



Regional Support Centre
West Midlands

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Learning Technologies

Jason Curtis RSC Learning Technologist

<http://rscwmllearningtechnologies.blogspot.com/>



Offer advice and guides on **e-safety, funding, the selection, implementation, deployment and management** of Learning Technologies with your institution.

Provides advice and guidance on the inclusion of Learning Technologies within existing ILT , eLearning strategies.

Additional advice is also available on the restructuring or consolidation of these core strategies if required.

To continue developing and promoting the learning technologies community based network started last year and to highlight examples of best practice A new JISC Mail list called LT-RSC-WM@JISCMAIL.AC.UK was created last year to help support this function.

To subscribe to the list click here <https://www.jiscmail.ac.uk/cgi-bin/webadmin?A0=LT-RSC-WM> .

Customer expectations are rising year by year with the majority of today's learners having grown up accessing the latest technological resources on demand. Consumers they expect access to the latest resources, on demand to meet their individual learning needs.

It is now clear that as a result of this ubiquitous environment today's learners ***think and process information fundamentally differently*** from their predecessors.

These differences go far further and deeper than most educators suspect or realise.

However does a balance need to be met between the application of technology and the learning process?

Adapted technology

Collaborate

Create

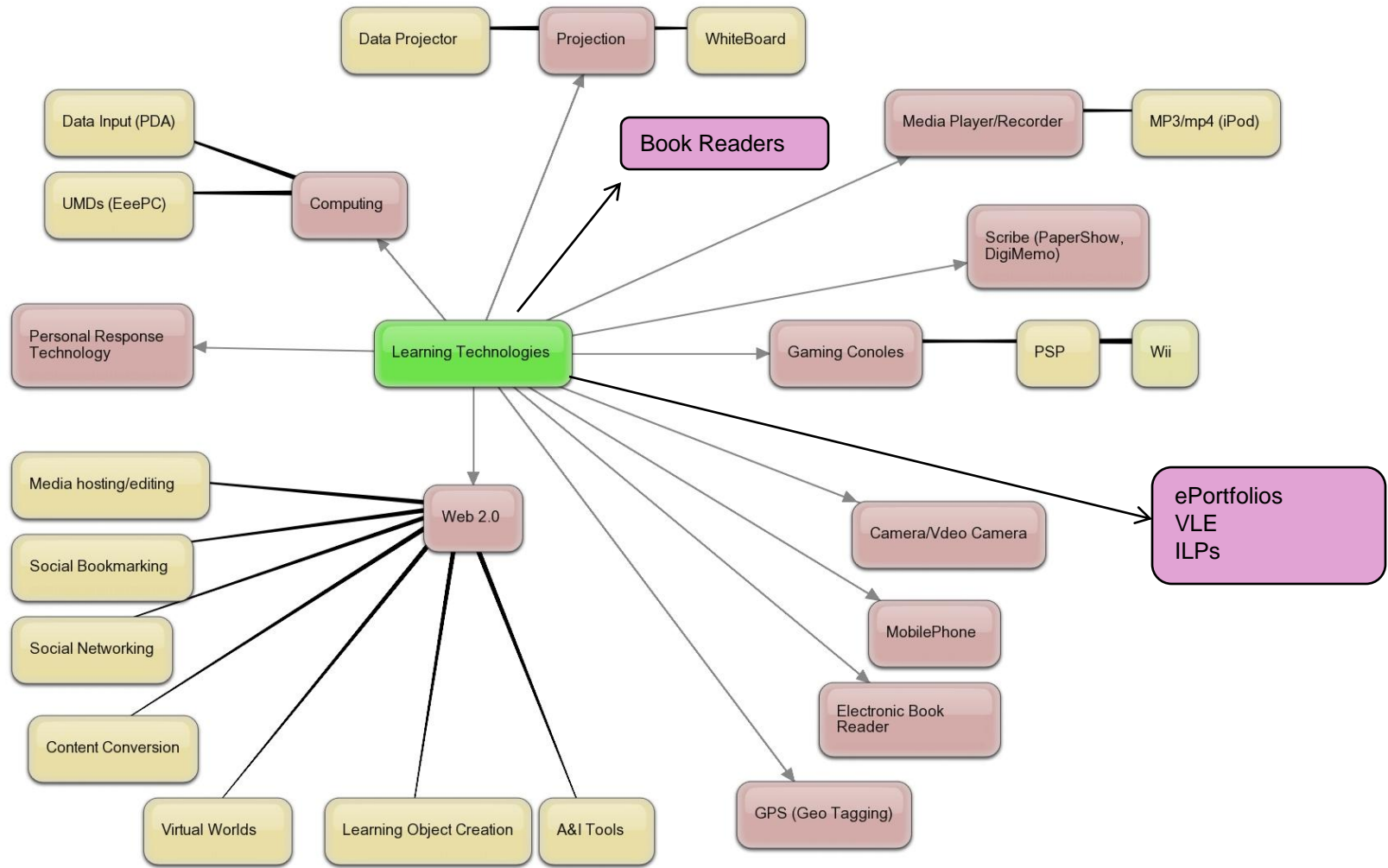
Connect

Access 24/7

Captures attention

Engagement

Deepens learning



Why use technology?

- Flexibility, Efficiency
- Differentiation - Inclusion – Personalisation
- Retention
- Behaviour
- Attainment
- Potential Anonymity
- Collaboration
- Captures attention, engages the learner
- Assessment & Evidence gathering
- Demonstrate the application of new skills
- Allows course work to be submitted in a variety of appropriate formats
- Connect and collaborate and debate with other learners 24/7.

- **Fit for purpose** (assess the quality, consistency, availability, is it an appropriate mechanism).
- **Data** (who owns the data, Is the platform appropriate)?
- **The User** (what are the needs of the user, what are the barriers)?
- **Environment** (how will the use of technology effect or be effected by the physical/non physical environment)?
- **Sustainability** (assess the sustainability of existing/potential/future acquisitions)
- **Implementation/Managed** (how will the technology be implemented)?
- **Support and training**
- **Compatibility** with existing technology and working practises. Network
- **Documentation** (assess the risk, assign/create appropriate controls).

Don't let misinformation control your adoption of technology..



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Great ideas

RSC - Stimulating and Supporting Innovation in Learning

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WEDNESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2009

A computer aimed at the 60+

A new computer aimed at people aged over 60 who are unfamiliar with PCs and the internet has been unveiled. The simplified desktop - called SimplePC - has just six buttons directing users to basic tasks such as e-mail and chat. The computer comes pre-installed with 17 video tutorials from television presenter Valerie Singleton. More than 6 million people over the age of 60 have never used the internet, according to government figures.

Now I can see the being of great interest to Specialist Colleges, Work Based Learning Providers and the Adult and Community Learning Sector due to its simple interface, Open Source operating System and applications.

I have contacted the manufacturer of the product to see if it will be available to other markets other than the 60+. We will have to wait and see what happens.

To find out more watch the BBC video. Sorry the video can not be embedded.

POSTED BY JASON CURTIS AT 04:31. 2 COMMENTS

THURSDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2009

Is the answer right under our noses? What are the alternatives?

Being a bit of a gadget addict I watch the Gadget Show on Channel FIVE. Although the show presents a number of products each week that don't necessarily have an appropriate use in education from time to time they come up trumps. For example in the past the presenters have demonstrated gadgets like the iPhone, iPod Touch, the Flip and Bubble camera, and a number of really useful online tools with candid reviews of each item.

My point is that sometimes we need to look for alternative sources of information in places where educationalists wouldn't normally consider. Why not spend 12 minutes watching BBC Click over a cup of coffee or surf through the Gadget Show website?

Two brilliant free service websites mentioned recently on the Gadget Show were:

- [What's best for me?](#) - This website helps you find the alternative software for your computer or



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Navigation: Home | Web source | History

Main Page

Welcome to your e-learning community wiki - a valuable shared resource packed full of useful information, advice, tips and support for anything related to e-learning. Topics covered range from accessibility, learning tools and web 2.0 to pedagogy and much more. It's an ideal place to search for inspiring ways to incorporate e-learning into your teaching and learning.

This wiki is open to contributions from our community - LSC funded learning providers in the West Midlands. We actively encourage advice from you as you would like to help grow this resource and share your knowledge of e-learning, please contact support@rsc.wm.ac.uk in the first instance.

Navigating around the wiki

The wiki is split into 5 key areas which mirror those on our website. Within each of these areas, you will find further subcategories. Depending on your area of interest:

- Teaching and Learning
- Learning Resources
- Strategy and Management
- E-learning Technology
- Accessibility
- RSC projects and Initiatives
- RSC Wiki Event Wiki

Additional links

- Access further wiki help
- Visit our website for events and support information (<http://www.rsc.wm.ac.uk>)

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WEDNESDAY, 10 NOVEMBER 2009

Learning Technologies - Help and Advice

A quick reminder to all West Midlands based learning providers - we have a dedicated Learning Technologist in the team who is happy to give free advice and guidance on how various technologies can be used for teaching and learning.

Jason has bags of stuff which he is happy to come and discuss, demonstrate if required, and is also on hand to provide telephone and email guidance on any of your technology related questions. With lots of providers in receipt of capital funding at the moment, it can be useful to know what types of devices are currently proving popular for e-learning.

Jason provides advice and guidance on the inclusion of Learning Technologies within existing strategies. He is also keen to continue developing the learning technologies community based network started last year and to draw out and develop examples of best practice in this region. A new JISC trial list was created last year to help support this function. You can subscribe to that list to get the latest updates here.

Jason can be contact by email at jason.curtis@rsc.wm.ac.uk or phone on 01900 283866. His wiki page also offer information which a busy provider might find useful in the first instance.

Related wobble links:

- Learning Technology Loan Initiative (Staff Development needs Funding Attached)
- Information Sheets on Technology for E-Learning

To read more of Wobble click here.

POSTED BY JASON CURTIS AT 04:31. 2 COMMENTS. LINKS TO THIS POST: LABELS: CAPTION, FONTS, MEDIA, LEARNING, TECHNOLOGY

Learning in Hand

Blog Podcasts PDAs iPods Networks Mobile Web About Search

Small, mobile, portable devices with more processing power than the computer you bought in 1999 are everywhere. Computers that fit in your hand are now commonplace: cell phones, PDAs, iPods, iPhones, GameBoys, PlayStation Portables, netbooks, and more. Students are attracted to these devices because they are interactive, mobile, and connected.

Common types of handheld computers being used in schools are: iPods, Windows Mobile & Palm PDAs, and netbooks. These diminutive computers have plenty of memory to hold software applications, electronic texts, various documents, audio, and video. In fact, all of these kinds of devices can play podcasts. Podcasts are audio or video on the web that can be automatically downloaded and are ready to sync to a mobile device. There are thousands of podcasts freely available and they are organized in several different directories on the Web, here are...

Blog Headlines

- Video from Handheld Learning 2009
- The Simpsons and Phones in School
- Create 2.0 in Your Hand, Share it with the World
- iPods Episode #19: Maps, Screenshots, & Comics
- Netbooks in Texas Schools
- What Happens When You Give Children an iPod touch?

Arizona Axi Center, Out City, Free Podcasting Booklet, iPod, Practical Workbooks!

Learning in Hand is a resource for educational technology by Tony Vincent. Tony focuses on free and inexpensive ways to engage learners. From textbooks and web applications to iPods and podcasting, Tony has put together information for teachers that is easy to understand, relevant, and free of charge. Please consider being Tony to make or contact workbooks at your convenience or contact.

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Centre for Learning & Performance Technologies

Home | Jane Hart | Social Learning | Tools Directory | TOP TOOLS | Conferences | Showcases | Library | Search

TOP TOOLS FOR LEARNING

For the last 3 years we have been inviting learning professionals to contribute their Top 100 Tools lists to help us compile the annual Top 100 Tools for Learning. 278 people contributed this year.

2010
10 tools for 2010
my pick of the new tools

2009
Top 100 Tools for Learning 2009
Top 100 Tools - By Category
2009 Winners & Losers
Top 10 Tools lists of learning professionals worldwide

PREVIOUS YEARS
2008 2007
Alpha list of contributors 2007-2009

25 TOOLS & A TOOLBOX FOR LEARNING PROFESSIONALS
25 tools
25tools Ning Community

More information about each of the tools.

NEW
Note, there are two other related lists
Top 100 Tools 2009 - By Category | 2009 Winners & Losers


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Regional Support Centre (RSC)
West Midlands

Work Based Learning Sector
Information Learning Technology (ILT)
Questionnaire



Prepared by Theresa Welch, E-Learning Advisor (WBL) RSC West Midlands - Oct 2007

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⏵
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full

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more share options

[theresawelch](#), 3 years ago

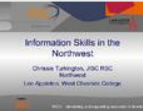
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Related Presentations


 **Virtual Learning Spaces**
Lagging or Loving It (BL)?

[Virtual Learning Spaces \(SI\) Rsc W...](#)

 **Information Skills in the Northwest**
Orkney Taster, RSC RSC Northwest
Lan. Applied, West Cheshire College


[Lilac](#)

 **Virtual learning environments**
(Governance)

 **CoFHE 2007 Introduction to Web 2.0**


[Mart Gellon | e-learning advisor](#)


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Categories

Technology

Go to View > Header & Footer to edit

December 16, 2009 | slide 10

http://alternativeto.net/

The screenshot shows the AlternativeTo website interface. At the top right, there are links for 'Create an account' and 'Sign in'. Below the header, there's a navigation bar with 'desktop' and 'mobile' tabs, and a search bar. The main content area is divided into several sections:

- Tired of crappy software?:** A section encouraging users to find alternatives to software they dislike. It includes a quote: "It's a great great great site!" by Alex Lindsay from Windows Weekly 124.
- Featured Applications:** Two featured apps are shown:
 - Paint.NET:** 225 likes. Described as free image and photo editing software for Windows. Alternatives listed include Adobe Fireworks, GIMP, Paint Shop Pro, and Adobe Photoshop.
 - LastPass:** 44 likes. Described as a secure browser-based password manager. Alternatives listed include Wallet, Skipper, 1Password, and KeePass.
- REMOTE CONTROL:** A section for NSM (NetSupport Manager), featuring a screenshot of a remote desktop session.
- UltraSurf:** 11 likes. A malware warning is present: "MALWARE WARNING! READ THE COMMENTS. We keep UltraSurf only to inform users of Alternatives to it. We recommend everyone to delete ultrasurf and download a free copy of VB ...". A link to "Find alternatives to UltraSurf" is provided.

Additional features include social media sharing buttons (Facebook, Twitter, Delicious), donation options, and a 'SUGGEST A NEW APPLICATION' button.

http://www.youconvertit.com/

The screenshot shows the youconvertit.com website interface. At the top, the logo "youconvertit" is displayed with a "Beta" tag and a green circular arrow icon. Below the logo are four tabs: "Convert File(s)", "Convert Online Video", "Send File(s)", and "Convert Units". The "Convert File(s)" tab is active. The form contains the following elements:

- Step 1:** "E-mail address: *" with a text input field and a "Required field" asterisk.
- Step 2:** "File you wish to convert: *" with a text input field, a "Browse..." button, and a note "(You can add up to 5 files)".
- Convert To: *** with a dropdown menu showing "(Please Select Format ...)".
- Step 3:** A green "Convert it" button and a yellow box containing the text: "By clicking 'convert it', you agree to our Terms of Services".

At the bottom of the form, there is a footer with the text: "Free! Convert any media file format (Documents, Images, Audio, Video & Archives) without buying or installing anything on your PC" and a list of links: "Terms of Services | Privacy Policy | DMCA Policy | Company | Advertise | Supported Formats | Bookmark Us | Contact Us | RSS". Below this is the copyright notice: "© 2009 YouConvertIt".

<http://www.prometheanplanet.com>

The screenshot displays the Promethean Planet website interface. At the top, there is a navigation menu with links for Home, Members, Resources, News & Events, Professional Development, Shop, Support, and Download Activinspire. Below the navigation is a search bar with fields for Keywords, Subject Area, and Grade/Level, along with a search button and a link to Advanced Search. The main content area features a large image of a globe and the text 'PROMETHEAN PLANET the world's largest interactive whiteboard community'. To the right, there is a section for 'Promethean Developer Network' with a 'Get Started' button and a 'Get in on the discussion' section with links to Forum and Blog. The main content area is titled 'Area' and contains a flipchart viewer showing a slide with the text 'Areas of shapes' and various geometric shapes. To the right of the flipchart is a 'Lesson Information' box with details such as Flipchart Title, Subject Area, Grade/Level, Submission Date, Views, Downloads, and Author. Below the flipchart viewer are buttons for 'Download Flipchart' and 'Send To Friend'. To the right of the main content area are sections for 'Related Flipcharts' and 'Featured Flipcharts'. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with links for Sitemap, Terms & Conditions, and United Kingdom.



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