



ALRC TECH TIPS

APRIL 2007

VOLUME 3, NUMBER 2

Welcome to April's ALRC Tech Tips. We hope you find these brief ideas helpful. Please feel free to contact us with any tech ideas you would like to share with other programs. This is your forum.

Adult Learning Resource Center

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ALRC is on the Web!
www.thecenterweb.org

Peruse and Use: [Worksheets Online](#)

How wonderful it is when a teacher can find an entertaining and appropriate worksheet online! Here are some resources for you...all found with the search engines we describe in the following section.

 **30 Free Books**
www.readinga-z.com

This subscription site allows new, curious users to download 30 easy reading books in PDF format that fold into booklet form. It is designed for elementary school, but the stories are so fun that any adult with the smallest sense of humor would enjoy them. Give it a try. We especially liked "Smelly Clyde".



MathWord/Computation Problems
www.cdli.ca/CITE/math_problems.htm

This site, as you can see by the dragon mascot above, is also for children. Some of the problems make that clear. For the most part, however, these problems are interesting, easy-to-read, and access the skills that we want our ABE/GED students to attain.



ESL Headquarters
www.eslhq.com

What a selection of handouts! You can download worksheets, flashcards and articles as well as create your own. They would like to have you register, but the site is free.



SPOTLIGHT

- Horizon Wimba classes
Jan. 15th -Feb.15th
1 hour each

Using Google's "Special Features"
Tues. Apr. 10, 2 p.m.

The Holocaust
...Deconstructing Web Pages
Wed. Apr. 11, 1 p.m.

Constructing ESL
Vocabulary Quizzes and Exercises
Thurs. Apr. 12, 10 a.m.

Task Analysis for
Effective Instruction
(Special Learning Needs)
Tues. Apr. 17, 2 p.m.

Shop 'till you Drop:
Math in the Real World
Wed. Apr. 18, 6 p.m.
Wed. Apr. 25, 1 p.m.

Links and Chains:
Students' Stimulus and Response
Thurs. Apr. 19, 6 p.m.

Websites for Low-Level
ESL Learners
Thurs. Apr. 19, 7 p.m.

Registration:

[www.thecenterweb.org/
alrc/wimba.html](http://www.thecenterweb.org/alrc/wimba.html)

This Month's Feature: [Unique, Interesting Search Engines](#)



Search Engines

that search a little bit differently,
find a little bit more

Do you think that all search engines will bring up approximately the same results?
No, they don't.

Go to <http://ranking.thumbshots.com>. Try out searching with two search engines and examine the interactive graphic which maps what sites appear and where they appear. You will find that a search engine will generate unique results for most searches over 50% of the time.

There are a surprising number of search engines available beyond Google, Live Search, Yahoo, Altavista, and Ask.com. Here are a few that are worth a try.

Kooltorch.com

<http://www1.kooltorch.com>

The search brings up sites categorized by circles of buttons color coded by the most popular. Mouse over to bring up a description of the site. Click the button to access the site. The search is efficient and well organized with very relevant key sites.

Quitura

<http://www.quitura>

Your results come up in two ways: a typical window of annotated websites and a visual cloud of categories. When you mouse over a category, a more specific list appears. Any of the categories can be clicked to bring up a new, more clearly defined set of sites. <http://kids.quintura.com> is in the same format, just filtered for children's use.

Find Sounds

<http://www.findsounds.com>

Do your ESL students know what a wolf is? Well, you can find the sound of a howling wolf here as well as the sound of anything else. They also can be saved to your desktop.

Search 22

<http://www.search.22.com/downloads/images.php>

This is a mega search engine for images. Type in the image that you want and then click one of the listed picture searches. Copy or save the pictures.

Mrque

<http://www.mrque.com>

Do you or your students want to know if that movie you selected is any good? This site will bring up movie reviews across the nation...nice for reading comprehension.

Ask Vox

<http://www.askvox.com>

She finds what you want and reads your question! Not only that, you can send realistic voice emails. Fantastic.

Gruuve.com

<http://www.gruuve.com/music>

And just one more... Pick an artist or composer and listen to a song from one of their albums. The site doesn't have everyone, but it runs the gamut from Bach to Toby Keith.