

COMPUTER PARTS - PUTTING THE PUZZLE TOGETHER!!!

WebQuest Description: Students will create their own dictionary-type booklet explaining the parts of the computer. They will investigate the different parts of a computer and report on the part's function, importance, and price. Each member of the team will be assigned a computer part. They will give their booklet a title page. They will also create a puzzle to share with the class that will consist of computer parts.

Grade Level: 3-5

Curriculum: Technology

Keywords: computers, hardware, software

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WebQuest URL: <http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=981>

Introduction

You and a team of your computer room classmates are hired as techno investigators by Microsoft Corporation. You will be awarded a 5 day all-paid vacation in Disneyworld if you can complete the assignment. Microsoft is trying to convince many students, who think the parts of a computer are as complicated to understand as a 1000 piece puzzle is to put together, that they are missing some important parts of the computer puzzle. But actually you and your team know that the computer is a simple electronic machine that follows instructions and commands by the user. Your job is to investigate parts of the computer and create a booklet of terms, information and pictures of computer parts. You will also create a puzzle of computer pieces after you and your team members get together to explain your research data finding about essential parts of the computer. Remember you are trying to create an interesting way for students to understand computer parts while also allowing them to have fun putting a puzzle together.

Tasks

Each member of your team will be assigned a computer part. You will use any links provided as well as other resources to become an expert on your computer part. You and your team will work together to create a Computer Booklet which will match computer components to their pictures and identify and describe each part of the computer. You will also draw your computer part as a computer puzzle piece and put the pieces together when completed. Then, all the team members will present their findings to the class.

Process

The computer parts chosen for this assignment were chosen because they each define the most important elements of the Computer. The parts are: Monitor, Keyboard, Mouse, Printer, Tower, Software

1. To begin your quest, each group will print out one copy of the Computer Picture Page under Attachments below and fill in the blanks next to each part of the computer. This paper will be a part of your booklet.
2. Each student in the group will then take a computer part to investigate and report on. Each member will use the websites provided to explore their own part of the computer.
3. Read through the websites designated. Remember to include the URL of the page you take information from so you can return to it and use it in your citation.
4. In Microsoft Word type up your booklet page and be sure to include a picture of your part. Answer the following questions: Describe your computer part's appearance. How much does the computer part you are researching cost? (ex: From \$20.00 to \$1,000.00) Does your computer part come with any options? (ex: flat panel; color; wireless functions; size) What function does your part serve as part of the computer? Why is your part such an important computer part?
5. Play the Computer Parts Game - Click on the link below and play the game to see if you can match the computer parts. Be sure to read the directions on how to play the game first.
6. When each member is finished the group will put all of your work together, create a title page, add the computer picture page and put your finished product in the folders provided by your teacher. Your teacher will then make a copy of your booklet for each student in your group.
6. Finally, students will either print out another picture of their part or draw a picture of their part (vote as a group which you want to do). The group will also decide how they will cut each computer part to look like a puzzle piece and put the puzzle together.
7. Each group will also share their booklet and puzzle with the entire class and report on their experience.

WEBSITES For your specific computer part visit the following sites:

- http://computer.howstuffworks.com/monitor1.htm
- monitor http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_tower
- tower <http://www.howstuffworks.com/keyboard.htm>
- keyboard <http://computer.howstuffworks.com/laser-printer.htm>
- printer <http://www.howstuffworks.com/mouse.htm>
- mouse <http://www.smartkidssoftware.com/7&up1.htm>
- software

For all computer parts visit the following sites:

- http://www.webopedia.com/
- In the search box - type the name of your computer part and press Go
- <http://library.thinkquest.org/C0115420/Cyber-club%20800x600/Computer%20Parts/Hardware/IO.htm>
- scroll down and click on the computer part you are researching
- <http://shopper.cnet.com/http://www.cdw.com/Play the Computer Parts Game>
- <http://www.allenschool.org/computerpartsgame.htm>

