerPoint 2010](#)

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