

IN THIS ISSUE

- Elba and more
- Spotlight
- News
- SMART lesson activities for 9.5
- Training and events
- SMART Exemplary Educator profile
- Tips and tricks

EDCompass

History

January 2007

This month's issue of the newsletter focuses on the subject of history. We'll tell you about several SMART accredited software programs and some lesson activities developed in the latest version of Notebook™ software to help you make your history lessons come alive. We also have news about some of our products and this year's SMARTer Kids™ Foundation Connections program.

– EDCompass editors

Announcements



Enter to win an AirLiner™ wireless slate

We want to hear what you think about the EDCompass newsletter. Click on the link to complete a survey. Upon completion you will be entered for your chance to win. **Enter here.** If you cannot access the survey, please e-mail education@smarttech.com.



Elba and more

As I walked through Paris with my husband this week, we passed Napoleon's tomb. It is a grand and stately building, impressive from any perspective. This sparked a lively discussion that took us a few blocks toward our dinner destination and encompassed all the things we could remember from our childhood studies, including the island of Elba where Napoleon was

exiled. We both laughed as countless details seemed to flood back into our consciousness (we're a long way from school days).

Whether ancient or recent, history has a lot to teach all of us about living. Power, vision, greed, brutality, adventure, determination – they are all in the pages of the history books. Great moments of human strength and creativity are recorded. So, too, are the darkest days of human failings.

History plays out each day in our newspapers and on our televisions. We're living the history of the 21st century – events that people will some day write about and put into greater perspective from a position of hindsight.

It seems that everyone has to learn from scratch all the knowledge that forms character. Why is that, when many of the lessons we need to learn are written in biographies and autobiographies? The history books are filled with lessons that could benefit all of us – if we just read them.

The best history teachers have a talent for bringing history alive and making it meaningful to students. They help their students understand the larger story that played out in the scenes and acts of history. They ask questions that cause their students to stop and think about the relevance of the past to today's world. They challenge students to put the details of historical events into a context that has meaning for them. In short, they guide their students to an understanding of what has happened before them and increase their desire to expand their knowledge on their own.

As for Napoleon – my husband and I both decided that we would love to dive deeply into biographies of historical figures. There is so much to learn and so little time.

Nancy Knowlton is the CEO of SMART Technologies Inc. Her bio is available online at www.smarttech.com/Knowlton.

Spotlight

Lesson activities

Try these investigative lesson activities with your students.

Tutankhamen's Treasure

Find out about the treasures that were found in King Tutankhamen's tomb.

Slavery, Part 1

Learn some of the important events in the history of the slave trade between 1500 and 1800, and discuss what it means to be free.

Studying History, Part 1

Discuss the terms *cause*, *consequence*, *change* and *continuity* using examples.

Gallery

Don't forget to look in your Gallery for some relevant images to add interest to your history lessons.

In your Gallery tab, look under Essentials for Educators and then under the history category to access images, Flash interactivities and Notebook files. You can also type *history* in the search field.

SMART Accredited Software

Consider these SMART accredited software title for your next history lesson.

netTrekker

Thinkronize

Research your school projects without wading through dozens of irrelevant websites. Students can find the information they need on educator-approved sites that are organized by readability level and aligned to state standards.

Decisions, Decisions 5.0

Tom Snyder Productions

Make history come alive through role-playing simulations. Students learn and apply lessons from historical and social events using a five-step decision-making model.



Use these new and updated technology tools to help your students time travel.

Senteo™ interactive response system

With the click of a button, students can respond to teachers' queries quickly and confidentially. Senteo enables teachers to quiz, poll, assess and gauge students' understanding. Because Senteo is fully integrated with SMART's Notebook software, it offers a user-friendly format to teachers using the SMART Board interactive whiteboard.

SMART Board™ 600i interactive whiteboard system

The SMART Board interactive whiteboard has been engaging students' attention with its intuitive touch-sensitive screen for more than 15 years and now has new features to make its integration into the classroom more seamless. This new, all-in-one system combines a wall-mounted Unifi™ projector with a built-in sound system and a SMART Board interactive whiteboard. With the 600i, teachers can focus on teaching without being distracted by cables and shadows.

SynchronEyes™ software 7.0

SMART's classroom management software enables teachers to monitor student screens, control student computers and give and mark quizzes. With its new updates, SynchronEyes software 7.0 supports Windows® operating system's handheld devices and dual monitors, and allows teachers to import XML quiz bank files. To address security concerns, SynchronEyes software now encrypts all communication within networks and authenticates teachers to prevent outside access to classroom files.

Notebook interactive viewer

Notebook interactive viewer allows teachers to share their lessons and ideas with those who do not have access to SMART products. Notebook interactive viewer is a simplified, easy-to-use application and can be downloaded free from SMART's education website. It offers practitioners the interactive applications of regular Notebook software, making lessons a highly visual multimedia experience.

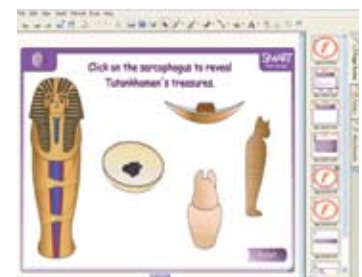
SMART lesson activities for 9.5

We recently released our latest collection of **interactive lesson activities**. Created by SMART's team of educators, these lesson activities use the creative power of Notebook software 9.5 to enhance lessons with Adobe® Flash® activities, multimedia files and descriptive graphics. Each lesson activity was created for use in a range of grades and provides subject-specific templates with an age-appropriate design and feel.

SMART lesson activities bring lessons to life and help students achieve learning objectives. Interactive information bars on each page are filled with helpful how-to material. Many of these new lesson activities include interactive Flash activities that promote understanding and review complex topics.

As with all of the lesson activities available on our education solutions website, these lesson activities are based on and meet state and provincial standards. The lessons can be edited to work with your unique classroom or teaching style.

Visit <http://www.education.smarttech.com/LA95> for more information.





Training and events

SMART Master's events

SMART Master's events are affordable, in-depth sessions held at scheduled times and locations across North America. They are designed to help educators learn how to use the SMART Board interactive whiteboard to improve their daily work. Each full-day session is led by a SMART trainer who works with SMART products daily. These sessions are available at the following locations and days in February 2007.

St. Louis, MO	February 6
New York, NY	February 6
Chicago, IL	February 13
Arlington, VA	February 13
Miami, FL	February 13
Orlando, FL	February 20
Jacksonville, FL	February 27

To register for any of these sessions, please visit www.smarttech.com/trainingcenter/masters/events.asp.

Subject-specific events

Advanced, subject-specific professional development events are designed for experienced users or those who have previously attended a full-day SMART Master's session. These half-day sessions are designed for teachers who want to maximize the use of the SMART Board interactive whiteboard in their particular subject. Participants will learn how to use and enhance existing resources to create and present dynamic lessons related to the featured subject. The following subject-specific events are available in February 2007.

Science	St. Louis, MO	February 7	1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Science	Miami, FL	February 14	8:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon
Math	Miami, FL	February 14	1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Language arts	Chicago, IL	February 14	8:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon
Math	Chicago, IL	February 14	1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Language arts	Orlando, FL	February 21	8:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon
Math	Orlando, FL	February 21	1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Social studies	Jacksonville, FL	February 2	8:00 a.m.– 12:00 noon
Math	Jacksonville, FL	February 28	1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

To register for any of these sessions, please visit www.smarttech.com/trainingcenter/masters/events.asp.



Tips and tricks

Using sound

Notebook software makes it easy

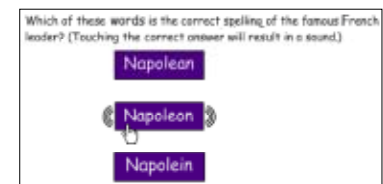
to engage auditory learners by using sound within a lesson activity.

It is also a good way to give students insight into a speaker's personality – listening to a historical speech, rather than reading it, can be more engaging for students.

Search the Notebook software Gallery to help you find the sounds you need. Try keywords like *sound* or *phonics* to learn what content is already available. Attach an MP3 sound from your computer to an object by pressing the object drop-down menu and selecting Sound.

Sound as a reinforcement tool

One way to use sound is to give immediate feedback to students when they touch specific objects in Notebook software. Try recording applause to use for correct answers or the words *try again* for incorrect answers.



Comments?

If you have any questions or comments about this or any other issue of the *EDCompass* newsletter, please e-mail education@smarttech.com.

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SMART Exemplary Educator profile



Heather Waters is a SMART Exemplary Educator from Eastchester, New York. With her second masters degree under her belt, this time in instructional technology from the New York Institute of Technology, she became a certified social science teacher. Heather has taught in California and New York and currently teaches tenth grade Global Regents and eleventh grade history and government at Eastchester High School.

Heather has known about the SMART Board interactive whiteboard for years and was instrumental in introducing them to her school in California. When she arrived at Eastchester, she was happy to see one in her classroom.

"I'm lucky enough to be in a district that is well on its way to reaching its goal of having a SMART Board interactive whiteboard in every classroom."

She's been able to incorporate many of the lessons that she created prior to having this technology into the lessons she teaches with her SMART Board interactive whiteboard.

"I can use it as a review tool with interactive sites, or by having the kids fill in graphic organizers on the SMART Board interactive whiteboard. I have also used it as a way of introducing topic notes, diagrams, online field trips and imbedded video clips."

She shares her knowledge by creating materials that are passed onto colleagues with descriptions and instructions on how to use them and why they work. She is also part of a large SMART Board interactive whiteboard users network of educators across the United States and Australia.

"I love my SMART Board interactive whiteboard, and I think I have only begun to scratch the surface of its capability in education."