

# K-12 Teaching & Learning Center

Since 1997 – The Essential Resource for *Every* Teacher



## Getting Started

### ***What the K-12 TLC Doesn't Do:***

The K-12 TLC is *not* an on-line curriculum aligned with discrete skills and states standards, it is *not* your traditional reference resource, it is *not* intended as a substitute for encyclopedic services, and it is *not* the resource of choice for quick retrieval of specific facts.

### ***What the K-12 TLC Does:***

Under development since 1997, the K-12 Teaching & Learning Center provides tools that allow you to realize quality benefits from technology and Internet access. The K-12 Teaching & Learning Center's extensive resources along with its availability from school and home make it the perfect strategic tool:

- To enable you to expand your background knowledge and improve your comfort level with your curriculum well beyond the narrow perspective of your current textbook.
- To provide you new perspectives and a deeper appreciation of the historical context of the facts associated with state standards.
- To enable you to place a greater emphasis on a student-centered environment that engages students as active learners through research.
- To enable you to invite families to become more active partners in their children's education.

Because the K-12 TLC brings to you the best public-domain content from the world's finest resources on the Internet, its 1,000+ guides evolve and change every day so that your material is current, varied, and of the highest quality.

### ***An Approach That Works:***

The K-12 Teaching & Learning Center has something for everyone, but, its resources may be too broad for you to immediately get your arms around. When you are first getting started, think of the K-12 TLC the way you would a newspaper. When you read the newspaper, you probably do not have the time or the inclination to read the entire paper, and you may want to take the same approach with the K-12 TLC.

Browse around enough to acquaint yourself with everything that's there, but start by selecting a couple of tools that will give you the greatest immediate benefit. Use them, be successful with them, and then down the road expand your use as you become more comfortable and familiar with the K-12 TLC. Don't overload yourself from the beginning. Use it in small successful steps, and build on them over time.

- **Think Social Studies:** The TLC's general guides, the chronologies, the *Daily Almanac*, and the student skill and knowledge builders (5-minute Quests, Gnus for Kidz and Who Am I?) provide an historical and social context to all content areas; however, this is a quality that is most apparent in the social studies.
- **Think Professional Development:** The K-12 TLC is a great platform for deepening your understanding of your curriculum content.
- **Think Lesson Plans and Unit Development:** The K-12 TLC Teachable Moments and other resources are ideal for teachers seeking background material and ideas for development of lesson plans and units.
- **Think Diversity:** The K-12 TLC heritage guides for African-Americans, Latin Americans, Asian Americans and Native Americans; its guides to Hispanic Heritage Month, Black History Month and National Women's History Month; and the TLC calendar of major religious and cultural observations make the K-12 TLC an exceptional resource for the study and appreciation of cultural diversity.
- **Think Academic Competitions:** The K-12 TLC Academic Competitions Resource Center provides customized guides that cross-reference the vast K-12 TLC resources to the outlines of each year's major academic competitions. This is an essential tool for every advisor of every academic team.
- **Think Guidance:** *Growing Up* provides wonderful talking points for guidance counselors, families and teachers.

### ***What to Look At:***

**Teacher Hotlists:** A great way to get timely information when you can use it most. The K-12 TLC offers more than 100 different hotlists for all subjects and grade levels. Join the hotlists that interest you, and the TLC will e-mail you occasional news items, great ideas and website links that are customized to your specific needs and interests. Sign up now at <http://www.k12tlc.net/content/hotlists.htm>. If you change your mind, you can unsubscribe from any hotlist at any time.

**The Teacher Times** is a daily on-line newsletter just for teachers with lots of features, information and activities that are new every day. To see a sample, go to <http://www.k12tlc.net/content/times/1008.htm>. For your free subscription to the *Teacher Times*, go to <http://www.k12tlc.net/content/hotlists.htm>, and check the subscription box for *Teacher Times*. If you change your mind, you can unsubscribe at any time.

**The Internet Toolkit** is just what it says, a collection of great tools to help you get the information you need when you need it. Need background material for a new lesson or unit? Want students to use the Internet for a research project? Want in-depth information about American presidents, scientists & mathematicians, children's authors, famous African Americans, World War II...? This Is The Place! <http://www.k12tlc.net/content/index.htm>

**The Daily Almanac:** An on-line interactive hypertext almanac for each and every school day. There is nothing else like it anywhere! Take a look at <http://www.k12tlc.net/almanac.htm>.

**Growing Up:** A teacher & family guidance newsletter for every grade level for every week of the school year. Check it out at <http://www.k12tlc.net/growingup/index.htm>.

**Want some help?** Visit the **TLC Samples Page** at <http://www.k12tlc.net/pageone.htm>.

**This is a great resource, but only if you use it. Get started today. You will be glad you did!**

