

Take an e-Learning Break



e-Learning Information and Ideas ... so many tools, so little time

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Great Technology Tips and Instructions

Wednesday, March 24, 2010

Recently, I came across a website with lots of good step by step instructions for a variety of software programs – which saved me a lot of time. I found the website searching for help to correct a problem in Microsoft Outlook – I synced Outlook with my phone (the wrong way) resulting in the addition of a duplicated list of contacts. Removing this large list was going to be quite cumbersome if I took the time to delete each one.

I found step-by-step instructions that solved my problem on the Tech-Recipes website. Millions of visitors have received help from the over two thousand step-by-step tutorials found on the site. Most of these were authored by the large community of users that have registered through the site so test the instructions before passing them along.

Check it out: <http://www.tech-recipes.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:15AM (-05:00)

Example of IRS E-learning Storyboard

Monday, March 22, 2010

David Anderson's blog has an interesting article about elearning examples - in particular a link to an IRS e-learning storyboard. Check out the article as well as David's other blog entries. David works at Articulate.

Check it out: <http://multimedialearning.com/example-of-irs-e-learning-storyboard/>

The eff.org article on law enforcement's use of social media and investigative technique is also interesting.

<http://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2010/03/eff-posts-documents-detailing-law-enforcement>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:12AM (-05:00)

Visualizing the Upswing

Friday, March 19, 2010

America recently went on a major shopping spree. Last December we had, as a nation, quite a bit of cash lying around. The following month we found a way to spend it. In fact, we spent some \$12 billion more in January than we had saved up.

Check out the series of visual images - may spur some ideas for presentations or training communications.

Check it out: <http://www.fastcompany.com/pics/visualizing-upswing?slide=0>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:06AM (-05:00)

iSpring 5.0 Product Family

Wednesday, March 03, 2010

iSpring 5.0 provides full support of Microsoft Office 2010, including new PowerPoint 2010 features, like new transition effects and control of inserted video playback. The updated iSpring products are Windows 7 and both Office 2010 32-bit and 64-bit compatible.

iSpring products provide PowerPoint to Flash conversion - along with e-Learning components like quizzes and LMS compliance. They also support embedded audio, video and Flash. You can customize the player and include YouTube videos.

Check it out: <http://blog.ispringsolutions.com/?p=530>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:03PM (-06:00)

Free Adobe Seminar: The Impact and Trends of Rapid eLearning in Co...

Tuesday, March 02, 2010

Tuesday, March 9, at 10:30am (PST)

Have you heard the term "rapid eLearning" but weren't too sure what it meant? Here's your chance to find out how this learning content creation approach can save your company's money and allow you to produce more content. Join featured guest Claire Schooley, senior analyst at Forrester Research, as she demystifies rapid eLearning and discusses its use in corporate learning.

Schooley will talk about:

- The meaning of rapid eLearning in a learning and development context
- The Adobe® commissioned rapid eLearning study data results from 103 users in North America
- The current use, impact, and long-term benefits of rapid eLearning tools for corporations
- The future state of corporate content development with rapid eLearning

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/Kjl7R> (Register)

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 01:15PM (-06:00)

Great Blog Article: 10 Things To Know If You Don't Speak English

Monday, March 01, 2010

This blog article has some great tips on using Articulate products with a language other than English. The blog has lots of great tips and tricks - have found many of them to be very helpful!

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/lxISG>

Also check out: How to remove the Finish button - <http://tiny.cc/J0DG2>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:23PM (-06:00)

A Map of Winter Olympic Medals

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Interactive timeline of Winter Olympic medals.

Check it out: <http://2010games.nytimes.com/medals/map.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:45AM (-06:00)

Interactive example: The moves they don't want you to see

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

The Olympic coverage has given us some interesting interactive examples.

"While they often seem flawless to most viewers, the top competitors in the women's figure skating event have all received deductions for underrotating their jumps and most have been penalized at some point for entering a lutz jump on the wrong edge. These errors are often difficult to discern, even to the most avid fans, so the technical panel of judges can use video replay to determine if these violations have occurred. Below are explanations of the mistakes and a look at how often the top skaters in the Olympic women's figure skating event have been affected."

check it out: <http://tiny.cc/m895M>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:44PM (-06:00)

Interactive Example: World's fastest track awaits sliders at Whistler

Friday, February 12, 2010

An in-depth look at the Whistler Sliding Center, where bobsled, luge and skeleton athletes are expected to set speed records.

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/1dHtH>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:15AM (-06:00)

PhotoShop 20th Anniversary Webcast

Thursday, February 11, 2010

Registration is closed but there will be a webcast of the event.

"For 20 years, the world has used industry-leading Adobe Photoshop software to transform creative inspiration into nearly everything we see, from magazine covers to medical devices to city skylines. That's why, every day, Adobe is inspired to create the innovative technologies that build more speed, intelligence, and magic into each new Photoshop product-so you can continue to turn your creative vision into reality.

Adobe is kicking off a year-long celebration of Photoshop's 20th anniversary starting with an Adobe and National Association of Photoshop Professionals star-studded celebration, live at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre in San Francisco, February 18th, 7:30pm.

The evening is hosted by NAPP Founder Scott Kelby and Adobe Senior Vice President and General Manager of the Creative Solutions Business Unit, Johnny Loiacono, with the NAPP Photoshop Guys--Dave Cross and Matt Kloskowski, plus Adobe Photoshop star Russell Brown, and other important members of the Adobe team.

Local Adobe User Groups and ACPs are invited to join as they take the stage for this history-making, fun-filled night packed with amazing Photoshop tricks, incredible tips, and a celebration of the program that changed and shaped popular culture forever. Plus, you will get an exclusive sneak peek at the future of Photoshop."

Check it out: <http://www.photoshoper.com/photoshop20th>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:09PM (-06:00)

Go to M.I.T. for free - Academic Earth

Tuesday, February 09, 2010

I watched "Understanding Computers and the Internet" - downloaded the video lectures, transcript, slides and jargon doc to my computer. Very cool.

"On the new site Academic Earth you can watch lectures on physics from M.I.T., or catch a Yale history course on the origins of World War I, or see a U.C. Berkeley professor cradle a brain while she talks about human anatomy." American Public Media

"It's been years since I was in school, and I've got few fond memories of going to class. But Academic Earth is unexpectedly irresistible. It's like Hulu, but for nerds." Slate

Check it out: <http://academicearth.org/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:01AM (-06:00)

HP Idealab

Monday, February 08, 2010

HP IdeaLab offers a sneak preview at some of the Web services and other emerging technologies from HP researchers and engineers around the world. You'll find demos, downloads, descriptions and videos with information and instructions on each of the featured technologies.

Check it out: <http://www.hp.com/idealab/us/en/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:00PM (-06:00)

Google Labs: Browser Size

Wednesday, February 03, 2010

What it does: Overlays a template onto any Web site, showing what percentage of the online population will be able to view what area.

Why it's cool: Because it works on visible browser area, not screen resolution, it gives developers and designers an accurate, instant understanding of which key elements are getting lost.

Check it out: <http://browsersize.googlelabs.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:38AM (-06:00)

Adobe Flash Pro CS5 includes Packager for iPhone

Tuesday, February 02, 2010

Adobe® Flash® Professional CS5 will include a Packager for iPhone that will let you publish ActionScript 3 projects to run as native applications for iPhone. These applications can be delivered to iPhone users through the Apple App Store.

Check it out: http://labs.adobe.com/technologies/flashcs5/appsfor_iphone/

Here's a blog dedicated to Adobe CS5 sneaks and peeks - <http://cs5.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 01:34PM (-06:00)

Apple's iPad: What does it offer for e-Learning?

Monday, February 01, 2010

Plus: Potential new platform for mobile learning, for social networking, and for content creation in Weblogs and wikis.

Minus: The absence of a camera and the continued lack of support for Flash.

Check it out: <http://www.learningsolutionsmag.com/articles/370/>

M a r k C u b a n ' s p e r s p e c t i v e :
http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/35161216/ns/technology_and_science-tech_and_gadgets/
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:13AM (-06:00)

Build custom courses ... on the fly

Friday, January 29, 2010

Attended "Using Cloudbooks and the Semantic Web to Power Learning" at ASTD TechKnowledge yesterday. The speaker showed how the semantic web technology is being implemented at the Library of Congress for professional development activities. Lots of food for thought ... The Library of Congress Teaching with Primary Sources

program provides primary source-based staff development to teachers across the country.

Check it out: <http://www.loc.gov/teachers/>. Click the link on the right side "Build and Deliver". Pick a couple of the learning objects. In the box on the right side, you'll see an estimate of how long the course would take to deliver with your selected learning objects. Click Continue. Pick your choice of deliver – either PDF or HTML. If you choose HTML, you'll get a course with SCORM files included. Pretty cool. While on the LOC site, check out some of the other resources.

Also see my blog entry on the semantic web - <http://cre8iveii.blogspot.com/2009/02/what-is-semantic-web.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:45AM (-06:00)

Power to the People - Bloomfire

Thursday, January 28, 2010

I visited the Bloomfire booth at the ASTD Technology conference - and can't wait to try out their product. Bloomfire is a collaborative learning portal for internal company use. It's not launched yet - but you can get a sneak preview by sending the team a request.

Unlike an LMS where you post structured courses, Bloomfire allows SMEs to post a document, webcast, video etc. to share with others. You can contact the author, ask questions and/or start a discussion thread. There are good back-end metrics to track course activity and performance. Thinking this might be a good way to get a pulse of the popularity of course topics and learning needs.

Check it out: <http://www.bloomfire.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:22AM (-06:00)

A discussion of the benefits and pitfalls of screen recording as an...

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Interesting free seminar coming up from Adobe:

A discussion of the benefits and pitfalls of screen recording as an instructional tool

12.30 - 13.30 EST, February 10, 2010

<http://bit.ly/6iFrRZ> - to register

We'll investigate the relative theories ranging from the classic Clark/Meyers psychology based recommendations, to the emerging trends toward experiential learning and ask important questions about whether audiences are actually changing?

What Do You Need to Participate?

Online live seminars are scheduled events simulcast over the web via Adobe Acrobat

Connect Pro. You'll need a computer with a browser, Adobe Flash player and Internet connection. Voice-Over IP will broadcast over your computer if you have audio. Alternatively, audio is available via telephone. Access details will be provided once you register.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:42AM (-06:00)

Make older programs run in Windows Vista or Windows 7

Monday, January 25, 2010

After struggling for a couple of days trying to get an old copy of Macromedia Dreamweaver Extension Manager to install an old version of CourseBuilder on a Windows 7 machine, I came across this article in the Microsoft help system.

“Most programs written for Windows Vista also work in this version of Windows, but some older programs might run poorly or not at all. If a program written for an earlier version of Windows doesn't run correctly, you can try changing the compatibility settings for the program, either manually or by using the Program Compatibility troubleshooter.”

Check it out: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/Make-older-programs-run-in-this-version-of-Windows>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-06:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Cool iPhone/iTouch applications

Friday, January 22, 2010

Search for these applications in iTunes:

Louvre Museum: From the most important museum in Paris. According to Lifehacker, this “amazingly slick free app provides a virtual tour of its galleries and lets users check out the works of everyone from DaVinci to Michelangelo. The app gets you up close and personal with paintings, drawings, prints, sculptures, and even the French Crown Jewels.”

TED: TEDTalks need no introduction. They're perhaps the most popular video lectures on the web, featuring talks by “the world's leading thinkers and doers.” Now you can access these talks on your mobile phone too.

Brain Tuner — presents you with 20 to 100 math problems and asks you whether the solutions provided are right or wrong. It times you and presents a score based on accuracy

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:25AM (-06:00)

MedlinePlus Interactive Health Tutorials

Thursday, January 21, 2010

MedlinePlus will direct you to information to help answer health questions. MedlinePlus has extensive information about drugs, an illustrated medical encyclopedia, interactive patient tutorials, and latest health news.

Using animated graphics, each tutorial explains a procedure or condition in easy-to-read language. You can also listen to the tutorial. Formats are interactive tutorial, self-running tutorial and text summary (PDF).

Check out out: <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/tutorial.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:09AM (-06:00)

Beta Testing an Online Course

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

From Learning Solutions Magazine: Beta Testing is a key step in creating insanely great e-Learning applications. Often overlooked or omitted out of concern for budget and schedule, it is actually simple and cheap to do, and when planned with care, it takes little time to execute. Done before development is 100% complete, it ensures faultless releases. Here's a step-by-step guide from an experienced developer.

Check it out: <http://www.learningsolutionsmag.com/articles/299/beta-testing-an-online-course>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:07AM (-06:00)

ASTD TechKnowledge® 2010 - Going Green

Monday, January 18, 2010

I am going to ASTD TechKnowledge® 2010 in Las Vegas next week. This year, ASTD is "going green" with paperless session materials (handouts) for concurrent education sessions. Options were PDF, Kindle, iPhone and other mobile devices. I used the Kindle option - mobi file loaded easily. Very cool.

If you can't make the conference, ASTD is offering a "virtual" version at a reasonable cost.

Check it out: <http://www.tk2010.astd.org/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:07PM (-06:00)

Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation Scholarship Pr...

Monday, January 11, 2010

The Science, Mathematics And Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship for Service Program is an opportunity for students pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines to receive a full scholarship and be gainfully employed upon degree completion. "The program is excellent because it pays for everything," said JoAnn Wright "It's a great opportunity for students, and a motivator for educating the scientists, technicians and engineers our Army needs."

The DoD pays all expenses, including internships, until the student graduates and starts work with the target organization.

Students pursuing a degree in science, technology, engineering or mathematics may be eligible for the program. Besides the free tuition and other educational benefits, cash awards are anywhere from \$25,000 to \$41,000 a year depending on an applicants' situation. "There is even a health insurance allowance," Wright said.

Check it out: <http://smart.asee.org/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:42AM (-06:00)

Flexible screen technology

Saturday, January 09, 2010

The Army is looking into flexible screens to be used in mission planning and rehearsal, land navigation and to provide the Warfighter with the most up-to-date information before departing for a mission.

"Our goal is to move this flexible display technology forward with cutting-edge research, and hopefully to see this made available for use in Soldier equipment," said U.S. Army Research, Development and Engineering Command spokesman Robert DiMichele.

"The best application would allow Soldiers to connect to a computer database and download information necessary to complete the mission," DiMichele said. "Then the Soldier would disconnect, and retain the information on the device, fold or roll it up and pack it away. These screens could also be worn on the forearm of a military uniform for easy access while in the midst of battle."

Check it out: <http://flexdisplay.asu.edu/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:15AM (-06:00)

What motivates us - how we can use that knowledge to work smarter a...

Wednesday, January 06, 2010

The book focuses on what motivates workers - including the three elements of true motivation: autonomy, mastery, and purpose.

Check it out: <http://www.danpink.com/drive>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:12AM (-06:00)

iTouch Learning Applications

Tuesday, January 05, 2010

Got an iTouch over the holidays to check out Learning applications - and what it takes to develop them for the iTouch/iPhone platform. Jane Hart published a list of learning apps for iPhone and iPod Touch. I am checking them out - they are listed below. Will let you know which ones I like - and whether or not I think the iTouch will be a viable platform for Learning development.

Check it out: <http://c4lpt.co.uk/iTouchLearning/topapps.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:53AM (-06:00)

Training: Fitness Trends

Monday, January 04, 2010

One of my New Year's resolutions is to stay on task with the New Year's resolutions I have set! Training Peaks has free interactive web based training and nutrition log to help individuals achieve their goals. The personal edition is free. Track progress by recording exercise on the computer, iPhone, Blackberry or other smart phone. And if you have a compatible GPS, HR or power device, upload your file.

Check it out: <http://home.trainingpeaks.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:38AM (-06:00)

Embracing technology

Monday, December 21, 2009

Interesting article that talks about taking good ideas from the academic world into business. I especially liked this quote – “When technology is designed to promote adaptation, or is developed and consumed in ways that can support changes to configuration and flexible levels of personalization the opportunity for end users and employees to 'discover' new and better uses is significantly enhanced”.

Check it out: <http://steveboese.squarespace.com/journal/2009/12/18/welcome-to-the-company-here-is-your-iphone.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:34PM (-06:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Online Course Helps Students Master the Rul...

Friday, December 04, 2009

The most common distractions cited by DriversEd.com students are talking, yelling, arguing, and goofing off. DriversEd.com teaches teens to become competent licensed drivers. The interactive online course allows teens to take their drivers ed at their own pace on their own schedule.

Check it out: <http://driversed.com/games/drivers-ed-game.aspx>

Traffic school courses - <http://driversed.com/courses/traffic-school/traffic-school-course-demo.aspx?navtr=topnav>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:16AM (-06:00)

Free: PowerPoint to Flash in One Click

Thursday, December 03, 2009

Free PowerPoint to Flash converter promptly creates web-friendly Flash (.SWF) movies from your PowerPoint content (.PPT, .PPS, .PPTX, .PPSX) keeping its visual parameters, animation effects and slide transitions, audio narrations, video and Flash objects after conversion.

iSpring Free works within PowerPoint, transforming it into a fast and easy Flash authoring tool. It is compatible with any PowerPoint version 2000/XP/2003/2007 installed on a Windows machine. To create Flash files viewable on any device from your PowerPoint presentations, just install iSpring Free, open your PowerPoint presentation, click Quick Publish and get Flash slideshows from your PPT presentations in just a few seconds. One interesting option is adding YouTube movies into your presentation. The Presenter version of the product includes SCORM/AICC and quizmaking components - costs \$399.

Check it out: http://www.ispringsolutions.com/products/ispring_free.html

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-06:00)

Envato Marketplaces

Wednesday, December 02, 2009

The Envato Marketplaces allow anyone to buy or sell digital goods like WordPress themes, stock audio, After Effects project files, Flash templates and much more. The marketplaces are home to a thriving community of over 240,000 users, authors and buyers and everyday hundreds of new files are added.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:48AM (-06:00)

Free e-Learning Additions: History

Sunday, November 29, 2009

Jeffery Goldman (MinuteBio) has added a new section to his free e-Learning category.

Check it out: <http://minutebio.com/blog/2009/11/28/free-e-learning-additions/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:14AM (-06:00)

Thanksgiving pictures

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

<http://www.flash-screen.com/free-wallpaper/thanksgiving-wallpaper.html>

<http://photobucket.com/images/thanksgiving/>

http://www.coolbuddy.com/wallpapers/holidays/Thanksgiving_home.htm

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:03AM (-06:00)

Twitter and Presentations

Wednesday, November 25, 2009



Presenting with Twitter can be challenging. Olivia Mitchell has written a fantastic free eBook "How to present with Twitter (and other backchannels)" to help your speakers avoid the fate. Download a free copy.

C h e c k i t o u t :
<http://www.speakingaboutpresenting.com/wp-content/uploads/Twitter.pdf>

Also, check it Olivia's blog for great presentation tips:
<http://www.speakingaboutpresenting.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:51AM (-06:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Copper Plating and Etching Altoids Tins

Friday, November 20, 2009

Looking for a unique holiday gift? How about Copper Plating and Etching Altoids Tins? Check out the Sreampunk site for other ideas. Steampunk is the intersection of technology and romance. It's a genre of fiction, an aesthetic, a musical style, and a burgeoning sub-culture which delights in making things that are a blend of the modern and anachronistic.

Check it out: <http://steampunkworkshop.com/altoid-etch.shtml>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:46AM (-06:00)

Microsoft Translator

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Check out the new Microsoft Translator - it raises the bar for translating three ways: on the Web, for Office 2007 & 2003, and a unique translation widget for your site. See the links below to get the particular tool you want.

Office Casual: How you can translate better with Microsoft Translator

Update any Office 2007 or Office 2003 product with Microsoft Translator, find instructions for the free download: <http://office.microsoft.com/en-us/help/HA103514221033.aspx#6>

Microsoft Translator widget: <http://www.microsofttranslator.com/Widget/?ref=MSTWidget>
To drop text for translation (or a URL) via Bing: <http://www.microsofttranslator.com/>.

Want to dive deeper? Read the Microsoft Translator blog: <http://blogs.msdn.com/translation/default.aspx>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Microsoft Showcase

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

The Microsoft Showcase website has lots of videos that you can view, email or embed in a webpage. There are over 800 videos including previews of Microsoft Office 2010.

For example, Health Tech Today with Dr. Bill Crouse is a monthly online series providing cutting-edge stories at the intersection of health and information technology.

The show features informative interviews with some of the world's top health leaders; compelling health-related personal stories; and the latest technology and IT innovations. <http://www.microsoft.com/video/en/us/details/4329633e-0333-49d7-852e-acdde14e42cc>

Check it out: <http://www.microsoft.com/video/en/us/default.aspx>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:31AM (-06:00)

Free lecture notes, exams, and videos from MIT. No registration req...

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW) is a web-based publication of virtually all MIT course content. OCW is open and available to the world and is a permanent MIT activity. For example, check out 12.003 Atmosphere, Ocean and Climate Dynamics. This undergraduate class is designed to introduce students to the physics that govern the circulation of the ocean and atmosphere. The focus of the course is on the processes that control the climate of the planet. The course includes interactive simulations and videos.

Check it out: <http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/web/home/home/index.htm>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:09AM (-06:00)

Largest Houston-Area Training Companies List

Saturday, November 14, 2009

For the third year in a row, Creative Interactive Ideas has made the Houston Business Journal's Largest Houston-Area Training Companies List!

Connect Learning is also on the list - way to go, Sally!

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:21AM (-06:00)

Girlstart

Tuesday, November 10, 2009

Girlstart.com provides online science, math, and engineering lessons directed at girls. It has helpful information and games as well.

Check it out: <http://www.girlstart.com/index.asp>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:37AM (-06:00)

Girls Go Tech website

Monday, November 09, 2009

Girls Go Tech provides information on how math, science and technology play an important role in the world around us. Includes technical career information and games that introduce math, science and technology concepts.

Check it out: <http://www.girlsgotech.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-06:00)

Wind Web Tutorial

Thursday, November 05, 2009

The American Wind Association has a good tutorial on wind energy - includes costs and statistics. You can download a PDF with all the information.

Check it out: <http://www.awea.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:43AM (-06:00)

Dr. H. Carbon

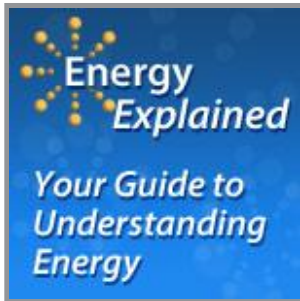
Wednesday, November 04, 2009

The **U.S. Department of Energy** offers lessons on fossil fuels, featuring cartoon personality Dr. H. Carbon and his interactive quizzes.

Check it out: www.fossil.energy.gov/education/energylessons/index.html
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:32AM (-06:00)

Official Energy Stats

Tuesday, November 03, 2009



Energy Explained, a web portal launched by the U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA), celebrates Energy Awareness Month with the most comprehensive energy education resource available from the U.S. Government.

The site explains where gasoline comes from, what determines the price of electricity, how much renewable energy the United States uses, and hundreds of other energy topics.

Energy Explained allows easy navigation between major energy topics:

- What Is Energy?
- Use of Energy
- Energy and the Environment

- Nonrenewable Energy Sources
- Renewable Energy Sources
- Secondary Energy Sources

Check it out: <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/energyexplained/?featureclicked=2&>

The **Energy Information Administration "Energy Kid's Page"** has useful terms, facts, and historical data on energy. It also has educational games and helpful links.

Check it out: <http://tonto.eia.doe.gov/kids/index.cfm>
 Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:19AM (-06:00)

Energize Your Future (Shell)

Monday, November 02, 2009

Shell has a great website (Energize your future) that includes an education section - check out the Adventures in Energy Flash animation that takes you through the energy cycle. The games and quizzes are great. Try the technical quiz to find out which technical career is best for you.

This website sent me on a path exploring Energy education websites - I will share these with you this week.

C h e c k i t o u t :
http://www.shell.us/home/content/usa/responsible_energy/education/energize_your_future/education_index.html

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-06:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Just in time for Halloween, photo editing m...

Friday, October 30, 2009

This online photo editing tool has a Touch Up suite! 15 cool effects like Sunless Tan, Airbrush, and Lip Color to guarantee that every picture shows your best side. Goodbye shine, goodbye wrinkles; hello Mascara, Blush, and Highlights! Advanced Tools (Dodging and Burning) keep shadows off faces and make spotty lighting consistent.

Check it out: <http://www.picnik.com/> Be sure to pay attending to the loading messages!

There's a whole section for Halloween in the premium edition (\$25/yr):
<http://blog.picnik.com/2009/10/a-craving-for-halloween/>

Plus with the premium edition- you also get unlimited access to all your favorite photo websites right from inside Picnik, including Photobucket, Flickr, Picasa Web Albums, and Webshots, which gives you the ability to transfer photos to and from those different sites, to and from Facebook!

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:15AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Show your best side

Friday, October 30, 2009

This free online photo editing tool has a Touch Up suite!

15 cool effects like Sunless Tan, Airbrush, and Lip Color to guarantee that every picture shows your best side. Goodbye shine, goodbye wrinkles; hello Mascara, Blush, and Highlights! Advanced Tools (Dodging and Burning) keep shadows off faces and make spotty lighting consistent.

Check it out: <http://www.picnik.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:09AM (-05:00)

Making an impact through stories

Thursday, October 29, 2009

What challenges do you face at work? How to capture the attention of distracted employees and have them accurately recall what you told them? Finding sure-fire ways to position the organization or quickly communicate complex ideas and new initiatives? Inspiring people to change? Stories can help you and your organization achieve these outcomes—and more. Learn what distinguishes stories from examples and case studies, what makes them more effective than other forms of communication, how to structure their content for maximum impact. Also discover how to effectively use story prompts, story triggers and story listening techniques to add power to your communications.

I didn't attend this session at the conference - a colleague did and raved about it.

Check it out:

<http://www.sayitwithastory.com> : Information about Stories Trainers Tell and free stories, articles, and a monthly e-zine.

<http://www.wakeupmycompany.com> : Information about Wake Me Up When the Data is Over: How Organizations Use Stories to Drive Results: Book reviews, articles, and examples of story use in organizations

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-05:00)

Social Media Adoption in the Enterprise

Wednesday, October 28, 2009

Attended session by Josh Scribner, Social Software Advocate at IBM, who champions the adoption of Web 2.0, new media, and emerging multimedia technologies within IBM. Josh architects IBM virtual worlds, teaches around the company and advises on technology adoption.

Check out Josh's presentation on Identity Management for IBMers on Facebook : <http://foxyurl.com/Ks>

The cool graphic on the title slide was created using "Wordle", a tool for generating

graphic word clouds - <http://www.wordle.net/>.
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:09AM (-05:00)

Using Yammer (Internal Twitter)

Tuesday, October 27, 2009

Yammer is an enterprise collaboration tool that lets you easily connect and share with the people in your company or organization (like an internal Twitter). The question is "What are you working on?". You must have a company email address and confirm membership to participate.

Download the Yammer Desktop Application to follow and participate in Yammer conversations on your Mac or Windows desktop. Yammer also has applications for iPhones and Blackberry.

Check it out: <https://www.yammer.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:35AM (-05:00)

From Tepid to Turbocharged

Monday, October 26, 2009

Jeff Herrington provided a checklist of writing tips to transform content into something compelling. Check out Jeff's site for more details: <http://www.jeffherrington.com/home.htm>.

Tips included:

- Subscribe to Word of the Day <http://www.reference.com/wordoftheday>
- Avoid overused words <http://www.buzzkiller.net/>
- Check out non-American websites (bbc.com, straitstimes.com) for inspiration
- Put people front and center in your writing

In addition, check out these vocabulary websites:

- <http://www.freerice.com/index.php>: For each answer you get right, they donate 10 grains of rice to the United Nations World Food Program.
- http://www.sheppardsoftware.com/web_games_vocab.htm : includes medical jargon and tech terms.
- <http://www.vocabulary.com/> a free resource used to enhance vocabulary mastery & written/verbal skills with Latin & Greek roots.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:52AM (-05:00)

IABC Align '09

Monday, October 26, 2009

Attended IABC Align '09 - definitely worth the time out of the office. This week, I'll share info from some of the sessions I attended.

Microsoft Windows 7 website

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

Gearing up for Windows 7? Check out the Microsoft Windows 7 website - including features, a comparison of editions and downloads.

Check it out: <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/windows-7/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:25AM (-05:00)

Phone Applications for the Business Traveler

Monday, October 19, 2009

When traveling on business, there are some cheap and easy applications to download on your smartphone to make life easier. For example, JustAddMoney helps you track travel expenses; TaxiMagic connects directly with taxi services; and Right Signature allows you to sign documents on your phone.

Check it out: <http://www.openforum.com/idea-hub/topics/money/article/phone-applications-for-the-business-traveler-shira-levine>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:23AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: How Tiny Camcorders are Changing Education

Friday, October 16, 2009

How effective are Flip cameras and other mini-camcorders as learning tools?

Check it out: <http://elearnmag.org/subpage.cfm?section=articles&article=98-1>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:29AM (-05:00)

Live Online Learning – a facilitators guide

Thursday, October 15, 2009

Download a free e-book - a facilitator's guide to live online learning.

Check it out: <http://onlignment.com/live-online-learning-a-facilitators-guide/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:56AM (-05:00)

The Importance of On-the-Job Education

Wednesday, October 14, 2009

Interesting article about online learning and budgets - for example, according to the ASTD's latest Learning Executives Confidence Index, released in July, nearly 60 percent of professionals within the learning industry expect an increased shift toward online learning and virtual delivery of lessons in the near future.

Check it out: <http://news.thomasnet.com/IMT/archives/2009/10/importance-of-on-the-job-education-training-and-school.html?t=recent>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:52AM (-05:00)

MAC Screen recording program

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Snapz Pro X allows you to record anything on your screen, saving it as a QuickTime® movie or screenshot. It captures full motion video of anything on your screen, complete with digital audio, and an optional microphone voiceover.

Check it out: <http://www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/snapzprox/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:02AM (-05:00)

Annotate, Edit and Comment PDF Files

Monday, October 12, 2009

PDF Annotator lets the user open any PDF file and add annotations, using the mouse or a Tablet PC pen, directly on the PDF file's pages. The annotated documents can then be saved directly back to PDF format. In this way, anyone can read or print the annotated PDF documents. Annotated documents can also be easily attached to emails.

You can download a 30-day trial version.

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/Sin2j>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:00AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: The Population Clock

Friday, October 09, 2009

The population clock provides real-time estimates of the number of U.S. residents.

Check it out: <http://www.census.gov/population/www/popclockus.html>

Historical estimates: <http://www.census.gov/statab/hist/HS-01.pdf>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:51AM (-05:00)

The Rise Of Gaming In Healthcare

Thursday, October 08, 2009

Interesting article about how gaming can be used in all aspects of health.

Check it out: <http://blog.ogilvypr.com/2009/09/the-rise-of-gaming-in-healthcare/>

Humana has a health game beta site: <http://www.humanagames.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:16AM (-05:00)

How to create a "My Map" in Google Maps

Wednesday, October 07, 2009

With the My Maps feature in Google Maps, you can mark locations, paths, and regions of interest on a personalized map, and share it with the world!

You can even add descriptive text, embed photos and videos, and view your map on Google Earth.

Check it out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TftFnot5uXw> or http://earth.google.com/outreach/tutorial_mymaps.html

Use this api to embed in Flash: <http://code.google.com/apis/maps/documentation/flash/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:26AM (-05:00)

Flash Player 10 New Features- Online Training Course

Tuesday, October 06, 2009

Flash Player 10 New Features is a new online training course including how to set up a system for development and testing from Adobe evangelist Lee Brimelow. He shows how to use the new Pixel Bender tools to create beautiful filters and export them to Flash. Lee covers the new sound and drawing APIs, which can be used to add real-time audio effects and UV texture mapping to any project.

The 9 minute *Overview of Flash Player 10* module is free.

Check it out: <http://www.lynda.com/home/DisplayCourse.aspx?lpk2=52767>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:03AM (-05:00)

SharePoint in Plain English

Monday, October 05, 2009

The focus of the video is to introduce Sharepoint and illustrate the old way (project info exists on multiple computers) vs. new way (project info lives in SharePoint).

Check it out: <http://www.commoncraft.com/custom-video-sharepoint-plain-english>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:59AM (-05:00)

Maps of the US

Sunday, October 04, 2009

The National Atlas has prepared reference and outline maps of the United States that you can print or use online. The reference maps display general reference features such as boundaries, cities, capitals, major highways, rivers and lakes, and terrain.

Check it out: <http://www.nationalatlas.gov/printable/reference.html#list>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:55AM (-05:00)

Flu 101

Sunday, October 04, 2009

Everything you need to know about flu prevention.

check it out: <http://www.flu.gov/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:21AM (-05:00)

Healthcare Napkins All

Sunday, October 04, 2009

Check out this SlideShare Presentation. I am highlighting the way that Dan explains a complex topic simply. Not meant to be a political statement from me. Healthcare Napkins All View more documents from Dan Roam.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:57AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - Nursery University

Friday, October 02, 2009

The film focuses on the insane world of New York preschools, and the lengths parents will go to in order to secure the right spot for their children.

Check it out: <http://www.nurseryuniversitythemovie.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:39AM (-05:00)

Google Toolbar with Sidewiki

Thursday, October 01, 2009

Everybody is talking about Google Toolbar with Sidewiki. Google Sidewiki is a new feature of the Google Toolbar that lets you leave comments about any website. When some else running Sidewiki views that web page, they'll see your comments.

Check it out: <http://www.google.com/sidewiki/intl/en/install.html>

Youtube video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CsjJOsx84MA>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:05AM (-05:00)

A World of Cables, Unknotted

Wednesday, September 30, 2009

Cables are important, but they should not be expensive. To help untangle some of the confusion, here is a simple, somewhat opinionated taxonomy of most of the cables that we deal with in our lives. It's completely up to date — until the tech industry adds another confusing format to the pile.

Tweet this! Using Twitter and Social Media to Promote your Project ...

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Wednesday, September 30, 2009 at 10a.m. PT / 1p.m. ET.

Visit www.studiodaily.com/store/webinars for complete details.

At this Webinar, you will learn:

- How to extend your film's narrative into social media
- How platforms like Facebook and Twitpic can become part of your plan
- How to sell your work without looking like a salesperson
- Using Twitter to increase traffic to your Web site
- Monitoring what's being said about your work online
- Who to follow and how to attract followers
- Strategies for becoming part of online conversations
- Reaching out to the media - including the critics
- Connecting with collaborators
- Using Twitter tools and resources The difference between self-promotion and conversation

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 03:03PM (-05:00)

Capture stuff. Find it using any computer or phone

Thursday, September 24, 2009

Evernote is ready to collect all of your ideas, experiences, thoughts, and memories into an always-accessible place.

- Take down your inspirations and ideas as they happen
- Capture interesting webpages you see, images and all
- Snap photos of everything from whiteboards to wine labels

Then, find it all any time from your computer, phone, or the web!

Check it out: <http://www.evernote.com/>

Using Evernote as a learning tool with Screenr videos: <http://screenr.com/xw8>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:53AM (-05:00)

Corporate Learning Trends 2009

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Three days of online dialog on Convergence in Corporate Learning. Free. Time: November 17, 2009 to November 19, 2009 Organized By: Jay Cross, Tony Karrer, George Siemens

Check it out: <http://elearningtech.blogspot.com/2009/09/learntrends-2009-free-online-conference.html>

<http://learntrends.ning.com/events/corporate-learning-trends-2009>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:16PM (-05:00)

Office Live Workspace - Address the classroom challenge of H1N1

Wednesday, September 23, 2009

Microsoft is encouraging teachers to use Office Live Workspace to hand out work and assignments to children with H1N1. Microsoft's Office Live Workspace is a free web-hosted service (currently in beta) available in many countries that lets users publish and share Word documents, Excel spreadsheets, and PowerPoint presentations.

Check it out: <http://www.microsoft.com/education/classworkspace/default.aspx>

B l o g (V P , M i c r o s o f t E d u c a t i o n) :

<http://blogs.msdn.com/microsoftuseducation/archive/2009/09/16/h1n1-virus-forces-academic-institutions-to-think-more-aggressively-about-online-learning.aspx>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:47AM (-05:00)

The Benefits of Adobe eLearning Suite for Adobe Captivate users

Tuesday, September 22, 2009

Webinar - Wednesday, September 30, 2009 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM US/Pacific

In this session you will learn about:

- Using Adobe Soundbooth for recording and editing pristine audio for inclusion in Adobe Captivate projects
- Leveraging the power of Adobe Flash for supplementing Adobe Captivate projects with animations, as well as for creating and customizing existing Flash Widgets
- Designing in Adobe Photoshop for including high-impact layered images in Adobe Captivate projects
- Using the Emulator in Device Central for testing mobile learning projects developed in Adobe Captivate
- Supplementing informational-based eLearning in Adobe Presenter with Adobe Captivate content
- Expand your eLearning delivery options using Adobe Acrobat and Dreamweaver

C h e c k i t o u t :

http://www.adobe.com/cfusion/event/index.cfm?event=detail&id=1522457&loc=en_us

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:41AM (-05:00)

Amazing Food Detective Game

Monday, September 21, 2009

Read a good blog article reviewing a fun learning game. The game emphasizes on the importance of healthy eating habits for youngsters. After playing the game for a while, you are stopped and asked to take a break - to do push-ups or other exercises. Interesting.

Check it out:

Blog article - <http://blog.thewritersgateway.com/2009/09/18/game-of-the-week-the-incredible-adventures-of-the-amazing-food-detective/>

The game - <https://members.kaiserpermanente.org/redirects/landingpages/afd/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:33AM (-05:00)

Improve Your Email etiquette

Saturday, September 19, 2009

Check it out: <http://o.aolcdn.com/cdn.webmail.aol.com/survey/aol/en-us/index.htm>

Also - email addiction survey: <http://o.aolcdn.com/cdn.webmail.aol.com/survey/aol/en-us/index.htm>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:39AM (-05:00)

My Top 10 Tools for Learning

Saturday, September 19, 2009

1. Microsoft PowerPoint: Create storyboards. Tried many; this still works the best for SME reviews
2. Proof HQ: Rocks for storyboard review and edits. Easy for team collaboration.
3. BaseCamp HQ: Project management - ties back to Proof HQ.
4. Blogger - My blogging tool of choice.
5. Dim-Dim - For web meetings and webinars.
6. Adobe elearning Suite - The whole ball of wax for course development - plus extra add-ons like CourseBuilder. Captivate for simulations.
7. Articulate Studio - Quick course development - Engage, Quizmaker
8. Rapid Intake ProForm - Quick course development; quickly develop custom templates for clients
9. Google alerts - to stay on top of the latest news (topics of interest)
10. Wikipedia - learn about stuff that I don't know.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:44AM (-05:00)

A Three-Part Series on Emerging Trends in Technology-Enabled Learning

Wednesday, September 16, 2009

Register for a free webinar series: Global economic pressures are forcing learning professionals to think about ways to get more value for their existing investments. At the same time, emerging technologies are opening up new possibilities in the design and delivery of corporate learning. This series explores trends in social learning, mobile learning and leadership development, with an eye toward helping learning professionals separate reality from overheated hype.

Attendees will come away with a better understanding of these important trends, as well as actionable ideas on how technology-enabled learning can drive higher levels of performance in the near term.

Check it out: <http://www.trainingmagnetnetwork.com/topics/show/647>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:29AM (-05:00)

Inspirational videos and books

Tuesday, September 15, 2009

Need an inspiration boost for your class? Check out these books and videos. You can view the videos for free. Great for team building and for discussion starters.

Check it out: <http://www.simpletruths.com/movies.asp>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:24AM (-05:00)

Five Ways to Create Engaging Videos

Monday, September 14, 2009

Take Five - Brandon Hall (current issue of Chief Learning Officer) has a great article about creating engaging videos for e-Learning.

Check it out: <http://www.clomedia.com/take-five/brandon-hall/2009/September/2726/index.php>

I featured the PricewaterhouseCoopers training videos in a previous blog - in case you missed it: <http://www.pwc.com/us/en/careers/pwctv/ch2-the-firm-seasons-1-and-2.jhtml>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:59AM (-05:00)

iTunes U

Sunday, September 13, 2009

iTunes U is a part of the iTunes Store featuring free lectures, language lessons, audiobooks, and more, that you can enjoy on your iPod, iPhone, Mac or PC. Explore over 200,000 educational audio and video files from top universities, museums and public media organizations from around the world.

Check it out: <http://www.apple.com/education/guidedtours/itunesu.html>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 10:16AM (-05:00)

How to Implement Twitter as an eLearning Tool - Register for free w...

Sunday, September 13, 2009

Webinar - Wednesday, September 16, 2009 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM PDT

How to Implement Twitter as an eLearning Tool
Presented by: Brent Schlenker September 16, 2009 10:00 am PST

Topics to cover: *Why Twitter has become popular with trainers and eLearning specialist? *What is new with the technology of Twitter? *What are initial success experiments? *How do you implement Twitter as part of your eLearning design?

Check it out: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/290652225>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:43AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: How to videos

Friday, September 11, 2009

WonderHowTo hand-selects & curates the best How-To Videos & How-To Articles from thousands of websites.

Check it out: <http://www.wonderhowto.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:17AM (-05:00)

911 Day of Service - It's not too late

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Please take a moment now to post your personal plan to perform a good deed, volunteer or engage in another charitable activity in observance of the newly established September 11 National Day of Service and Remembrance. Help create a wonderful legacy that honors the victims and those who rose to service in response to the attacks on America.

Check it out: <http://911dayofservice.org/>

One great place to start: <http://www.proliteracy.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-05:00)

Web game provides rice for hungry

Wednesday, September 09, 2009

For each answer you get right, 10 grains of rice are donated through the UN Food Program to end hunger. FreeRice has a custom database containing knowledge questions at varying levels of difficulty. FreeRice automatically adjusts to your level. It starts by giving you questions of increasing difficulty and then, based on how you do, assigns you an approximate starting level. You then determine a more exact level for yourself as you play. When you get a question wrong, you go to an easier level. When you get three questions in a row right, you go to a harder level.

Check it out: <http://www.freerice.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:29AM (-05:00)

More than PhotoShop training

Tuesday, September 08, 2009

I recently browsed the Kelby Training website. I hadn't been interested in the past because I thought it was just PhotoShop training. There are some great courses - including food photography that look interesting. Cost is reasonable - you can access all the classes per month or per year. You can test drive the courses without having to sign up for anything - a big plus. And the video plays great!

Check it out: <http://www.kelbytraining.com/online/index.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:22PM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Video appears in paper magazines

Friday, September 04, 2009

The first-ever video advertisement will be published in a traditional paper magazine in September.

The video-in-print ads will appear in select copies of Entertainment Weekly. The slim-line screens – around the size of a mobile phone display – also have rechargeable batteries. The chip technology used to store the video – described as similar to that used in singing greeting cards – is activated when the page is turned. Each chip can hold up to 40 minutes of video.

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/x3rxB>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:20AM (-05:00)

100+ Smart Ways to Use LinkedIn

Thursday, September 03, 2009

Good resources for folks using LinkedIn and for newbies.

Check it out: <http://www.linkedintelligence.com/smart-ways-to-use-linkedin/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:52AM (-05:00)

Communicate Visually

Thursday, September 03, 2009

SmartDraw is used to create business graphics such as flowcharts, organization charts, Gantt charts, timelines, mind maps, floorplans and other diagrams.

SmartDraw is also available in two industry-specific solutions: the SmartDraw Legal Edition and the SmartDraw Healthcare Edition.

Check it out: <http://www.smartdraw.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:11AM (-05:00)

What Is Creativity?

Wednesday, September 02, 2009

Using Play-Doh and the Apple iPod as examples, Robert Sutton, Co-Director of the Center for Work, Technology, and Organization at Stanford University, explains that often creativity is simply making new things out of old ones.

Check it out: <http://ecorner.stanford.edu/authorMaterialInfo.html?mid=1187>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:48AM (-05:00)

Quotes websites

Tuesday, September 01, 2009

<http://quotations.about.com/>

<http://www.quotationz.com/>

<http://www.quotableonline.com/>

<http://www.cybernation.com/quotationcenter/>

<http://en.thinkexist.com/quotes/top>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:03AM (-05:00)

Qedoc Quiz Maker

Tuesday, September 01, 2009

The authoring tools is free for contributors and the quiz player is free for everyone.

Check it out: <http://www.qedoc.com/>

MS Office sample quiz: http://www.qedoc.org/en/index.php?title=Microsoft_Office_2007

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:36AM (-05:00)

Open Educational Resources

Monday, August 31, 2009

Open Educational Resources are teaching and learning materials that you may freely use and reuse, without charge. OER often have a Creative Commons or GNU license that state specifically how the material may be used, reused, adapted, and shared. Include Interactive mini-lessons and simulations about a specific topic, such as math or physics.

Check it out: <http://www.oercommons.org/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:33AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Cymbolism

Friday, August 28, 2009

A color tool that includes information on what emotions and words are associated with different colors.

Check it out: <http://www.cymbolism.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:07AM (-05:00)

Text Generator

Thursday, August 27, 2009

Generates lorem ipsum-like text.

Check it out: <http://www.malevole.com/mv/misc/text/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:06AM (-05:00)

Experience Shades of Gray

Wednesday, August 26, 2009

Accessibility testing tool that displays a full-color Web page in grayscale.

Check it out: <http://graybit.com/main.php>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:36AM (-05:00)

Create a Quiz using Google Forms

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

How to create a self-grading quiz using Google Forms.

Check it out: <http://www.screencast-o-matic.com/watch/cjXeqwnDe>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:20AM (-05:00)

Using the GROW model to solve problems

Tuesday, August 25, 2009

Came across a good video that explains the GROW model to solve problems.

Check it out: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wu0VAuhsZ_g

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:22AM (-05:00)

Six Sigma Online Introduces Free Online Video Database

Monday, August 24, 2009

Six Sigma Online, the leading provider of online Six Sigma training, introduced its new Online Video Database.

The Online Video Database is broken into two categories; Six Sigma Videos, located at <http://www.sixsigmaonline.org/six-sigma-training-certification-information/categories/six-sigma-videos.html> , and General Business Videos, located at <http://www.sixsigmaonline.org/six-sigma-training-certification-information/categories/general-business-resources/business-videos-1.html>.

These databases currently contain videos specializing in all areas of Six Sigma methodology training, as well as general business articles their readers, and now viewers, will find interesting. The video database is updated on a weekly basis with more well-written, current, and well-researched Six Sigma and General Business Videos. The succinct and helpful videos are all around five to ten minutes long, making them enjoyable, and quick to watch. These videos are an addition to an already existing online article database, which contains well over 600 articles, specializing in all areas of Six Sigma methodology and Six Sigma training. While the video database will be updated on a weekly basis, the article database is updated on a daily basis.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:23AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: How to print a folder listing in Windows

Friday, August 21, 2009

Microsoft solution for printing a folder listing in Windows.

Check it out: <http://support.microsoft.com/?kbid=196628>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:10AM (-05:00)

25 Awesome Virtual Learning Experiences Online

Thursday, August 20, 2009

Websites that feature virtual learning experiences

Check it out: <http://aceonlineschools.com/25-awesome-virtual-learning-experiences-online/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:43AM (-05:00)

Receive a daily summary of the most important industry news

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

SmartBriefs are free customized newsletters on topics of interest. I am interested in Social networking so I signed up for that SmartBrief. You can view a sample before signing up. Comes to your inbox.

Check it out: <http://corp.smartbrief.com/index.jsp>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 04:09PM (-05:00)

What's your RQ?

Wednesday, August 19, 2009

RQ stands for Readiness Quotient . . .and was developed by a broad coalition of experts. Through rigorous testing and validation, experts agree these ten simple questions are actually the most predictive of an individual's preparedness.

The RQ Test scores you on what you know and have already done to get prepared. It also provides you with the simple steps to take to improve your score and increase your preparedness.

Check it out: <http://www.whatsyourrq.org/test.shtml>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:04AM (-05:00)

Screenr: Record screencasts directly within your web browser

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Screenr from the Articulate folks allows you to **record screencasts directly within your web browser**.

Some highlights of what you can do with Screenr:

- Record from a Mac or a PC
- Preview your screencast before publishing
- Share via Twitter
- Publish directly to YouTube
- Share the link via email
- Output to MP4, then import into your Articulate projects
- Embed in your website or blog
- Play videos in full-screen mode
- Playback via your iPhone

Check it out: <http://screenr.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 04:35PM (-05:00)

We're number 22!

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Creative Interactive Ideas is #22 on the top 25 largest Houston-based web design and development companies list - Houston Business Journal. 4th year that we've made the list.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 12:30PM (-05:00)

Free Quick Reference Guides

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Need quick reference guides for MS Office and Adobe products? This website has lots of reference guides - including older products. You can also purchase the guides with your company logo added.

Check it out: <http://tiny.cc/qozlU>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:48AM (-05:00)

Online Red Cross Training

Tuesday, August 18, 2009

Hurricane season is here - found some great online training through the Red Cross.

Check it out: <http://www.redcross.org/flash/brr/English-flash/default.asp>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:02AM (-05:00)

Free online courses - Weather and the Environment

Monday, August 17, 2009

Online courses and training materials that address the connections between weather and environment.

Registration is simple, and free; all you have to do is provide your email address and a password to gain access. The site includes fun facts, tips and information such as how weather impacts bee behavior, how many years it takes to create one inch of soil and who is more vulnerable to heat-related health issues--children or adults?

Check it out: <http://www.earthgauge.net/courses>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:52AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Intelligent Life on the Web

Friday, August 14, 2009

The Buzzle web portal contains stories, articles and lots of general information. Click on the "Escape Hatch" for creativity - poems, stories etc. You can become a Buzzle author and contribute to the portal.

Check it out: <http://www.buzzle.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:30AM (-05:00)

Book: Essential Articulate Studio '09

Thursday, August 13, 2009

Just got my copy of "Essential Articulate Studio 09". Even if you have been using Articulate forever (like me), you'll find lots of great tips and ideas to help with your learning projects. The book includes information on each Studio product along with tutorials and projects. The accompanying CD has trial versions of the software.

You can order the book directly via the publisher and receive a 35% discount with coupon code art0586: Essential Articulate Studio '09 by Patti Shank and Jennifer Bircher (ISBN: 9781598220582).

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:30AM (-05:00)

#Irnchat - Chat about learning using Twitter

Wednesday, August 12, 2009

#Irnchat is a place for people interested in the topic of learning who use the social messaging service Twitter to learn from one another and discuss how to help other people learn.

The online chat happens every Thursday night 8:30-10pm EST / 5:30-7pm PST.

Check it out: <http://lrnchat.wordpress.com/> (blog)
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-05:00)

Microsoft Workers Unveil Office Suggestion Site

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

2 Microsoft employees, Steve Zasko, a planner on the Office development team, and Luke Foust, a Microsoft developer in the test group, have created a sanctioned suggestion solicitation site, where you can submit suggestions for improving MS Office. Note sure if it will impact 2010 but it's a chance to make suggestions.

I like the ranking application and counter....

Check it out: <http://makeofficebetter.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:46AM (-05:00)

Cartoon Stock Art

Tuesday, August 11, 2009

Want to use a cartoon in your training? CartoonStock was the first searchable cartoon archive on the web and the first to offer instant online licensing and downloading of printable images.

Licenses to use CartoonStock cartoon images and animations vary in price depending on the use.

Check it out: <http://www.cartoonstock.com/default.asp>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:53AM (-05:00)

Tech Help on the Web

Monday, August 10, 2009

Looking for good resources for technology questions? Check out these 2 websites featured on Sunday's Today show.

For example, <http://www.computerhope.com/battery.htm> provides information on different battery types; including a table comparing each type.

<http://library.techguy.org/wiki/Backup> provides information on different backup strategies and backup software.

Check it out: <http://www.computerhope.com/> and <http://www.techguy.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:48AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - Microsoft SongSmith

Friday, August 07, 2009

" Ever sing in the car? Maybe in the shower? You know who you are. Admit it, you like to sing, and you like music. Ever thought of writing your own music? Most people never get a chance to try... but we want to give everyone a piece of the songwriting experience, so we've developed Songsmith, an application that lets you create a complete song just by singing! Are we going to turn you into an award-winning songwriter overnight? Of course not. But Songsmith will give you a way to create something authentically musical and authentically yours, even if you don't know the first thing about chords or music theory."

Check it out: <http://research.microsoft.com/en-us/um/redmond/projects/songsmith/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:55AM (-05:00)

A Website Named Desire - a supergraphic

Thursday, August 06, 2009

Sometimes the best possible way to visualize something really complex is to create a high-resolution supergraphic. But then you are faced with the problem of sharing it over the Internet.

A Website Named Desire is a printed supergraphic that illustrates the process of launching a web site. This visualization allows you to explore a 100 megapixel digital version of the poster with interactive annotations to add context to the nuances of the illustration.

Highlights:

- Presents a way to navigate processes and characters in web site construction visualization.
- Shows customized use of Silverlight DeepZoom.
- Employs "Power Scaling" to position elements overlaid on the DeepZoom surface.
- Uses both storyboards and programmatic methods to animate elements.

Check it out: <http://www.visitmix.com/labs/descry/awebsitenameddesire/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:38AM (-05:00)

Windows 7 - Everything you wanted to know

Wednesday, August 05, 2009

There's a website dedicated to the new Windows 7 - what is it and do you need it?

Check it out: <http://windows.microsoft.com/en-us/windows7/help>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:13AM (-05:00)

Microsoft Learning Snacks

Tuesday, August 04, 2009

Learning Snacks are short, interactive presentations about popular topics created by Microsoft Learning experts. Each Snack is delivered by using innovative Microsoft Silverlight technology and includes various media, such as animations and recorded demos. At the end of each free presentation, you can view more Snacks, learn more about the topic, or visit a related Web site.

I am looking for the player information.

Check it out: <http://www.microsoft.com/learning/en/us/training/format-learning-snacks.aspx>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-05:00)

Join in on the Twitter fun for a chance to Win an Adobe Suite

Monday, August 03, 2009

Follow RJ Jacquez, Senior Product Evangelist at Adobe in his quest to get 1000 followers via Twitter.

He will do a drawing and randomly select a winner, who will have the choice between either the Adobe eLearning Suite and the Adobe Technical Communication Suite 2.

Check it out: http://blogs.adobe.com/rjacquez/2009/07/join_in_on_the_twitter_fun_for.html

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:55AM (-05:00)

History of Microsoft - the 1990s

Monday, August 03, 2009

Spent this weekend with Microsoft stuff - lots of interesting things to share.

A video series that gives you a rare glimpse into the story behind the software giant. Using rare footage and never-before-seen photos, experience Microsoft's history by year. You can download the videos in a number of different formats.

Check it out: <http://channel9.msdn.com/shows/History/The-History-of-Microsoft-1999-The-Series-Finale/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:09AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - How to fly through airport security

Friday, July 31, 2009

Wired magazine has a cool wiki area with lots of how-tos.

Check it out: http://howto.wired.com/wiki/Fly_Through_Airport_Security?oldid=23372
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:28AM (-05:00)

Free quality vector images

Thursday, July 30, 2009

QVectors.com is a Showcase site for free quality vector images from around the net.

Check it out: <http://qvectors.com/>

Other vector-related links:

<http://www.vectordairy.com/> - a blog on vector illustration

<http://www.vectorvault.com/> - huge library of vector shapes
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:21AM (-05:00)

Free high-res textures

Wednesday, July 29, 2009

The blog focuses mainly on giving away free high-res textures to all of the dirt-poor, starving artists and designers out there.

Check it out: <http://lostandtaken.com/>

Another one: <http://www.highresolutiontextures.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-05:00)

Free Stock Photo Site: SXC

Tuesday, July 28, 2009

SXC was launched in February 2001, as an alternative for expensive stock photography. The idea was to create a site where creative people could exchange their photos for inspiration or work.

Check it out: <http://www.sxc.hu/index.phtml>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:09AM (-05:00)

Color Challenged?

Monday, July 27, 2009

Adobe Kuler is a web-hosted application for generating color themes that can inspire any project.

Whether creating websites, interior designs, scrapbooks, fabric patterns, graphic identities, or any other visual, you can experiment quickly with color variations and browse thousands of themes from the Kuler community.

Use of Kuler is free and can be accessed by anyone with an Adobe ID. Anyone can use Kuler to create, share, and exchange color themes online. Designers and developers working in web creation and development can copy and paste hex values directly into their web development software.

Check it out: <http://kuler.adobe.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:51AM (-05:00)

Want a free book?

Sunday, July 26, 2009

During the entire month of August, you'll get one of the books or DVDs listed on the link page absolutely free when you sign up for a Safari Books Online trial.

Check it out: <http://www.peachpit.com/promotions/promotion.aspx?promo=136966>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:27PM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - STS-127 Crew Answers Your Questions From Space

Friday, July 24, 2009

NASA Astronaut Mark Polansky and the STS-127 crew aboard space shuttle Endeavour respond to questions submitted on YouTube. What happens if you sneeze in Space?

Check it out: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hiu7laIWds>

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/shuttle/shuttlemissions/sts127/
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:56AM (-05:00)

e-learning Game Templates

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Need something to spice up your training?

I came across these products at the recent DevCon09 conference - and purchased them all. I am using them in both Articulate Presenter and Rapid Intake FlashForm training classes.



You have to have Flash to make your customizations but there are tutorials on the site that show you how to do it. You get both the FLA and the SWF files so you can brand the games for your clients.

The prices are reasonable enough that like me, you will want to have all the templates in your e-Learning tool box.

Check it out: <http://e-learningtemplates.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:41AM (-05:00)

Free screen capture and recorder software

Wednesday, July 22, 2009

I am evaluating ActivePresenter, a screen capture and presentation creation tool designed for eLearning. The standard version of the software has more features and is \$250 until August 1.

ActivePresenter can record a presentation and convert the file to a number of different formats including AVI, WMV, MPEG4/MP4, Flash, HTML, interactive AJAX, or document formats (PDF, DOC, PPT). I am mainly interested in the interactive AJAX component as an output method.

Check it out: <http://www.binarynow.com/products/activepresenter/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:25AM (-05:00)

15 Tips for Webinars: How to Add Impact When You Present Online

Tuesday, July 21, 2009

I came across this article in eLearn magazine. Has some good points about delivering a webinar.

Check it out: http://www.elearnmag.org/subpage.cfm?section=best_practices&article=56-1

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:23AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - Video Book signing

Friday, July 17, 2009

Margaret Atwood is getting the word out about her new novel with a coast-to-coast video launch connecting various book festivals across the country.

Atwood is set to attend the Word on the Street festival in Toronto on Sept. 27, but will simultaneously appear at sister events in Vancouver and Halifax via interactive video conferencing. She's promoting her new novel, "The Year of the Flood," about two women who have survived a natural disaster that has obliterated most human life. Festival organizers say Atwood will use the video-conference technology to speak with fans, answer questions and sign autographs long distance.

Check it out: <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/arts/atwood-to-launch-novel-in-three-cities-at-once/article1217215/>

The technology she is using is called "LongPen" - read more about it at <http://www.longpen.com/>. It allows someone to write in ink anywhere in the world via tablet PC and the internet.

http://www.dailygalaxy.com/my_weblog/2007/12/the-longpen--fr.html
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:44AM (-05:00)

Dimdim. Another Web Conferencing Tool

Thursday, July 16, 2009

I am checking out DimDim, another web-conferencing tool. Setting up a meeting in Dimdim is very easy. You can kick off a meeting immediately or schedule it for later (including recurring meetings).

The product lets you conduct online slide shows using PowerPoints and PDFs. You can annotate as you go and let users mark up, too. You can also work on a shared, multipage whiteboard. Or you can share your screen, which is useful for demos.

There are a lot of ways to interact with your viewers. You can send them Webcam video and audio (or make it a two-way conference if you like), chat with all attendees, or send private instant messages to individuals.

Check it out: <http://www.dimdim.com/index>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:07AM (-05:00)

Fuze Meeting

Wednesday, July 15, 2009

Came across this alternative for web conferencing. With Fuze Meeting you can:

- Host web conferences from your computer

- Host audio conferences or attend web conferences from your mobile phone
- Get a free phone conference number
- Share presentations, documents and synchronized video in HD
- Fetch attendees so your web meetings start on time

What caught my eye was the mobile meeting component - With Fuze Meeting you can easily host audio conferences and attend online meetings from an iPhone or BlackBerry or WiFi-enabled mobile device or laptop. I am going to test this feature and will let you know how it functions.

You can sign up for a free account - without inputting any credit card information.

Check it out: <http://www.fuzemeeting.com/>

Register for a live walkthrough of Fuze Meeting. Hosted Mon-Fri at 11 AM (PST). Please be sure to sign up at least two hours in advance. <http://www.fuzemeeting.com/how-it-works/demos>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:36AM (-05:00)

Meeting software

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

Yesterday, I hosted 2 different meetings - a webinar with folks around the globe (used GoToWebinar) and the first day of my 3-day training class (used GoToMeeting).

I've used both products before - but not to the extent of these meetings. The webinar program worked great - the only problem we had was getting people to register so they got their log in link. The separate link is needed to track individuals during the webinar - you get a nifty report at the end of the webinar. This product is great if you have more than 10 people on the call. Pricing is good - \$99/month for unlimited people and calls.

I used GoToMeeting for my class. The only problem we've had is using the USB headset instead of a phone. Had a MAC user who wasn't able to get his system configured correctly.

You can try out either program for free. I will provide info on other web meeting programs later in the week.

Check it out: https://www2.gotowebinar.com/en_US/webinar/entry/entry.tmpl

or <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/?Portal=www.gotomeeting.com>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:58AM (-05:00)

Web Conference Training Tips

Monday, July 13, 2009

I am doing a 3-day online instructor-leading training class this week. I came across this good article that has lots of helpful tips.

Learning to use web conferencing technology is pretty easy, but there is a lot more to training via web conference than just putting on a headset, dialing up an audio-

conferencing bridge, and logging onto the application.

Check it out: <http://www.syberworks.com/articles/28-Web-Conference-Training-Tips.htm>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:58AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - The Diabetic Dog Game

Friday, July 10, 2009

Nobelprize.org's educational section consists of 41 productions. Of these, 29 are interactive learning games of various sorts and degrees of difficulties. Most of them also includes a "Read more" about the subject. You will get sucked into this site for a while ... enjoy.

I found the game about diabetes very interesting - The Diabetic Dog educational game, with two related readings, are based on the 1923 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, which was awarded for discovering the hormone insulin, making it possible to treat people suffering from diabetes. Make sure you read the instructions before beginning the game!

Check it out: http://nobelprize.org/educational_games/medicine/insulin/
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:13AM (-05:00)

Tips for great looking charts

Thursday, July 09, 2009

The Rapid e-Learning Blog has a great article about making charts and data more memorable.

Check it out: <http://www.articulate.com/rapid-elearning/try-these-tips-for-great-looking-charts/>

Also, check out the presentation mentioned in the article at <http://www.miniature-earth.com/index.html>.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:02AM (-05:00)

Future of Learning as a Business - Free Online Event

Wednesday, July 08, 2009

July 23, 9 AM – 1 PM Pacific Time / 4 PM – 8 PM GMT

This online event will bring together people with a variety of perspectives on what we should be doing today to set ourselves up for success going forward. We will look at questions that include:

- Is this a temporary downturn or changing landscape?
- How will demand change?
- What will internal or external customers pay for that's not traditional training?
- What's already selling today?

- What business models, products, companies should we be watching?

What should we be doing today to be in position for the future?

Check it out: <http://learntrends.ning.com/events/future-of-learning-as-a>

Background material on the topic: <http://elearningtech.blogspot.com/2009/06/business-of-learning.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:09AM (-05:00)

Tips for capturing e-Learning audio

Wednesday, July 08, 2009

This article contains tips - along with suggestions for audio equipment purchases.

Check it out: <http://syberworks.com/articles/10tips-capturing-elearning-audio.htm>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:54AM (-05:00)

Meta-Analysis and Review of Online Learning Studies

Tuesday, July 07, 2009

Online learning has definite advantages over face-to-face instruction when it comes to teaching and learning, according to a new meta-analysis released by the U.S. Department of Education.

Check it out: <http://www.ed.gov/rschstat/eval/tech/evidence-based-practices/finalreport.pdf>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:01AM (-05:00)

Online tool for building objectives

Monday, July 06, 2009

Objective Builder has a tutorial along with a wizard for building objectives as well as resources for building performance-based objectives.

Check it out: <http://www.radiojames.com/ObjectivesBuilder/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:55AM (-05:00)

A Storyboarding Template from the MinuteBio site

Friday, July 03, 2009

Jeffery at MinuteBio has a great new post - which includes a good storyboard template. He also includes other storyboard resources.

Check it out: <http://minutebio.com/blog/2009/06/29/storyboard-templates-and-resources/>

While on his site, check out the free e-learning course links. I liked the airport screener training at http://www.msnbc.com/modules/airport_security/screener/.
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:57AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Screw in a lightbulb

Friday, July 03, 2009

Have you ever wondered about CFL light bulbs? Why would you want to use them instead of regular light bulbs? Check out this training video from the folks at Common Craft.

"CFL Lightbulbs in Plain English" introduces the benefits and risks of using compact fluorescent light bulbs. The video focuses on saving money and reducing pollution by switching to bulbs that use less electricity. The video includes:

- The connection between using electricity and burning coal
- Cost savings of using a CFL compared to a normal bulb
- How switching to CFLs can reduce CO2 emissions
- Proper disposal of CFL lightbulbs, which contain mercury

Check it out: <http://www.commoncraft.com/cfl-video>

<http://www.commoncraft.com/transcript-cfl-light-bulbs-plain-english>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:51AM (-05:00)

Storyboarding Software

Thursday, July 02, 2009

Free to try. Storyboarder Pro integrates into Microsoft Word (2003 or later).

Check it out: <http://www.storyboarderpro.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:01AM (-05:00)

Free Storyboarding templates

Wednesday, July 01, 2009

I found some free templates for storyboarding e-Learning.

Check it out:

<http://elearninglive.com/wordpress/2007/04/free-storyboarding-template/> (word)

<http://www.dsink.com/newsletters/archive/20050614.php> (word)

http://sociablemedia.typepad.com/beyond_bullets/2004/06/storyboards_the.html (ppt)

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:44AM (-05:00)

Tips for effective storyboarding

Tuesday, June 30, 2009

ASTD presentation - tips from the front lines

Check it out: <http://tk07.astd.org/Handouts%20for%20Web/FR204.pdf>

Creating Scripts and Storyboards for e-Learning - article from Kevin Kruse

Check it out: http://www.e-learningguru.com/articles/art2_5.htm

Storyboards tailored to you

Check it out: <http://www.elearningguild.com/pdf/2/050304des.pdf>

Storyboards for eLearning

Check it out: http://thelearningcoach.com/getting_started/storyboards-for-elearning/

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-05:00)

History of Storyboarding Video

Monday, June 29, 2009

My focus this week is on storyboarding e-Learning. I've been searching for a new tool or template to use - something easy enough for SMEs to review with enough features for developers. Through my research, I have collected a series of programs, videos and articles to share. Hope they help you!

Check out this video on the history of storyboard - much of this translates to e-learning. The author of this blog has another article on when to storyboard.

Check it out: <http://minutebio.com/blog/2009/06/25/it-came-from-hollywood-storyboarding/>

<http://minutebio.com/blog/2009/01/13/to-storyboard-or-not-to-storyboard/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:50AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Augmented reality

Friday, June 26, 2009

Augmented reality (AR) is a field of computer research which deals with the combination of real-world and computer-generated data (virtual reality), where computer graphics objects are blended into real footage in real time.

GE's Smartgrid website has a great example of AR that you can try out in real time. See instructions on the right. You have to print out the document – then follow instructions. Waycool.

Check it out: http://ge.ecomagination.com/smartgrid/#/augmented_reality

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-05:00)

How to create a great latte

Wednesday, June 17, 2009

The Culinary Institute of America (CIA), in conjunction with Starbucks Foodservice, has introduced “Coffee: Brewing, Tasting, and Cooking” – a free online learning and videos tracking America’s favorite beverage from bean to table. Geared to professionals, but suitable for home cooks as well, the e-learning module includes 16 downloadable recipes, demonstrated by CIA chef-instructors in streaming video.

Access the program online at www.ciaprochef.com/coffee
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:24AM (-05:00)

What makes us happy?

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

This presentation (the video is half way down) uses a conventional talking head.

The delivery is narrative based, the key points are illustrated by stories.

A few very simple text slides and some still images support the message.

No graphs, no lecture notes, no clip art.

But it's great

Check it out: <http://www.theatlantic.com/doc/200906/happiness>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:27PM (-05:00)

Hidden Costs Associated with Hosted (SaaS) vs. Licensed LMS/LCMS De...

Tuesday, June 16, 2009

Bob Goldschneider, Director of Business Development at SyberWorks discusses his latest article, “Hosted (SaaS) Vs. Licensed Cost Analysis of a Learning Management System/Learning Content Management System.” He mentions the top three hidden costs which organizations leave out of their analysis when evaluating a hosted vs. licensed LMS/LCMS purchase.

Check it out:
SyberWorks e-Learning Podcast Series: Episode #32: “Hidden Costs Associated with Hosted vs. Licensed LMS/LCMS Decisions” - <http://www.syberworks.com/audio/elpodcast32.mp3>

SyberWorks Online Media Center - http://www.syberworks.com/elearning_podcast.htm
Transcript - http://www.syberworks.com/website/elpodcast32_transcript.htm.

Source article, “Hosted (SaaS) Vs. Licensed Cost Analysis of a Learning Management System/Learning Content Management System” -

<http://www.syberworks.com/articles/licensevshost.htm>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:42AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: Decision Engine

Friday, June 12, 2009



Have you checked out "Bing", the new search engine from Microsoft? Bing is a search engine that finds and organizes the answers you need so you can make faster, more informed decisions. I liked the image search - typed in "Paris" and got back some

pretty nice photos - including some of Ms. Hilton. Next, I selected video and got a bunch of videos that were on the same subject. Roll over the video and it starts playing. News brought up stories related to the topic.

Check it out: <http://www.bing.com/> Also - the Woz liked it: <http://finance.yahoo.com/tech-ticker/article/255750/Woz-Bing!-Apple-Co-Founder-a-%22Big-Fan%22-of-Microsofts-New-Search-Engine>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:03AM (-05:00)

Read Free How To Books Online

Tuesday, May 26, 2009

All of the books on the HowTo site are available for purchase in bookshops. But here on the site, access to the full content of each is completely free. You don't even have to register or anything complicated like that - it's all here for you to read online for nothing.

Check it out: <http://www.howto.co.uk/learning/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:53AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: All you need is music

Friday, May 22, 2009

British psychologist Catriona Morrison states "Music is a powerful cue for storing and retrieving data ... you can use music to process new information more deeply. You can train yourself by associating what you want to remember - your new PIN for example - with a particular piece of music."

In her most recent project, Morrison uses the works of the Beatles to explore this music-memory link. She allows people to share the recollections sparked by the mention of particular album, song or band memory.

Check it out: <http://www.magicalmemorytour.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:38AM (-05:00)

Take the Rework out of Reviews

Thursday, May 21, 2009

Use Review Spice to get detailed feedback on storyboards, graphics, narration scripts, and screen text.

You no longer have to take handwritten notes, faxes, multiple emails, and reviewer edited PowerPoints and consolidate them into one cohesive set of changes. Instead, you can have one report with all feedback consolidated for each slide. You can print the report, or if you have a Print to PDF product you can save it to your project files. Check it out: <http://www.reviewspice.com/default.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-05:00)

Wolfram Alpha: A new kind of search engine

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

There's a new kid on the block worth checking out. "WolframAlpha's long-term goal is to make all systematic knowledge immediately computable and accessible to everyone. We aim to collect and curate all objective data; implement every known model, method, and algorithm; and make it possible to compute whatever can be computed about anything. Our goal is to build on the achievements of science and other systematizations of knowledge to provide a single source that can be relied on by everyone for definitive answers to factual queries."

Ok - let's try something simple. Type in today's date or the name of your town and state. Pretty interesting. There's a tiny link at the bottom of the page that lets you save your query as a PDF file. If you use Vista, you can download a gadget for your desktop.

Thanks to Anne for bringing this to my attention!!!

Check it out: <http://www.wolframalpha.com/>

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-wolframalpha19-2009may19,0,5810966.story>

<http://www.wolframalpha.com/screencast/introducingwolframalpha.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:11AM (-05:00)

Play Stock Game

Tuesday, May 19, 2009

StockNewsGame presents a fun new way to learn fundamental financial analysis principles on stock. Play the stock game without real money!

Check it out: <http://www.stocknewsgame.com/>

Financial Analysis links:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fundamental_analysis

http://stockcharts.com/school/doku.php?id=chart_school:overview:fundamental_analysis

<http://www.investopedia.com/university/fundamentalanalysis/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:44AM (-05:00)

Jakob Nielsen Critiques Twitter

Monday, May 18, 2009

Continuing my investigation on using Twitter ... "Twitter lets people know what's going on about things they care about instantly, as it happens," said Evan Williams, Twitter's chief executive and co-founder. "In the best cases, Twitter makes people smarter and faster and more efficient."

Check it out: http://www.nytimes.com/2009/04/14/technology/internet/14twitter.html?_r=1

Not everyone is hearts and flowers over Twitter. Web usability consultant Jakob Nielsen discusses the hazards and limitations of tweeting.

http://www.businessweek.com/managing/content/may2009/ca2009058_037210.htm
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:55AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: How to fend off a shark

Friday, May 15, 2009

In a series of 500 nearly wordless, highly informative step-by-step procedurals, readers learn how to do hundreds of useful (and fascinating and important and sometimes downright bizarre) tasks, including: Perform CPR, dance the tango, pack a suitcase, win a bar bet, play the blues, make authentic sushi rolls, fight a shark . . . and 493 more essentials of modern life.

Check it out: <http://www.showmenow.com/?q=node/105>

http://g-ecx.images-amazon.com/images/G/01/books/harper-gms/ShowMeHow_Amazon.pdf
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-05:00)

Free courses via email

Thursday, May 14, 2009

A collection of free online courses from <http://www.about.com/>. Each online course is sent to you via email on a daily or weekly basis and is designed to help you learn a specific skill or solve a particular problem. Give students the opportunity to pick how they want to learn - could probably enhance by also offering podcasts? Food for thought.

The link below is for "Ten Days to a Happier, Successful Career and Life". You can subscribe and get a session each day via email or go to the website (http://humanresources.about.com/od/success/a/ten_days.htm) to get started.

Check it out: <http://humanresources.about.com/c/ec/59.htm>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:58AM (-05:00)

Visual Thesaurus

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

VocabGrabber analyzes any text you're interested in, generating lists of the most useful vocabulary words and showing you how those words are used in context. Just copy text from a document and paste it into the box, and then click on the "Grab Vocabulary!" button. VocabGrabber will automatically create a list of vocabulary from your text, which you can then sort, filter, and save.

Check it out: <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/vocabgrabber/>

and try your hand at the "Spelling Bee" - <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/bee/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:12AM (-05:00)

5 min videos

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

5min is a place to find short video solutions for practical questions and a place for people to share their knowledge. 5min's basic philosophy is that everybody is an expert in something and has something to teach others, so why not share that knowledge for the better of the whole?

To compliment the Videopedia vision and bridge the gap between textual and visual information, they developed a special player that allows viewers to watch the video in slow motion or frame by frame, zoom in and out, and more. It also gives the video creator the option to make a storyboard that helps others better understand the demonstration.

Check it out: <http://www.5min.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:30AM (-05:00)

Google Directory

Monday, May 11, 2009

Here's a different way to search within Google.

While Google's regular web search is likely the fastest way to find information on a specific subject, the Google directory is particularly useful when you're not sure how to narrow your search from a broad category. The directory can help you understand how topics within a specific area are related and may suggest terms that are useful in conducting a search. It can also give you an idea of the scope of a given category, such as the number of newspapers in California.

Google's directory engine also lets you search within a category once you've decided on the specific subsection of the web that interests you. In this way, you'll get only responses that fall within that category. For example, you may want to search for teams named "Cougars" within the college basketball section of the directory only, instead of across the entire web.

Check it out: <http://www.google.com/dirhp>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:09AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - WetPaint websites

Friday, May 08, 2009

Wetpaint has created several videos that demonstrate the advantages of Wetpaint over competitors such as freewebs or wikia (in the style of PC vs. Mac)

Check it out: <http://www.wetpaintcentral.com/page/What+is+a+Wetpaint+site>

Consider a WetPaint site as a quick way to build a collaborative learning site. Wetpaint allows the user to very easily set up a free, professional-looking wiki. It provides WYSIWYG editing (that is, you don't have to – in fact, you can't – use code or html), which allows you to simply click into a page and start working. This, and the range of templates available, makes it a perfect wiki for the beginner. Slideshows, photos, and text are easily added, as are widgets such as polls, calendars, and YouTube videos. A sidebar search (and a tag cloud) makes it easy for users to navigate around your wiki, and discussion threads on each page ensure easy communication.

Examples:

<http://bakersdozenarizona.wetpaint.com/>

<http://coloradolearns.wetpaint.com/>

<http://www.elearninglearning.com/wetpaint/wiki/>

<http://learningfutures.wetpaint.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:17AM (-05:00)

Free writing courses and teaching resources

Thursday, May 07, 2009

Purdue OWL (Online Writing Lab): The Online Writing Lab (OWL) at Purdue University houses writing resources and instructional material, and provides these as a free service of the Writing Lab at Purdue. Students, members of the community, and users worldwide will find information to assist with many writing projects. Teachers and trainers may use this material for in-class and out-of-class instruction.

- Writing and Teaching Writing
- Research
- Grammar and Mechanics
- Style Guides
- ESL (English as a Second Language)
- Job Search and Professional Writing

Check it out: <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:04AM (-05:00)

Simulated Conversation Interactions

Wednesday, May 06, 2009

KDSimStudio enables you to easily develop and publish Simulated Conversation Interactions.

Simulate interpersonal interactions with one or more characters. Simulate sales calls, interviews, call center support training, employee evaluations, proctored quizzes, and just about any other kind of interpersonal interaction.

Check it out: <http://www.kdsimstudio.com/index.htm>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:03AM (-05:00)

Offering 2 ways to teaching information

Tuesday, May 05, 2009

This company offers e-Learning in two different formats. This is an interesting way to get the info out - and let the students pick the way they want to learn.

Quick lessons - 2 to 4 minute long skills-based modules that teach the key search skills quickly. The total course in this format would take about an hour to complete.

Step by Step lessons - 6 to 18 minute long scenario based modules that present the techniques in the context of everyday search requirements. Studied this way, the total course time is 2 hours and 40 minutes.

You can preview a sample of each method on the website. Both versions look like they were developed using Articulate Presenter.

Check it out: <http://www.boostlearning.com/Default.aspx>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:49AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday: A lesson in technology

Friday, May 01, 2009

"Whose on First?" meets the office.

Check it out: <http://backoftheclasse.net/yourmydocuments.htm>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:54AM (-05:00)

Podcasting with Wordpress

Thursday, April 30, 2009

Creates feeds, automatically and full featured. Able to preview your podcast as it would appear in iTunes. Download stats available. Automatic media player for MP3, MP4, MOV, FLV, ASF, WMV, AVI and more. Preview image for videos. Support for multiple formats. Control the look and location of your podcast within your post.

Check it out: <http://www.mightyseek.com/podpress/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:14AM (-05:00)

Coached e-Learning

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Check out this approach to combining e-learning with coaching. In Coached e-Learning courses, the coach meets with the student to begin each course, reviews the course plan and materials, and agrees to a schedule. The student then learns at their own pace from the e-Learning platform -- online materials and videos, community forums, exercises, and exams. Along the way, the coach checks intermediate goals, answers questions, helps overcome obstacles, and oversees progress. The course is completed when the student passes the final exam, which, depending on the student's schedule and pace of learning, follows one to two weeks of coursework.

Check it out: <http://solutions.javablackbelt.com/m/coached-elearning.html>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:23AM (-05:00)

What's new at Adobe?

Tuesday, April 28, 2009

Want to get a sneak preview at new and upcoming Adobe products? Adobe Labs provides you with the opportunity to experience and evaluate new and emerging innovations, technologies, and products from Adobe.

You will find early access to software downloads, hosted applications, and related samples, documentation, tutorials and more. In addition, collaborative tools such as the online forums give you the opportunity to help shape a release. Explore what is available, become more productive, or just play.

Check it out: <http://labs.adobe.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:47AM (-05:00)

Swine Flu: Learn more or understand better

Monday, April 27, 2009

Learn more or understand better swine flu through this CDC transcript:
<http://www2a.cdc.gov/podcasts/media/pdf/SwineFlu.pdf>

Thanks to Orlando for this info.
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:36AM (-05:00)

Wild and Wacky Friday - Google Trick

Friday, April 24, 2009

1. Go to www.google.com.
2. Click the preferences link next to the Google logo.
3. Look at the interface languages in the drop-down box. Pay attention to the entries - there are some that you would not expect.
4. Click the language of your choice.
5. Click the Save Preferences button.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:13AM (-05:00)

Create an interactive timeline

Thursday, April 23, 2009

xtimeline lets you create, share and view timelines. It's free and in beta. You can share the URL, embed the files in an existing web page and/or send an email notification through the site. You can add photos, videos and flash to your timeline pages. You can restrict who will be allowed to view the timeline. Add events and related info through the timeline editor.

Check it out: <http://www.xtimeline.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:05AM (-05:00)

Culturally Accessible E-Learning

Wednesday, April 22, 2009

The current issue of ASTD's T+D publication contains an article on the importance of cultural analysis in the development of effective global e-learning efforts.

Check it out: http://www.astd.org/TD/Archives/2009/April/0904_Culturally_Accessible_E-Learning.htm

Also good white paper

Using Linguistically, Culturally, and Situationally Appropriate Scenarios to Support Real-World Remembering

C h e c k i t o u t : http://www.work-learning.com/Catalog/Documents/Linguistically_Culturally_Situationally_Appropriate_2009.pdf

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:04AM (-05:00)

LectureScribe

Tuesday, April 21, 2009

I tried LectureScribe - a free tool to create a "whiteboard" effect Flash animation with sound. It works great with my new tablet laptop - I drew a concept while describing it. LectureScribe outputs to Flash (SWF) so that means you can easily add it to a web site or insert it into your own e-Learning course.

LectureScribe was developed by Brian C. Dean at Clemson University. Just download the file and double-click the file to get started.

Check it out: <http://www.cs.clemson.edu/~bcdean/lscribe/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:56AM (-05:00)

Training Role Changes

Monday, April 20, 2009

Check out this Blog entry on the changing role of the Training Specialist - has some great points!

From "Training Specialist" to "Learning Generalist"

Check it out: <http://cipher-quaker.blogspot.com/2009/04/from-training-specialist-to-learning.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 04:50PM (-05:00)

Back from the DC Cherry Blossom Festival

Saturday, April 18, 2009



Took a little hiatus to view the short season of beautiful Cherry Blossom trees in DC.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:45AM (-05:00)

Litmos Training Delivery Platform

Friday, April 03, 2009

I'm beta-testing Litmos - a SaaS training delivery platform that you can use to create, deliver and manage online training courses, communicate with trainees and track their progress. Cost is \$49/month and then \$3 per active user.

You can upload a PPT and then track who viewed the PPT. Upload any type of content, including PDFs, Flash files and create assessments. The Litmos platform automatically notifies you when training is complete or overdue by sending alert messages. Reports allow you to track individual trainee progress & results.

Check it out: <http://www.litmos.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-05:00)

Cell Phones 101

Thursday, April 02, 2009

While looking for info on Cell Phone viruses, I came across this quiz on cell phones. How much do you really know about cell phones?

Check it out: <http://electronics.howstuffworks.com/cell-phone-quiz1.htm>

If you do a lot of e-mail or Web browsing, it is a very good idea to start thinking about a mobile antivirus program.

Check it out: <http://www.symantec.com/norton/smartphone-security>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:14AM (-05:00)

Buy royalty free layered Adobe Photoshop Files

Tuesday, March 31, 2009



At GraphicRiver, you can buy and sell royalty free layered Adobe Photoshop Files, Vector Graphics, Icon Sets and Add-ons for Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

You can also sell your own graphics on the site - 70% commission.

Check it out: <http://graphicriver.net/?ref=cre8iveii>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:48AM (-05:00)

Overview of the Adobe e-Learning Suite

Monday, March 30, 2009

Curious about the Adobe e-Learning Suite? These demonstrations are done by RJ Jacquez who is a Senior Product Evangelist at Adobe.

Check it out: https://admin.adobe.acrobat.com/_a295153/introducingels/

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:45AM (-05:00)

Guide to Most Useful Bookmarklets

Friday, March 27, 2009

Bookmarklets are simple tools that extend the surf and search capabilities of Firefox and Explorer web browsers.

Bookmarklets allow you to:

- Modify the way you see someone else's webpage.
- Extract data from a webpage.
- Search more quickly, and in ways not possible with a search engine.
- Navigate in new ways.

Here's a link to some useful bookmarklets. If you use IE, right-click and save the bookmarklet to your Favorites.

Check it out: <http://www.labnol.org/internet/guide-to-useful-bookmarklets/7931/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:46AM (-05:00)

PowerPoint 2007 Helps You Build Better E-Learning

Thursday, March 26, 2009

This a a good screencast that accompanies Tom's recent blog post.

C h e c k i t o u t :
http://www.articulate.com/community/blogdemo/PowerPoint_2007_Elearning/player.html

The blog entry: <http://www.articulate.com/rapid-elearning/powerpoint-2007-for-better-elearning/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:41AM (-05:00)

Great example of Podcast Blog

Wednesday, March 25, 2009

Each entry in this podcast blog contains the text of the podcast along with 2 options for download. You can click and hear the podcast in your default media player or you can download the MP3 file and import it into your media device. Subscribe to the feed and you'll be notified when there is a new posting. Great example of a podcasting blog!

Oh, and the focus of the blog is good business writing.

Check it out: <http://upwritepress.libsyn.com/rss>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:29AM (-05:00)

Create book collections from almost any wiki

Tuesday, March 24, 2009

Add this web page to your favorites or drag the bookmarklet to your bookmark bar. Go to Wikipedia. Find articles that you want to put into your book - click the link from the favorites - and build a "collection" in Padiapress.

You can convert your collection to a PDF or have Padiapress turn it into a printed book for you. The formatting is very nice. A portion of the proceeds of each book will be donated to the Wikimedia Foundation to support their mission.

Check it out: <http://pediapress.com/collection/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:18AM (-05:00)

GPS your career with UpMo

Monday, March 23, 2009

IF you haven't lost your job, you probably know someone who has. Become an UpMover, one among an elite group of professionals determined to take career control despite an unpredictable economy.

UpMo is a subscription-based, online career and network management service. Right now it's in beta and free - take advantage of it!

Take the free Network Readiness Evaluator to get a personalized, comprehensive "State of Your Network" report and Network Readiness Score. The "State of Your Network" report, based on career management and professional networking science, provides an objective assessment of your networking readiness, identifies strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats, and provides individualized, actionable networking and career best practices guaranteed help you maximize your network for lasting career success.

Check it out: <http://www.upmo.com/index.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 04:01PM (-05:00)

Silverlight Online Learning Resource Portal

Monday, March 23, 2009

Microsoft Silverlight extends and amplifies your existing development skills, empowering you to build new types of applications for the Web regardless of target platform or browser. You may never decide to be a Silverlight developer - but check out this portal for ideas for your own training.

There's a roadmap for development and learning: <http://silverlight.net/GetStarted/>

The site including a variety of activities, videos, whitepapers, recommended books, hands-on labs as well as a community area for developers to upload their own projects and a Q&A forum area.

Check it out: <http://silverlight.net/Learn/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-05:00)

Adding Audio to Adobe Captivate

Friday, March 20, 2009

There's a 3-part series in this blog along with a reminder of why we need to add audio in our elearning platforms...

According to Colvin Clark & Mayer (2002) there are six different "broadly applicable" media element guidelines to follow when undertaking e-learning instruction. These guidelines are:

- The Multimedia Principle: Use words and graphics rather than words alone.
- The Contiguity Principle: Place corresponding words and graphics near each other
- The Modality Principle: Present words as audio narration rather than onscreen text.
- The Redundancy Principle: Presenting words in both text and audio narration can hurt learning.
- The Coherence Principle: Adding interesting material can hurt learning
- The Personalization Principle: Use conversational style and virtual coaches.

Check it out: <http://elearningcurve.blogspot.com/2009/03/adding-audio-to-adobe-captivate.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:33AM (-05:00)

Slang, Jargon etc.

Thursday, March 19, 2009

The Double-Tongued Dictionary records undocumented or under-documented words from the fringes of English, with a focus on slang, jargon, and new words. This site strives to record terms and expressions that are absent from, or are poorly covered in, mainstream dictionaries.

I liked -

Retronovation n. The conscious process of mining the past to produce methods, ideas, or products which seem novel to the modern mind. Some recent examples include Pepsi Throwback's use of real sugar, Pepsi Natural's glass bottle, and General Mills' introduction of old packaging for some of their cereals

Check it out: <http://www.doubletongued.org/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:53AM (-05:00)

Online Math Game Lets Kids Learn at Their Own Pace

Friday, March 13, 2009

This program uses a "recommendation engine" to watch how a child plays math games and provide new content according to what's observed.

The recommendation engine, patented as GuideRight technology, watches every motion the child makes while playing the game, and then adjusts on the fly to present kids with a math curriculum that is most appropriate for them. With more than 350 math activities to choose from, the game can present more than a million different paths.

Check it out: <http://www.dreambox.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:38AM (-05:00)

A Fantastic Video on the Relationship between Play & Creativity

Thursday, March 12, 2009

My friend, Pam, passed along this video. At the 2008 Serious Play conference, designer Tim Brown talks about the powerful relationship between creative thinking and play -- with many examples you can try at home (and one that maybe you shouldn't).

Check it out: http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/tim_brown_on_creativity_and_play.html

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:27AM (-05:00)

Miro HD Video Player

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Miro is a free application that turns your computer into an Internet TV video player. It can play almost any video file and offers over 6,000 free Internet TV shows and video podcasts. You can put your own videos on Miro and then offer it to your students via RSS feed. Get the player at: <http://www.getmiro.com/> Check out the available videos at: <https://www.miroguide.com/> An added bonus - There's a great tutorial on making Internet Videos. Check it out: <http://www.getmiro.com/publish/makeinternettv/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:27AM (-05:00)

Microsoft Time Zone

Tuesday, March 10, 2009

Do you have relatives that live far away? Do you work with people from other countries? Use this simple utility to keep track of the time in other part of the world. Share your ideas without waking up your buddies.

Microsoft Time Zone installs as a small tray icon that allows you to specify as many as

five cities to watch the time on while you are working on your computer.

In order to schedule meetings and trip the Microsoft Time Zone application also lets you compare times at different places in the world without changing your system time. With Microsoft Time Zone you will always know the time.

Check it out: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=07fb0bd8-f390-458d-a629-6f0258ac7cdf&displaylang=en>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:41AM (-05:00)

Create your avatar using Voki

Monday, March 09, 2009

Voki enables users to express themselves on the web in their own voice using a talking character. You can customize your Voki to look like you or take on the identity of lots of other types of characters... animals, monsters, anime etc. Your Voki can speak with your own voice which is added via microphone, upload, or phone.

Check it out: <http://www.voki.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:04AM (-05:00)

What's your energy IQ?

Friday, March 06, 2009

Check out this interactive quiz that was developed as part of the second Energy IQ survey, conducted for American Petroleum Institute (API) by Harris Interactive® in June 2008.

The feedback if you miss a question is great - it includes an option to see how others answered the question along with the question source.

Check it out: <http://www.apieneryarcade.com/energyiq/>

http://www.energytomorrow.org/Energy_IQ_Survey.aspx - this page includes presentation and question PDFs.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:30AM (-06:00)

Online Magazine offers 101 info

Thursday, March 05, 2009

There are LOTS of online magazines. I came across Suite101 this past weekend. Articles are written by "experts" and organized by categories. I have to admit that I lost a couple of hours surfing through the site. It's all text-based but has enough to keep you busy for a while - and they are looking for free-lance writers!

With 12 years online, over 150,000 articles and more than 2,000 professional, paid contract writers, Suite101.com is dedicated to delivering great articles by skilled writers.

Check it out: <http://www.suite101.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:51AM (-06:00)

The Five Attributes of Excellent Web-based Courses – What a Student...

Wednesday, March 04, 2009

This is a pretty good article on what a student should expect from online courses - delivered from a college student's perspective.

One statement I liked - "In simplest terms, technology should be chosen according to how it will help meet the specific learning objectives of a course." I think sometimes we try too hard to make the medium the focus - for example, it's hot now to deliver training on mobile devices but they may not be the best solution for a particular training course.

Check it out: <http://blog.gocollege.com/2009/03/01/the-five-attributes-of-excellent-web-based-courses-%E2%80%93-what-a-student-should-expect/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:45AM (-06:00)

Twitter As a Learning Tool. Really

Tuesday, March 03, 2009

I'm still not convinced that "twittering" is a viable e-learning format. However, this article in ASTD Trends does have some good points - and some great resources for further review. One good point:

"Think before you tweet. Each tweet is a webpage. It can be Googled. It's forever."

Check it out: http://www.astd.org/TD/Archives/2009/March/0903_Trends.htm

Southwest Airlines Twitters: <http://twitter.com/SouthwestAir>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:38AM (-06:00)

e-Learning DevCon 2009 speaker

Monday, March 02, 2009

I'm delivering two sessions at e-Learning DevCon 2009. My topics are:

- Train Subject Matter Experts in the design of rapid e-learning materials
- Using Blogs for quick learning

There are lots of great topics - and two fantastic keynote speakers. Early bird registration gets you a discounted price.

Check it out: <http://www.elearndevcon.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:32AM (-06:00)

learners can share knowledge with others, learn from each other, comment on anything, rate everything and more - all while browsing a course, without ever leaving the learning environment.

- Add blogs to courses, either completely open to the public where anyone can post, or moderated.
- Add the ability to comment on anything in the course, with or without comment approval.
- Let your learners rate any object in the course, and see how others rated it.
- Include content from external RSS feeds, either blogs or other services.
- Easily embed mashup widgets, such as YouTube videos, Google Charts, and others.

Check it out: <http://www.composica.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-06:00)

Money Smart - A Financial Education Program

Friday, February 20, 2009

The FDIC has an online learning series designed to help people with little or no banking experience.

Money Smart is available in two versions: an instructor-led version and a computer-based instruction (CBI) version. Both versions consist of the same 10 modules.

Check it out: <http://www.fdic.gov/consumers/consumer/moneysmart/mscbi/mscbi.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:11AM (-06:00)

Tips on handling SMEs

Thursday, February 19, 2009

Just read a great article that has tips on working with subject matter experts (SMEs). In my experience, making sure that SMEs understand the time commitment they need to devote to the project is essential to your project's success.

Check it out: <http://www.webcourseworks.com/blog/tips-on-handling-subject-matter-experts>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:20AM (-06:00)

Online Free Diagram Program

Wednesday, February 18, 2009

Looking for a better way to create visual diagrams?

Lovely Charts allows you to create sitemaps, visual diagrams and org charts. You can export the chart as a PNG file to import into your learning application.

Check it out: <http://www.lovelycharts.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:57AM (-06:00)

Social Media Stats

Tuesday, February 17, 2009

According to the article below, more adults are connecting online for both personal and professional reasons. How can we use this technology to promote learning?

PEW Research Observes:

75% of online adults 18-24 have a profile on a social network site

57% of online adults 25-34 have a profile on a social network

30% of online adults 35-44 have one

19% of online 45 to 54 year olds have a profile

10% of online 55 to 64 year olds have a profile

7% of online adults 65 and older have a profile

Check it out: <http://www.socialcomputingmagazine.com/viewcolumn.cfm?colid=638>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:43AM (-06:00)

The e-Learning Lingo Podcast

Monday, February 16, 2009

Each week, the e-Learning Lingo Podcast Series discusses one or two important terms used in the e-Learning industry. There are currently 79 episodes in the series.

You can subscribe to the podcast via iTunes or just go to the URL below to down the MP3 file along with a PDF transcript.

Check it out: http://www.syberworks.com/lingo_podcast.htm
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-06:00)

Sample e-Learning: Learn about gems

Monday, February 09, 2009

Came across an interesting e-Learning course.

Check it out: <http://www.gia.edu/elearning/index.cfm>

Take the "Diamond Essentials" course and look at a couple of pages. They use "slide shows" that pop up in the page for further explanations along with other methods to convey drill-down information.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Check it out: <http://nml.gov/training/geekgifts/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:07AM (-06:00)

e-Learning DevCon 2009

Tuesday, February 03, 2009

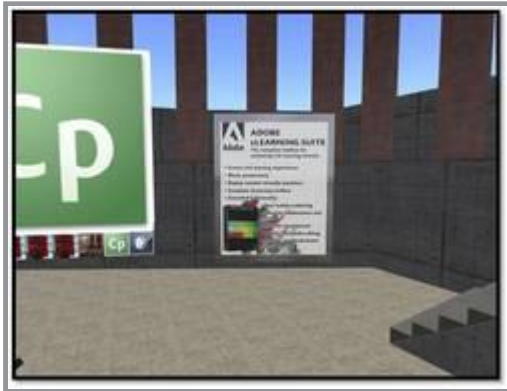
Have limited budget for training conferences this year? If I had to pick one conference, I'd go to e-Learning DevCon 2009.

Your \$699 registration includes a full conference pass—and all meals are included! There are 70+ sessions on e-Learning development using a variety of software packages. Presenters for many of the sessions are end-users. Bill Horton is giving one of the keynote speeches.

Check it out: <http://www.elearningdevcon.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:45AM (-06:00)

Adobe eLearning Island on Second Life

Monday, February 02, 2009



Adobed launched an eLearning experience for Adobe Systems in the virtual world of Second Life. The Island highlights its eLearning Suite and Captivate 4 products, which launched last week. The island features several interactive elements meant to educate and entertain audiences about Adobe's eLearning products.

Adobe's eLearning Island can be reached in Second Life at the following location: <http://slurl.com/secondlife/Adobe%20eLearning/38/38/37>.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:56AM (-06:00)

What is the semantic web?

Sunday, February 01, 2009

If you haven't heard about the semantic web (Web 3.0), get ready for it. It's basically the "web of data" - a way to understand the meaning behind the stuff on a web page. Understanding what a person, place or event is - rather than depending on just keywords and then using that data to present information.

To see this in action, compare Freebase and Wikipedia. Wikipedia and Freebase both appeal to people who love to use and organize information, but the difference lies in the type of information covered, and the way it's organized. Wikipedia arranges information in

the form of articles, while Freebase lists facts and statistics. Freebase information is good not only for people who want to research facts, but also for people who want to use those facts to build other websites and applications.

Check it out: <http://www.freebase.com/>

Example: <http://www.freebase.com/view/royalty>

Another Tool: Operator from Firefox <https://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/4106>
Operator lets you combine pieces of information on Web sites with applications in ways that are useful. For instance, Flickr + Google Maps, Upcoming + Google Calendar, Yahoo! Local + your address book, and many more possibilities and permutations. All of these scenarios are possible due to Microformats, an emerging standard for injecting semantics into HTML.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Social Networking - Travel Guide

Saturday, January 31, 2009

Tripwolf combines travel tips from professional travel writers with a vast collection of travel information, experiences and reviews from a worldwide community of thousands of travelers.

Search for a destination and get a PDF guidebook along with tips from fellow travelers. Another example of people teaching people by sharing experiences and opinions.

Check it out: <http://www.tripwolf.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Obama Wired - Obama CTO

Friday, January 30, 2009

Lots of interesting uses of technology in the new administration. One I'm watching is the Obama - Chief Technology Officer website which uses technology from UserVoice.

UserVoice lets you capture feedback and ideas from your customers. They can vote and/or share their ideas.

Check it out: <http://www.obamacto.org/>

<http://www.uservoice.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:08AM (-06:00)

Featured on eLearning Learning Blog

Thursday, January 29, 2009

I am now featured on the eLearning Learning Blog!

eLearning Learning is a community that tries to collect and organize the best information on the web that will help you learn and stay current on eLearning.

Check it out: <http://www.elearninglearning.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:52PM (-06:00)

Free e-books and magazine: e-Learning Tips and Tricks

Thursday, January 29, 2009

The e-Learning Guild is a great resource for information.

To get all the benefits, you'll need to get a membership (minimum \$99/yr) but you can access lots of great stuff for free. For example, Guild eBooks are FREE for everyone and Guild membership is not required to access them.

Check it out: <http://www.elearningguild.com/content.cfm?selection=doc.545>

The free Learning Solutions eMagazine is a forum for sharing strategies, techniques, best practices, and case-studies for the management, design, development, and delivery of e-Learning. Each weekly issue offers insightful articles that are rich with practical ideas, advice, and solutions for solving your e-Learning challenges.

Join now: <https://www.elearningguild.com/join/index.cfm?sid=1>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Help with color selection and palette creation

Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Need some fresh ideas for color selection and palette creation in your training project? Check out myPANTONE. An interactive color workspace, the software aids in locating and identifying information relevant to color and color combinations and provides ways to create, use and manage color palettes. myPANTONE palettes works in conjunction with the myPANTONE community by enabling the upload and download of favorite colors and palettes.

I usually leave this to the graphic artists - but have to admit that the site sucked me in for a while and inspired me to create color combinations on my own. You'll get the hex and RGB codes so you can use the exact color you want in your project.

Check it out: http://www.pantone.com/pages/MYP_myPantone/mypantone.aspx
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:37AM (-06:00)

Social Learning: Part 2

Tuesday, January 27, 2009

http://www.ehow.com/video_112746_check-tire-pressure.html

This video led me to an interesting website that has great links on how to help your family and friends reduce your environmental impact.

The learning idea I took away from this site is a good example of to incorporate good resources from other websites into your training. Of course, you'll need to check the links on a regular basis - the Internet is an ever changing tool - but you can take advantage of really great information at a low cost.

Check it out: <http://www.kathysclimatekits.com/companion.shtml>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Social Learning: share and learn information

Monday, January 26, 2009

Came across an interesting site that allows people to share and learn information - eHOW.

"Every month, over 26 million people visit our site. We have more than 300,000 articles that are professionally written with clear and concise directions on how to do things. We also have a rapidly growing library of articles created by eHow's members.

We love sharing our knowledge with the world and have created a platform for you to share your knowledge with others. We invite you to become an eHow member, where you'll be able to comment on articles and interact with other members through a robust set of social networking tools. You can even write your own How To articles with our easy-to-use publishing tools that let you express your knowledge through text, images, and video."

Here's an interesting example: http://www.ehow.com/how_2052703_write-professional-external-email-memo.html

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Converting Corporate Speak into Plain Language

Friday, January 23, 2009

Do you struggle converting "corporate speak"?

Then check out this website:<http://www.plainlanguage.gov/index.cfm>

<http://www.plainlanguage.gov/usingPL/privsector/hidcost.cfm>

The site contains "how-tos", references and examples. It's aimed at improving communications from the government to the public.

I l o v e d t h e b e f o r e a n d a f t e r e x a m p l e s :
http://www.plainlanguage.gov/examples/before_after/index.cfm

A word about "plain English." The phrase certainly shouldn't connote drab and dreary language. Actually, plain English is typically quite interesting to read. It's robust and direct—the opposite of gaudy, pretentious language. You achieve plain English when you use the simplest, most straightforward way of expressing an idea. You can still choose interesting words. But you'll avoid fancy ones that have everyday replacements meaning precisely the same thing.

Bryan Garner, from *Legal Writing in Plain English*, 2001, pp xiv
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:07AM (-06:00)

TIME WARP TRIO

Thursday, January 22, 2009

The **TIME WARP TRIO** television series offers a wonderful opportunity to get kids excited about history. Its lively humor and irreverent attitude combine to make the programs refreshing and appealing, while providing solid historical facts. It's on the Discovery Kids Channel - in Houston, it's 336- Comcast. Check your local listing. The accompanying website is a great resource to spark some ideas for your training.

Check out the **Sandwiches of time** game - if you get the answer correct, you build parts of a sandwich.

Put it back Jack is a research game. It has an interesting twist. The questions display on screen and the information is a pop-up book that you page through. You can read the information, find the answer and then enter it. You get feedback along with hints. This may be a different way to present content to students?

<http://www.timewarp trio.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:20AM (-06:00)

Top new features in Adobe Captivate 4

Wednesday, January 21, 2009

- Text-to-speech functionality
Keep learners tuned in to your content thanks to automatic voice-over functionality that turns text to high-quality speech in a few clicks. Need to change the text? Just click once to update the audio.
- Table of Contents and Aggregator
Enable learners to easily navigate through content and track their progress with a multilevel Table of Contents. Also, use the new Aggregator to combine multiple content modules to create a complete eLearning course.
- Variables and Advanced Actions
Use Variables to personalize the learning experience by using learner-provided data, such as the learner's name, throughout a scenario. Use Advanced Actions to further configure and modify the experience by enabling conditional actions, or more than one action in an interaction

Check it out: <http://www.adobe.com/ap/products/captivate/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:00AM (-06:00)

Wikipedia leads to great new resource

Tuesday, January 20, 2009

Sometimes one resources leads to another ... which provides you with a real gem.

One of my first sources for information is Wikipedia. I spent some time reading about the history of the presidents .
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Presidents_of_the_United_States

A link on this page lead me to <http://www.ipl.org/div/potus/> containing info on the presidents.

The Internet Public Library is a site to bookmark. The Internet Public Library is a public library for the world wide web.Students from a consortium of colleges and universities with programs in information science develop and maintain the IPL.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:53AM (-06:00)

Martin Luther King - test your knowledge

Monday, January 19, 2009

In keeping with MLK day, take this short quiz to test your knowledge about Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement.

Check it out: <http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/special/mlk/king/quiz.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:35AM (-06:00)

"What's Your iCue?" - A reason to check out Facebook

Saturday, January 17, 2009

"What's Your iCue?" is the only video trivia quiz in Facebook with multiple categories, thousands of questions, and videos from the NBC News archive. Test your own knowledge and advance up the ladder from Trivia Newbie to Trivia Genius!- Challenge your friends and play against them in real time.- Start your own trivia team and take the challenge to the next level.- Check out the weekly match-up and see which teams are pitted against each other.

<http://www.whatsyouricue.com/>

You'll need to set up a Facebook account - this will give you a chance to check out the application. Also, try joining a few groups and collaborating with friends look me up. I look forward to connecting with you. Join my trivia team "Geek Houston".

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 11:10AM (-06:00)

Inauguration of the President

Friday, January 16, 2009

There's a wonderful website containing all you need to know about the inauguration next week.

<http://inaugural.senate.gov/index.cfm>

Watch the Video "So Help Me God", a historical look at the Inaugural Ceremonies 1789-2005. Any videos can be watched on the site or downloaded.

This site would be great to share with your kids this weekend - prepare them for the big day! If you are at work on Tuesday, you'll be able to watch the swearing-in ceremony online. It will be streamed live on the website.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:30AM (-06:00)

View and share documents online

Friday, January 16, 2009

Need a quick way to share documents online? Check out **Zoho Viewer** - you just select a file from your computer and specify the amount of time you'd like the file to be available. I tried it with a Microsoft Word document as well as an Adobe PDF document. Once the file is uploaded, just provide the URL to anyone who needs to view it. No sign up is required. I think this would be great for those documents too big for email! If you want to delete the file, you have to email the Zoho folks - this will probably change once this product gets out of beta.

Zoho has a suite of other useful products - check out **Zoho Meeting**. Have one-on-one meetings online ... at no charge.

Also, try **Zoho Docs**. Create a doc on your desktop and then save it in a Zoho folder so you can work on it at home or anywhere you can access the Internet. Share the file or files with others by providing their email addresses and access permission (read only or read/write).

Check it out: <http://viewer.zoho.com/>

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Zoho_Office_Suite

My test viewer document: <http://viewer.zoho.com/docs/jrecbj>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:05AM (-06:00)

Stepping into Science: A Second Life Conference

Thursday, January 15, 2009

Wondered about how to use Second Life as a learning tool? Or just want to check it out? Attend the Stepping into Science conference on 1/30/09. This day long conference costs \$65 and will be hosted inside of Second Life. During this conference, they will talk about

and actually visit some of the best and most creative work being done in promoting science in a virtual world environment.

Participants in this conference will enter the virtual world of Second Life to attend presentations and visits simulations. They will open a Second Life account, create an "avatar," or virtual representation of themselves, and attend all sessions in a 3-D environment. Participants will hear presenters speak over their computer speakers, and be able to respond and interact in ways similar to a live conference. An orientation for new Second Life users will be included in the conference fee, and is required for those new to Second Life.

Check it out: <http://www.stepsintovirtualworlds.org/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:37AM (-06:00)

Train SMEs in design of rapid e-learning materials

Wednesday, January 14, 2009

Do you need to train Subject Matter Experts in the design of rapid e-learning materials for use in the workplace? Check out the free 60 minute masters course. This course was developed using PowerPoint and Articulate Presenter. There are both audio and non-audio versions of the course, along with handouts, resources and an online discussion area. The course is hosted in a Moodle LMS so you get a chance to check out that application as well.

Check it out: <http://www.kineolearning.com/60minutemasters/>
Sign up and take the online course.
http://www.learning15.net/wiki/index.php?title=The_60-minute_masters
Sign up and view course outline and project background. You can download the script and PowerPoint files. If you use Articulate Presenter, you can use the PowerPoint to practice your development abilities - create a course with branching.
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:55AM (-06:00)

CES 2009: Mattel's Mind Flex Game Is Powered by Brainwaves

Tuesday, January 13, 2009



The coolest gadget out of the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) in Las Vegas last week has to be a game - Mind Flex by Mattel.

It will be out in the Fall and cost around \$80.

Read about it:
<http://www.pcworld.com/article/156860/odd>

[ball_gadget_mattel_mind_flex.html](#)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i63X73ML9bAZaen2bBo7G1NUwi bA>

Image credits: Engadget
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:35PM (-06:00)

How To Find The Best Free Image/Photo/Graphics

Tuesday, January 13, 2009

This article discusses finding the best free images etc. for your blog but I think it's appropriate for e-learning as well.

It also discusses Creative Commons Images - a set of free licenses that allow artists to share their work, while still retaining some of their rights.

Check out this article:
<http://smackdown.blogsblogsblogs.com/2009/01/12/how-to-find-the-best-free-imagephotographics-downloads-for-your-blog-posts/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:04PM (-06:00)

Free text messaging polling system

Monday, January 12, 2009

Here's a way to get those Millennials perked up during your training class. **Poll Everywhere** is a text message polling and audience response system. You create the poll, the audience responds via text message or on a web page. The results update live on the web page or in your PowerPoint presentation.

You can set up an account for free (30 responses per poll). Check it out: <http://www.polleverywhere.com/> You can respond to my poll below online or via cell phone. The results are displayed instantly. Pretty cool.

Make your own poll voting question with Poll Everywhere

Create your own sms poll at Poll Everywhere
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:47AM (-06:00)

Learn about our government

Saturday, January 10, 2009

With all the news on our president-elect, Congress and the Senate, I've found myself having some very interesting conversations with my nephews and nieces. Lots of questions about how folks are elected, how laws are made etc. Here are kids websites I access for reference and refreshers. Lots of great e-learning examples - plus quizzes, games and trivia. May spark some ideas for your course development!

Check it out: <http://clerkkids.house.gov/index.html> (U.S. House of Representatives)

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/kids/> (White House kids site - I am going to miss Barney!)

http://www.centeroncongress.org/learn_about/launcher.htm This site has a number of interactive modules about Congress. Check out **How a Member Decides to Vote**. In this module students will learn about the various influences that affect how a Member of Congress decides to vote on a bill. In this simulation, each student will become a Member of Congress and will be asked to vote on a proposed Constitutional amendment to ban flag desecration.

and <http://www.kids.gov/> which will link you to lots of other related sites, including state websites

http://www.history.com/minisites/citizen_quiz - see if you can pass the citizen quiz.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:06AM (-06:00)

Video: Web Search Strategies in Plain English

Friday, January 09, 2009

Check out this video designed to help you get more out of your web searches. The folks who created the video are Common Craft. Their custom, handcrafted videos are short, simple and focused on making technical information easy to understand. They use a whiteboard-and-paper format called Paperworks that is designed to cut out the noise and stick to what matters.

Once you have watched this video, check out the others at **The Common Craft Show**. The videos are free to view and share. You can purchase them at a reasonable cost from their store.

Check it out: <http://www.commoncraft.com/web-search-strategies>

I also liked the LinkedIn video: <http://www.commoncraft.com/linkedin> Learn different ways to use this tool

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:35AM (-06:00)

The element - new book by Sir Ken Robinson available

Thursday, January 08, 2009

Just got my pre-order shipment notice for **The Element: How Finding Your Passion Changes Everything** from Amazon.

Check out: <http://www.theelementbook.com/> for reviews and an excerpt.

I first encountered Sir Ken Robinson on the ted.com website. His video is worth watching ... Why don't we get the best out of people? Sir Ken Robinson argues that it's because we've been educated to become good workers, rather than creative thinkers.

C h e c k o u t :
http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/ken_robinson_says_schools_kill_creativity.html

Check out ted.com for other interesting videos. You can download them to your computer or iTunes (audio or video).

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 04:57PM (-06:00)

More brain exercise ideas

Thursday, January 08, 2009

These are great - and they may spark some ideas for your own interactive exercises.

<http://www.braingle.com/>

<http://www.sharpbrains.com/teasers/brain-games-the-latest/>

<http://www.scilearn.com/products/brainapps/lunar-tunes/index.php> Lunar Tunes is an exercise that will test your auditory and visual-spatial memory.

<http://www.scilearn.com/products/brainapps/hoop-nut/index.php> Hoop Nut is an exercise that will test your auditory processing speed and ability to focus your attention.

Radica Brain Games - low tech game for those not ready for a Nintendo DS

The iBrain book also suggests some low tech ideas like learning how to play chess, taking up the tuba and volunteering at a local hospital. Maybe 2009 is the year to learn a foreign language, as well?

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 03:57PM (-06:00)

Free Screen Capture Program ... beyond Print Screen

Thursday, January 08, 2009

Just started using **Jing**, a free online screen capture program. It's not as full-featured as Snagit but it is simple, easy to use and does the job. This program hangs around as a "sun" image at the top of your screen. Click the image and then select the area of the screen you'd like to capture. Mark up your screenshot with a basic text box, arrow, highlight, or rectangle to annotate or make comments about the screenshot.

Save the screenshot to any number of places, including your computer or to **Screencast** (online free storage). Sharing to **Screencast** returns a convenient link which is copied to your clipboard. Paste the link in an email (instead of pasting an image). Your email recipient will thank you for not bogging down their inbox. The image stays in your online storage until you delete it.

You can also make a video recording of your screen actions by selecting the video icon instead of screen capture. You can record audio as you record the screen action. The resulting output is a SWF file which can be shared just like the screen capture.

Check it out: <http://www.jingproject.com/> Mac and PC versions are available.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:19AM (-06:00)

Social Learning

Wednesday, January 07, 2009

I've been waiting for the flatworld knowledge site to go live. It looks really promising ... could this work for business learning as well? I'll let you know what I find. In the meantime, check out the preview videos.

From their site:

"We preserve the best of the old - books by leading experts that are rigorously reviewed and developed to the highest standards. Then we flip it all on its head. Our books are free online. We offer convenient, low-cost choices for students – print, audio, by-the-chapter, and more. Our books are open for instructors to mix, mash, and make their own. Our books are the hub of a social learning network where students learn from the book and each other.

Our books are social learning tools. It is 11:30 p.m. A student in Florida is reading online. She doesn't understand something. She clicks "Q&A" to see if that question has been asked and answered already. Yes? Great. No? She posts her question.. It is 11:47. An answer arrives from California. Thanks. Social learning at work. Students can chat live with other readers, take and share digital notes, set up study groups, and even find partners for cross border projects. They can do all of this at our site or tap into the collaborative features of Facebook using our Facebook app for this. They are part of a global community of learners. Or not. Their call. "

Check it out: <http://www.flatworldknowledge.com/minisite/>

In the press: <http://blog.wired.com/business/2008/09/open-source-tex.html>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 06:55AM (-06:00)

Google your way to a younger brain

Tuesday, January 06, 2009

UCLA researchers compared people 55 to 76 who surfed the Internet and those who didn't. MRI scans showed more brain activity in those who routinely do web searches compared to novice web surfers. However, even novices boosted their brain activity after spending an hour a day for 5 days surfing. Web surfing stimulates the brain, particularly the frontal lobe, which is involved in complex decision-making.

In **iBrain**, Dr. Gary Small, one of America's leading neuroscientists and experts on brain function and behavior, explores how technology's unstoppable march forward has altered the way young minds develop, function, and interpret information. **iBrain** reveals a new evolution catalyzed by technological advancement and its future implications: Where do you fit in on the evolutionary chain? What are the professional, social, and political impacts of this new brain evolution? How must you adapt and at what price?

To compete and thrive in the age of brain evolution, and to avoid these potential drawbacks, we must adapt, and **iBrain**—with its Technology Toolkit—equips all of us with the tools and strategies needed to close the brain gap.

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:13AM (-06:00)

Adobe Captivate 4 - Sneak Peek

Monday, January 05, 2009

Came across a blog that has info on the yet-to-be released **Adobe Captivate 4**.

Check it out: <http://blogs.adobe.com/preran/>

and a sneak peek article: <http://pipwerks.com/journal/2008/11/10/adobe-e-learning-products-sneak-peeks/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:58AM (-06:00)

Live collaboration on text documents

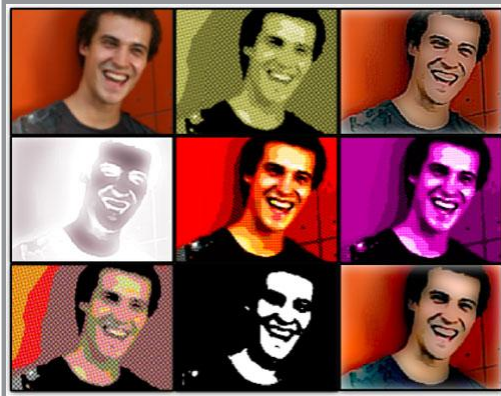
Monday, January 05, 2009

I've signed up to beta test **Etherpad**, an online application that allows real-time collaboration on documents. It does not require downloading or installation of any software packages. But, unlike many web applications, it does not require registration, either. Simply click "Create a Pad" on the homepage and you will open a new editing session. You can then copy and send the URL of the session to anyone you want to invite. By opening the link, they join in the editing. Each person can write simultaneously and the text is updated in real time. And each person is assigned a different highlight color so it is easy to see who has typed what. Just wondering if this application would work for storyboard/SME content development? I'll let you know how it goes... Check it out: <http://etherpad.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:23AM (-06:00)

Use comics to spice up your learning

Sunday, January 04, 2009



In the last several years, the comics art form has flourished, generating much interest from the literary, art and educational communities.

Comic Life is an award winning application for creating not just comics (obviously), but also annotated images, story books, instruction guides, and brochures. The software costs \$29.95 and you can download a 30-day trial version. Be prepared to lose yourself for a while - this

software is lots of fun, even for those of us with little or no graphic talent!

Comic Life allows you to create page layouts with boxes for images and text. Styles can be applied to create just about any type of 'feel' for your document. Captions can be created with tails in order to have thought balloons, speech boxes or just additional annotations. Filters are available to turn your digital images into a variety of hand drawn looking graphics to enhance the comic appearance of your work.

Check it out: <http://plasq.com/comiclife>

For ideas on how to incorporate comics into your learning, check out: <http://www.teachingcomics.org/>

<http://www.humblecomics.com/comicsedu/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 09:16AM (-06:00)

Brain Games

Saturday, January 03, 2009



Yet another way to get your brain exercising .. improve memory with scientifically designed brain games from **Lumosity**. I got sucked into **Brain Age** on the Nintendo DS last year so I thought I'd give this site a try.

This site offers a large catalog of quick-to-play visually appealing browser-based flash games that claim to boost and sharpen your cognitive powers. They are organized into progressive levels of difficulty and different categories of brain challenge – like “cognitive control” and “processing speed.” The idea is to incorporate a few minutes of game play into your daily routine... which they have made easy and pleasant to do. The games don't require any special knowledge or preparation – they are largely interactive variations on games you'd remember from childhood like the popular card game concentration.

Check it out: <http://www.lumosity.com/> There's a 7 day free trial and then it costs \$9.95 a month or \$79.95 for a year. Speedbrain is available for the iPhone via their apps store. I looked for a Blackberry version which led me to a product called "skyfire". I'll discuss this product in another post ... for now, I'm getting through basic training at the online site. It's

harder than it looks!

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 07:24PM (-06:00)

smart-e-bear by Intellitoys

Saturday, January 03, 2009



It's too late for Christmas ... but put this toy on your list for 2009. This soft bear will be your child's companion during playtime and bedtime for years to come. Not only is he cuddly, he recites up to four hours of songs and stories, and plays games such as "Simon Says" – thanks to electronics tucked into his back. Parents can customize the bear's responses with their child's name, favorite music and stories, by using the included software (PC and Mac compatible) and USB port on the bear.

Kids can engage the bear in interactive games by pressing his hands and feet to respond. An online store allows parents to purchase additional songs

and stories, available in a choice of languages.

Check it out: <http://www.smartebear.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:42AM (-06:00)

Natural software for studying, making, printing and sharing flash c...

Saturday, January 03, 2009

Flash My Brain is a unique suite of software that makes flash card learning easy, fun, and worthwhile. The **Flash My Brain** learning process helps you learn things faster and more completely, while keeping you engaged and challenged.

You can even use **Flash My Brain** to make flashcards for your iPod or cell phone -- or use them with **Flash My Brain** for the iPhone.

Check it out: <http://www.flashmybrain.com/>

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:00AM (-06:00)

Tool for testing and developing SCORM content

Friday, January 02, 2009

Rustici Software's **SCORM Test Track** is the ultimate tool for testing and developing SCORM content without the overhead of an LMS.

Advanced diagnostic information, monitoring of sequencing rule interpretation and one-click re-import, all from a dashboard control center, provide the best environment for

quickly creating SCORM 2004 content with advanced sequencing rules. Best of all, it's free.

Check it out: <http://www.scorm.com/products/testtrack.aspx>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 05:11PM (-06:00)

Text Google

Friday, January 02, 2009

Text "weather houston tx" or wherever you live to **466453**. Get tomorrow's forecast as a return text message.

That number? It spells **Google**. For a list of useful shortcuts and tips, text message "help" to **466453**.

Check it out: <http://www.google.com/mobile/default/sms.html>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=65n-yPpg9yo>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:17AM (-06:00)

Read books by email

Thursday, January 01, 2009

Have daily, bite-sized chunks of books you've always meant to read delivered to your inbox for free. Choose the day and time you want to read. Read on any computer or mobile device (including your Blackberry).

Why read books by email?

Because if you are like us, you spend hours each day reading email but don't find the time to read books. **DailyLit** brings books right into your inbox in convenient small messages that take less than 5 minutes to read. In the words of Dr. Seuss: Try it, you might like it! (Oops -- it would appear that the actual quote from Green Eggs and Ham is "You do not like them. So you say. Try them! Try them! And you may.")

Check it out: <http://www.dailylit.com/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:44AM (-06:00)

Mobile Study - Create quizzes that run on mobile devices

Wednesday, December 31, 2008

This website allows you to quickly and easily create a multiple choice quiz that can be downloaded and completed via a mobile device.

Once you have completed your quiz, you get a web address link to the quiz that students can access through their mobile devices via the Internet. Once downloaded, the quiz is stored on the student's phone and can be completed over and over again. When a student finishes a quiz, it asks them to enter their name and gives the user the option to

send results via text message to the creator.

There is a version for organizations - users who are not in your organization will not be able to see your content.

Check it out: <http://www.mobilestudy.org/home/>
Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:13AM (-06:00)

Adobe PDF Online

Tuesday, December 30, 2008

Create Adobe PDF Online is a web-hosted service that lets you convert a wide variety of documents to Adobe PDF files.

Select a file from your hard drive, and the online program creates an Adobe® PDF file for you. It can also do optical character recognition (OCR) on image files. Enter the URL of a Web page, and the program will capture it as an Adobe PDF file.

You upload the file and choose the way you want it delivered - converted immediately in the web browser, or emailed to you as a link or attachment. Files will be stored for 72 hours after they are created; files not picked up within 72 hours are discarded.

Check it out: <https://createpdf.adobe.com/>. PDF Online"
src="https://createpdf.adobe.com/images/en_US/createpdficon.gif" width=88 border=0>

Cost is \$9.99 per month or \$99.99 per year. You can sign up for a trial subscription

Posted by Debbie@Cre8iveii at 08:06AM (-06:00)



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