

# Internet Sites for K-8 Diverse Learner

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Listings for other subjects in the curriculum online at <http://www.merrybee.info/subj.html>

Listings for uses of the Internet in the classroom at <http://www.merrybee.info/book.html>

The diversity of learners and learning needs in a classroom is a challenge to the teacher both in terms of understanding differences and in planning instruction around what is known of those differences. The sites that follow have information explaining student differences in ability, culture, language, learning style, and physical or learning handicaps as well as ideas for appropriate curriculum and teaching. See the [How Students Use the Internet](#) section of MerryBee to select sites for direct use by students.

- <http://www.abilityhub.com/>  
*AbilityHub*. Topic: assistive technology  
Information on all types of adaptive equipment and alternative methods available for accessing computers. This site has not been updated recently so you will find some dead links, but it still valuable as an overview of possibilities.
- <http://www.activeamp.org/index.htm>  
*ActiveAmp*. Topic: physical disability  
Amputee information about sports, games, toys, legislation, children's resources. List for resources by state.
- <http://a4esl.org/>  
*Activities for ESL Students*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Puzzles and quizzes for students studying English as a Second Language. Select from teacher submitted in three levels, or use the template to construct your own. A long list of languages is used with English for bilingual quizzes. grades 2 and up
- <http://www.ataccess.org/resources/atk12/default.html>  
*Assistive Technology in K-12 Schools*. Topic: assistive technology  
Alliance for Technology Access offers information about integrating assistive technology into schools ranging from an explanation of what the teacher should know about assistive technology to tips and best practice articles. Links. Check out the other sections of the ATA site too.
- <http://aac.unl.edu/>  
*Augmentative and Alternative Communication*. Topic: assistive technology  
Wide variety of information for people who use augmentative and alternative technologies: vendor directory, webcasts (some for credit), links. Much of the site is resources that can be used directly by those who work with persons of any age who have communication disorders. Maintained by the Barkley AAC Center and the Munroe-Meyer Institute for Genetics and Rehabilitation at the University of Nebraska.
- <http://www.autism-society.org/site/PageServer>  
*Autism Society of America*. Topic: autism  
Autism facts, information about the Society, and resources. Does not advocate for one viewpoint. No student section.
- <http://wwwwww.autismweb.org/>  
*AutismWeb*. Topic: autism  
Provides information on diagnosis and treatment, education issues, where to find resources, current news articles related to autism, and an open forum. Designed for parents, but helpful for teachers.
- <http://www.brainconnection.com/teasers/>  
*Brain Connection*. Topic: learning disability  
Brain teasers designed to help develop brain processing, with something for ages preschool through adult. Other pages on the site have information about the brain and brain research for the teacher.

- <http://www.rinkworks.com/brainfood/>  
*Brain Food*. Topic: gifted  
Brain Food's puzzle collections are billed as "Puzzles For the Brain To Gnaw On." Logi-Number Puzzles, Logic Puzzles, Word Boxes, Word Puzzles, Scrambled Equations, Lateral Thinking Puzzles and Joke Puzzles (groaners). Harder puzzles within a category are marked. grades 4-8
- <http://www.eduplace.com/math/brain/>  
*Brain Teasers*. Topic: gifted  
These mathematical puzzles require logical thinking. A new Teaser for each level (grades 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8) is posted each Wednesday, along with the previous week's answers. The archives have problems and answers for the three weeks prior to that. "How to Play" suggests a general problem-solving strategy, and some individual Teasers have hints suggesting strategies. grades 3-8
- <http://www.niehs.nih.gov/kids/braint.htm>  
*Brainteasers, Puzzles & Riddles*. Topic: gifted  
Categorized sets of brainteasers. Click individual answers to check (or if you give up). Note that the Search box under the title searches the entire site, not just this section. grades 1-6
- <http://www.teachersfirst.com/twister/index.cfm>  
*Brain Twisters*. Topic: gifted  
TeachersFirst weekly ten-question quiz. Choose elementary or middle school version. Online or printable. Answers are given for the previous week. grades 2-8
- <http://www.closingthegap.com/>  
*Closing the Gap*. Topic: assistive technology  
The definitive source of information for teachers and parents about technology in special education and rehabilitation covering all aspects of assistive technology.
- <http://www.cec.sped.org/>  
*Council for Exceptional Children*. Topic: various special needs  
Covers a variety of special needs including gifted. Includes discussion forums, articles from Teaching Exceptional Children, and information related to the organization. Currently featuring the proposed regulations on modified assessments for NCLB. Searchable. No section for students.
- <http://www.eslcafe.com/students/>  
*Dave's ESL Cafe*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
The many forums are the main feature of this virtual meeting place for ESL/EFL students and teachers. The student page also has online resources for reference. "Stuff for Teachers" has job opportunities as well as numerous discussion forums. Go to the bottom of the left-side menu for links. Searchable. Maintained daily. grades 5 and up
- <http://www.dotolearn.com/>  
*Do2Learn*. Topic: learning disability  
Information on products for purchase, but a lot of free materials including picture cards, games, songs, and teaching tips. Interesting games about emotions and safety as well as the more common color and number identification. Student can do games independently after initial instruction. Ability level k-3.
- <http://www.englishclub.com/>  
*English Club*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Professional and classroom resources for teachers of English as a Second Language. Although there is a section for older students learning English, a command of the language is needed to navigate the site. Free membership provides access to more areas including forum and chat. Help Desk.

- <http://www.lclark.edu/~krauss/toppicks/toppicks.html>  
*ESL Independent Study Lab*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Links to over 250 annotated sites with activities and resources for ESL/EFL students. The directory is organized by skill area and language level. Students are invited to submit reviews of any site, and these are posted in the directory. grades k-12
- <http://www.eslgold.com>  
*ESLgold*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Free materials for both teaching and learning English. Resources are categorized into speaking, listening, reading, writing and grammar, vocabulary, business, pronunciation, testing, and idioms. Within categories, activities are organized according to ability level. Quick Links connect the user to many additional online resources. Multiple languages. Searchable. grades 4 and up
- <http://www.everythingsl.net/>  
*EverythingESL*. Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Resources primarily for elementary teachers: teaching tips, lesson plans and units, downloadable activities, recommendations for materials. An active discussion session where you can post a question or comment on someone else's post. Searchable. grades 1-6
- <http://www.familyvillage.wisc.edu/index.html>  
*Family Village*. Topic: various special needs  
Information about cognitive and other disabilities. "School" gives online resources for adults with a child who has disabilities. "Post Office" has forums. Other sections with links to information, resources, and opportunities for communication. grades 1-12



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- <http://www.gifteddevelopment.com/>  
*Gifted Development Center*. Topic: gifted  
Linda Silverman provides information on understanding and helping gifted individuals, particularly the Visual-Spatial Learner. Searchable. grades k-8
- <http://www.hoagiesgifted.org/>  
*Hoagies' Gifted Education Page*. Topic: gifted  
Sections for parents, educators, and kids & teens. Kids section includes reading lists, categorized listing of links, info about contests, magazines, movies, software, toys. Well maintained. grades 1-8, adult

- <http://www.ualberta.ca/~jpdasddc/inclusion/index.html>  
*Inclusive Education Resources.* Topic: various special needs Information, resources, listserv for teachers in an inclusion setting with special needs students in the regular classroom. Created by the J. P. Das Developmental Disabilities Centre with references to United States and Canadian sources. grades k-12
- <http://www.pdictionary.com/>  
*Internet Picture Dictionary.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner) Picture dictionary in five languages designed for beginning learners of a second language: English, Spanish, French, German, Italian. Search for a word you enter or browse by either letter or category. Also interactive activities. No audio. grades 1-8
- <http://www.irsc.org/>  
*Internet Resources for Special Children.* Topic: various special needs Directory of sites by categories. Searchable. Covers all types of special needs and all ages. Students would not use this listing directly, but might use one of the sites accessed by the teacher. grades k-12
- <http://iteslj.org/>  
*Internet TESL Journal.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner) Monthly online journal for teachers of English as a Second Language. Includes articles, lesson plans, and teaching techniques for teachers of students of any age and ability. Archived since November 1995.
- <http://bogglesworldesl.com/>  
*Lanterfish.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner) For TEFL and ESL teachers who teach elementary and middle school English, ESL and EFL. Printable activities and flashcards to teach alphabet, vocabulary, and structure of the English language. Role-play activities for real world application of lessons. Links. Searchable. Formerly listed as Boggle's World. grades k-8
- <http://www.ldonline.org/>  
*LD Online.* Topic: learning disability Learning Disabilities Information & Resources. Click "Kids" in the left-side menu to access items for students grades 3+. Submit art or writing and see what others have sent. Booklist. Click "Educators" in the menu to access teaching strategies, reports on issues, articles. Several online discussion forums.
- <http://www.ldresources.com/>  
*LD Resources.* Topic: learning disability Collection of pages and links for product information, articles, and other resources. No student section.
- <http://www.rong-chang.com/lsnplan.htm>  
*Lesson Plans and Class Activities.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner) Twenty-seven links to collections of lesson plans and resources for ESL. Covers K-12; levels are not differentiated in the brief annotations.
- <http://www.nagc.org/index.aspx?id=609&gbs>  
*NAGC State Affiliate Association Web Sites.* Topic: gifted State level gifted education organizations listed by state giving address and link to homepage if the organization has one. No section for students.
- <http://www.nclld.org/>  
*National Center for Learning Disabilities.* Topic: learning disability Learn more about disabilities by selecting preschool, k-8, 9&up, parents. Searchable. Current articles about responses to the 2008 Report from the National Mathematics Advisory Panel and ESEA/NCLB reauthorization. Link to new RTI Action Network site about implementing Response to Intervention from preschool to secondary. No section for students.

- <http://www.nichcy.org/>  
*National Dissemination Center for Children with Disabilities.* Topic various special needs  
NICHCY's FAQs, state resources, publications, information on IDEA (including training materials), research, and other topics. In English and Spanish. Searchable. Students (grade 4 and up) choose a category in the section entitled "Zigawhat" for a list of annotated links. Teachers k-12 choose from the set of Web resource pages in the "A-Z Topics" section.
- <http://www.emedicine.com/PED/topic180.htm>  
*Pervasive Developmental Disorder: Autism.* Topic: autism  
Lengthy discussion of autism includes background description, clinical aspects, and treatment (11 sections). No section for student use. Teachers k-12
- <http://www.esl-lab.com/>  
*Randall's ESL Cyber Listening Lab.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Free online listening lab is a collection of leveled interactive listening activities with quizzes designed to help learners improve their English listening comprehension skills. Requires a player plug-in such as the free Basic RealPlayer. grades 5 and up
- <http://www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister/finrule/2006-3/081406a.pdf>  
*Regulations: Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004.* Topic: various special needs  
United States Department of Education has released final regulations for the IDEA reauthorization of 2004. Regulations as printed in the Federal Register on August 14, 2006 can be reviewed in their entirety as a pdf file.
- <http://www.sla.purdue.edu/JapanProj/FLClipart/>  
*Royalty-Free Clip Art Collection for Foreign/Second Language Instruction.* Topic: ESL/ELL (English Language Learner)  
Line drawings to illustrate English verbs, adjectives, nouns and pronouns. Clipart bitmap images can be copied and used in instruction. grades 1-8
- <http://www.geocities.com/speechlanguagelinks/>  
*Speech and Language Resource Links.* Topic: various special needs  
Directory with links to a variety of sites for information articles, organizations, and resources. grades preschool-8
- <http://www.superkids.com/aweb/tools/logic/>  
*SuperKids Games of Logic and Reasoning.* Topic: gifted  
Games that focus on spatial reasoning and strategy. Not content activities. grades 3 and up
- <http://www.cast.org/teachingeverystudent/ideas/tes/>  
*Teaching Every Student in the Digital Age.* Topic: various special needs  
Text of the 2002 ASCD book *Teaching Every Student in the Digital Age* by David Rose and Anne Meyer is made available by The Center for Applied Special Technology (CAST). The book explains the concept and application of Universal Design for Learning (URL), a framework for using technology to accommodate varying learning needs. grades 1 and up
- [http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/unwrapping\\_the\\_gifted/](http://blogs.edweek.org/teachers/unwrapping_the_gifted/)  
*Unwrapping the Gifted.* Topic: gifted  
This blog written by K-12 gifted education specialist Tamara Fisher has been generating comments. She intends to keep this blog through the school year, beginning with the first posting August 14, 2007. No section for students.
- <http://www.wheelchairnet.org/>

*WheelchairNet: a Virtual Community of People who Care about Wheelchairs.* Topic: physical disability

Site Map outlines the content for efficient navigation. Searchable by keyword also. For wheelchair users of all ages and their families.

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