

## Links to Helpful Education Resources

### DO THOSE POP-UP ADS FRUSTRATE YOU, TOO?

By Tim Moline

There you are, doing online research for a class project or lesson, when suddenly you are bombarded by intrusive Web advertisements inviting themselves into your previously controllable world. What do you do?

Like many others, you are probably spending some of your research time closing windows you never knew were opened – nor ever wished to see. But as soon as you close one window, another one pops up in its place. And the “pop-up attack” continues. Your research has now turned into a test of your patience, an endless process of closing offensive advertisements until you are finally frustrated enough to close your Internet browser and go to the nearest library.

How can you win the battle against pop-ups and take control of your Web browsing experience? It's simple using one of several ad-blocking programs available for free or for a small fee. For example, I use a free and very user-friendly version of Pop-Up Stopper from Panicware ([www.panicware.com](http://www.panicware.com)) and am now, once again, in control of my virtual world.

There are many other services available, and I urge you to take a look at them. One way to locate the service that best meets your needs is to utilize the “Search” feature available in your favorite Web browser's home page. Or go to sites such as [www.google.com](http://www.google.com) or [www.yahoo.com](http://www.yahoo.com) and enter something like “prevent pop-up ads.”

Take control of your “surfing” and sink those pop-up ads!

*Tim Moline is the Technology Applications/Data Management Specialist for the PREL Technology Center.*

*Tech Tips provides information on the use and maintenance of computers. PREL provides no guarantee against any loss that may occur to your computer system as a result of using this advice. Professional assistance should be consulted as appropriate.*

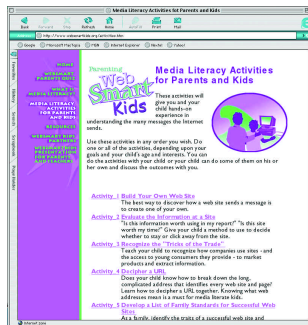
As students have a range of technologies available to them in school and at home, it is important to help them gauge the relevancy of information, learn how to find reliable sources, and be discerning consumers of media and information. The sites below provide lesson plans and ideas for teachers and parents.



#### Just Think Media Literacy Lessons

[justthink.org/lessons/lessons.html](http://justthink.org/lessons/lessons.html)

This “lesson bank” has curriculum-related projects developed by teachers to allow students to explore concepts of media and information literacy. Categories include Developing Minds in Media Arts, Technology, and Communication Classes; Developing Minds in English, Language Arts, and Social Studies Classes; and Developing Minds in Science and Environmental Studies Classes.



#### Parenting Web Smart Kids

[www.websmartkids.org/activities.htm](http://www.websmartkids.org/activities.htm)

This site has many tips for parents to guide their children through the Web and teach them how to evaluate and gather information from sites they visit. Many useful links to other organizations and sites for increasing media literacy are also available.



#### National Educational Technology Standards Project

[cnets.iste.org](http://cnets.iste.org)

Created by the International Society of Technology in Education, the standards project site has links to the National Educational Technology Standards guide as well as several online resources and lesson plans. The lesson plans can be searched by grade level and subject and provide blueprints for technology integration into the classroom. The lessons are rich in ways to educate students not only about the technology tools they are using but also how to integrate and choose the technology and information they use.