The Internet as a Tool for Communication

WebQuest Description: This WebQuest will focus on the integration of the Internet in education and how it is being utilized as a tool in various learning environments. We will also look within the Internet at various digital tools, such as e-mail, live chat, etc., and how they are being utilized in educational settings.

Grade Level: K-2
Curriculum: Technology
Keywords: Internet, tool, education, digital, integration, communication, learning

WebQuest URL: http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=24128

Introduction
The goal of this WebQuest is to explore various methods of how the Internet is being integrated into education as a learning tool. The tasks provided for you to complete this week will further educate you as to how the Internet is being used in education settings. These tasks will also encourage discussion about the integration of the Internet as a tool in education.

Tasks
By the end of this WebQuest, students should have completed the following tasks:

- Watch a video and engage in a group discussion about how the Internet is changing today's learning environments.
- Read an article and engage in a group discussion about the integration of the Internet and various digital communication tools in the classroom by educators.
- Engage in a group discussion about future trends of the integration of the Internet and various digital communication tools in the classroom by educators.

ASSIGNMENTS FOR THIS WEEK SHOULD BE E-MAILED VIA MYCOURSES ACCORDINGLY:

Discussion Group 1: DIANE SAGER
Discussion Group 2: DERRICK KENNEDY

Monday and Tuesday
Follow the link below and watch the video, which is about how the Internet is changing learning environments today. Assignment: After watching the video, post to your designated discussion board and write about:

- What did you learn from this video?
- How has the Internet impacted your educational experience?

Please submit your response and also respond two of your classmates' posts by MIDNIGHT ON TUESDAY FEB. 17

Video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2-PT3Evjw5g&feature=related

Wednesday
Follow the link to the article, which is about how teachers are integrating instant messaging into their classroom curriculum. *This article only discusses instant messaging in the classroom. However, there are a variety of digital channels of communication being utilized in the classroom such as e-mail, live chat, video conferencing, etc.* Assignment: After reading, please post a response to your designated discussion board about what your thoughts are regarding this article. Also, write your thoughts about the use of other digital communication tools being used for educational purposes (examples listed below)?

- Webcasting/ Videoconferencing
- Instant Messaging
- E-mail
- Live Chat

Please submit your response and also respond two of your classmates' posts by MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY FEB. 18

Article: http://www.edweek.org/dd/articles/2007/09/12/02im.h01.html

Thursday
As we explored yesterday, numerous Web sites are emerging in educational settings such as Facebook and YouTube. However, digital communication tools, such as blogs, wikis and podcasts, are also taking a front seat in classrooms. Today, we will focus on the future trends of these sites and communication tools. Assignment: Post a response to your designated discussion board about whether you believe educators will continue to utilize the Internet and various digital communication tools in the future (examples listed below). What other future trends do you believe we will see with regard to the Internet and digital communication tools in the classroom? When posting to the discussion board, consider these points:

- How will Web sites, such as Facebook, and digital tools, such as blogging, change the future of education?
- Will they enhance students' overall learning experience or hinder it? Why?
- Here are some Web sites and digital communication tools to consider:
  - Facebook
  - YouTube
  - Wikipedia
  - Blogging
  - Podcasting
  - Webcasting

Post a response to your designated discussion board and discuss these points with your peers.

Please submit your response and also respond two of your classmates' posts by MIDNIGHT ON WEDNESDAY FEB. 19

Friday
Complete the quiz for chapter 5 and submit it via Mycourses e-mail to your designated moderator by MIDNIGHT TONIGHT (FEB. 20). The quiz has been sent to your Mycourses e-mail. We would like to thank you for your participation with our WebQuest and discussions this week!
Methods of teaching and learning in education are changing and evolving at a rapid pace. Popular technologies, such as the Internet, are being integrated into learning environments as a means of enhancing students' learning experiences. It is important to understand how the Internet, and other digital technologies on the Internet, are being used by educators and students.