

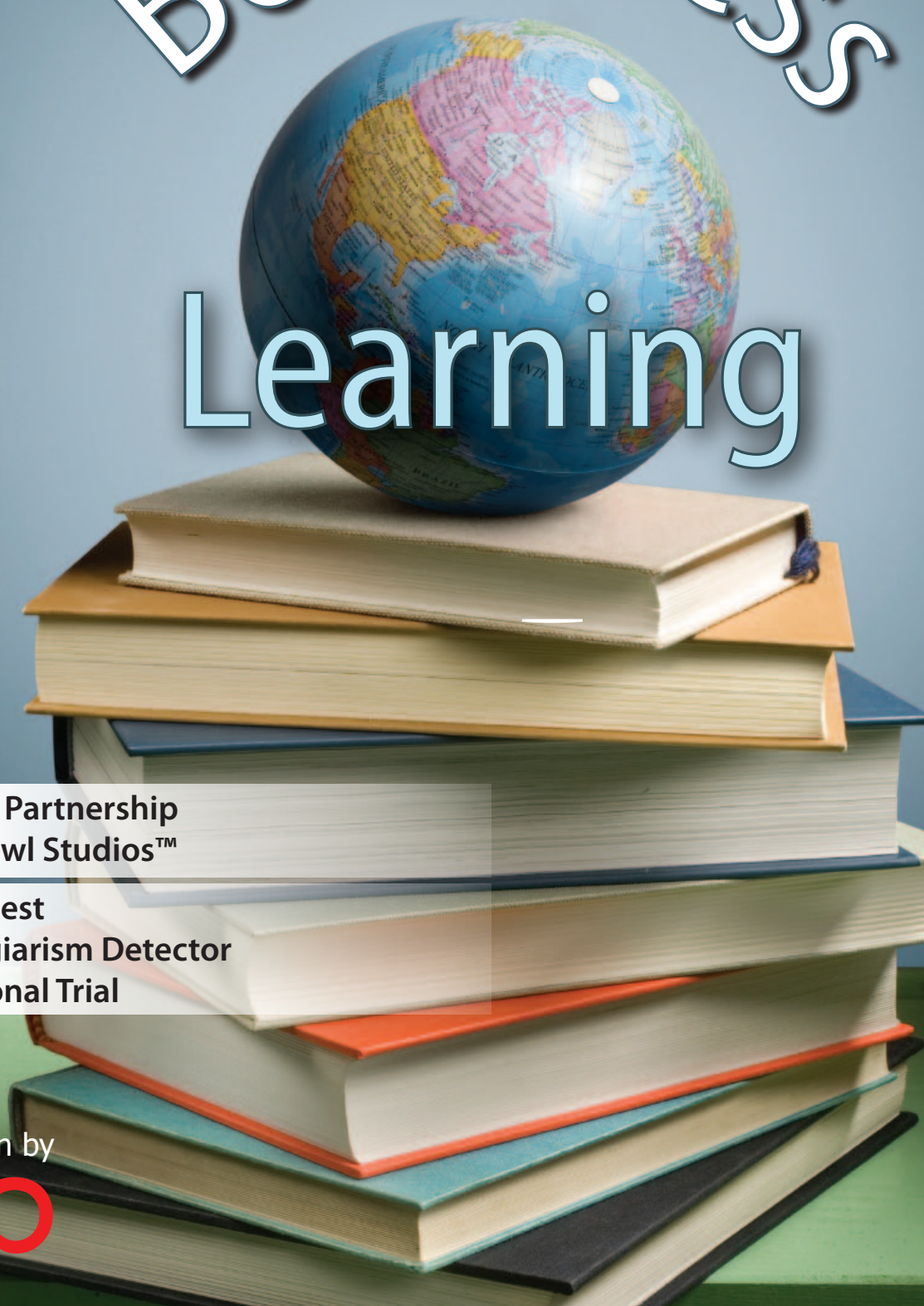
Navigating You Through Media and Technology in Education

The Cyber Nautica

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Borderless Learning



Strategic Partnership
with Scrawl Studios™

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Editor's Note

On the 25th of April 2002, the former Director-General of Education, Mr. Wee Heng Tin officiated an event organised by the Ministry of Education (MOE) featuring projects that illustrated the use of information technology to create a borderless classroom. The projects emphasized on inter-disciplinary research and innovative use of information technology, all of which, support MOE's goals for education, and its vision of "Thinking Schools, Learning Nation". Students are encouraged to apply and transfer knowledge to real world situations, for a greater objective that will benefit the community and expand their cross-cultural awareness and knowledge.

In ACP, we are well aware that education has increasingly ventured into a borderless landscape with the two key forces – Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and globalisation.

Today's technology has allowed us access to various information that is otherwise not readily available within our own social and cultural landscape. Teachers have transformed themselves into networked teachers. Today they are readily equipped with tools such as online communities, social networking sites and other useful websites such as Wikipedia and YouTube that allow them to gather and enhance their teaching materials. ACP recognizes that borderless education is imminent and will help to transform Singapore into a globalised, diversified and entrepreneurial economy.

In this issue, we delved deeper into why distance learning has been gaining popularity among adult learners. We also touched upon how a single learning management system can be used across countries for distance learning. Hope you will enjoy the read!

Firzillia
Editor

Your Thought Matters!

We'd love to hear your opinions and feedback about our publication and services.

Drop us a message anytime via email, twitter or facebook!

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ACP News

National Library Entrepreneurs Exhibit

Our Managing Director, Mr Alan Poh, was featured in an exhibition on Entrepreneurs at the National Library Building. The exhibition took place from the 1st to the 31st of March 2011.



Strategic Partnership with Scrawl Studios™

ACP has inked a strategic partnership with Scrawl Studios™ for an exclusive reseller rights for their NanoBoy interactive content for Singapore.

SCRAWL
STUDIOS

Newly Launched Websites

ACP has recently launched websites for Griffiths Primary School, Regent Secondary School and Parkway College.



New Beginnings

ACP would like to congratulate: Poon Kum Seng, ACP's Account Executive, and his wife on their new born baby girl, Bella.

Nurziana Binte Jumari, ACP's Account Executive, and Hassan Abdul Latiff on their upcoming nuptials in June 2011.



A Case Study: Learning Without Boundaries

Distance education was started as early as the 1700's when Caleb Phillips, a teacher of the new method short hand, placed an advertisement in the American Boston Gazette, seeking students for lessons to be conducted weekly via mail. The students would receive the lessons in the mail and subsequently mail back their completed course work and so, distance learning was born.

Distance education or distance learning essentially does not require students to be physically present in a traditional learning setting, such as in a classroom. Such convenience is greatly sought after, especially in this day and age, where individuals are empowered by technology and have greater access to information.

For example, despite having the smallest campus and the most inaccessible geographic location among the member institutions of the University of the Philippines (UP) system, UP Open University (UPOU) based in the Philippines, has practically the whole world to serve.

Distance learning is now getting more popular among people who are seeking advance or post graduate programmes while juggling 9 to 5 jobs.

In UPOU, professors communicate with students through chat rooms, instant messaging and e-mails, besides meeting with them at least three hours a week. While online education and e-Learning in UPOU may have no fixed schedules or physical boundaries, it is not completely without ground rules. Students will still have to pass the College Admissions Test and the course requirements do follow standards set by the UP system as well.

A corporate organisation, Globe Telecoms also uses distance learning to provide additional training to more than 10,000 of its employees. Distance learning is truly imminent in the evolution of education!

ACP provides Moodle support and services for The University of the Philippines Open University and Globe Telecoms. ACP also provides CyberSphere Academy, a Learning Management System, to Schools in Singapore.

Source: <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/>

Why Distance Learning is Gaining Popularity Among Adult Learners.

- You pay less for tuition and course materials than you would at most traditional colleges
- More flexible class schedules help accommodate commitments of individual learners who have full-time work or odd working hours
- No time lost in commuting to and from a college campus, which also saves on transport costs
- Online schools are able to offer programmes which are not always available locally
- Degree programmes can be completed at an accelerated pace as compared to regular colleges
- Managing online education will sharpen organisational skills as well as your technological savviness, both of which are great resume offerings
- Having classmates from different walks of life as well as from various geographic locations allows for an exciting exchange of social and cultural information



The Networked Teacher



Teachers nowadays have access to information from around the world to use in their daily lessons. Not only can they retrieve information via these networks, they can also share and impart their knowledge-making information readily available no matter where they are in the world.

Accessing and Integrating Digital Resources from Multiple Sources

Bringing the world to your classroom isn't as hard to achieve as it sounds. Unlike before, where the only information available was through books and your immediate peers, now all you need to do is go online to open your door to the world's information.

This has become even easier with Global Grid for Learning (GGfL). GGfL, a unit of Cambridge University Press, has teamed up with ACP to provide access to a digital media repository through CyberSphere, our learning management system.

More than 1 million copyright-cleared multimedia resources specifically for educators and students, which include photos, videos, audio, interactive activities, electronic books, and other types of files from around the world are readily available in the repository.



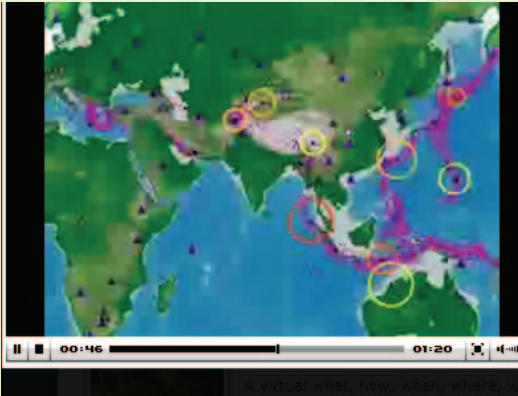
Bringing The World to Your Classroom

The recent devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan is on all of our minds, including our students. The event and aftermath is tragic and the nuclear emergency which followed is a reminder of how fragile society can be. As educators, we can help our students make sense of these events and give them the opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of their world.

The following are just some materials and content from around the world that can be used to bring understanding of Japan's earthquake into your classroom.

1 Videos

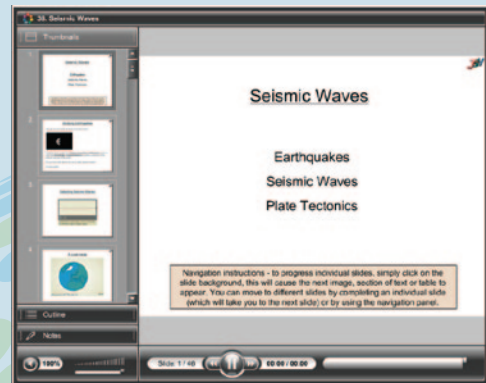
Content Provider: Film Ideas via GGfL



Show your students educational videos to better illustrate why earthquakes occur

2 Animated Sequences

Content Provider: JSH Education via GGfL



Use a variety of animated sequences to bring life to lessons

3 Images

Content Provider: Corbis Images via GGfL



Choose from a wide collection of photos/visual aids to use in your discussions

4 Interactive Content

Content Provider: Cambridge-Hitachi via GGfL



Teach your students how earthquakes work using interactive content

Expose your students to the knowledge of the world and open their minds to the wonderful possibilities of learning. With GGfL in your classroom, the possibilities for learning are endless!

Taking a New Look at Art

To the Secondary Three Normal Academic students of Bukit View Secondary School, art lessons will never be the same again. And guess what? That is exactly the intention of Mdm Maziyan, HOD of Aesthetics, when she signed the students up for the Media Literacy Programme (MLP) with ACP.

“The students enjoyed themselves during the class and the educational value which MLP brings to our students is just incalculable.

Inspite of all the challenges faced in logistics, the team from ACP was always at hand to address the issues.”
- Mdm Maziyan

MLP Missionaries

For the recent March school holidays, ACP successfully deployed a total of 80 trainers throughout Singapore, servicing a total of 35 classes from 7 different schools ranging from Primary to Secondary levels.

While the focal programme was MLP, the schools requested to integrate and inter-twine MLP with PBL (problem-based learning) and cyberwellness, amongst others.

Fusion of Media Literacy & Problem Solving

The partnership between Anderson Primary School (APS) and ACP has soared to new heights yet again. In this year's March holidays, APS has engaged ACP to organise the first ever MaP camp – Media literacy and Problem-based learning camp. Let's hear what one of the ICT elite students of APS has to say,

“It was fun! My favourite part of the camp was when we got to have fun and yet learnt useful lessons from the games that we played. I learnt that there are always many ways to look at and to solve problems.”

We are also very thankful, when Justin Soh, APS's ICT coordinator for the MaP camp shared his views about the camp,

“Thank you for being so patient throughout the organisation of the camp and with our kids. Thanks for your dedication and the effort you have put in. We appreciate the times your company came over in spite of your busy schedules. Thank you. Indeed, the collaboration between ACP and APS has reached new heights!”



These are just some of the works done by students from Anderson Primary during an MLP session.



Students in the midst of some activities during the MLP session.

Our Luminaries

Wai Lin Ko, an Applications Developer, shares how he considers working in ACP as a real blessing.

I've been working in ACP as an application programmer for the eSolutions team since June 2009. From the very beginning, ACP has provided me with a warm, familiar and comfortable environment to work in.

As part of the eSolutions team, both my team and I not only build and provide ICT solutions for schools, but we also provide support for schools which face technical issues.

There were some difficult times in the past, but with the help of my other teammates, I've always managed to keep myself motivated and inspired to solve the problems.

ACP has helped to provide me with the skills and experience I need to reach a higher level and with my newfound skills, I've been able to improve on my work.

I'm absolutely passionate about what I do and consider it a real privilege, joy and blessing to be paid doing what I love.



Rustin Neo, Training Executive of ACP, talks about his love of knowledge and sharing.



Moving out from being an IT trainer in the school to ACP's head office was something I have always looked forward to.

I am very grateful for an opportunity to advance my career, which opens up many new windows for my training experiences at different schools and organisations.

ACP has continuously given me and my colleagues the opportunity to participate in seminars and events related to our field of expertise to better ourselves.

One of my most rewarding events was attending the World Social Media Forum, which equipped us with powerful tips and knowledge

about Social Media and Media Literacy. This event aided me greatly during my programme planning.

With the encouragement of my colleagues and support of the company, I am motivated and inspired to create and conduct lessons and programmes, which are both enriching and purposeful.

> 11 - 13 April 2011 2011 Singapore Microsoft Office Academic Skills Challenge

The 2011 Singapore Microsoft Academic Skills Challenge is once again in full swing. Get a chance to represent your school and take home heaps of wonderful prizes.

Time: 2:00 - 6:00pm (50min slots)
Venue: Nanyang Polytechnic

> 18 May 2011 Social Media – Embrace or Reject?

This talk delves into the pros and cons of using Social Media as a marketing tool for SMEs. We will be tackling a few techniques that are being used by multinational corporations and how they can be adapted by you.

Time: 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Venue: 3 Lim Teck Kim Road, Singapore Technologies Building #08-02

> 15 June 2011 Business Productivity – Where to Start?

In this talk we will discuss business productivity and how it serves a vital role in every organisation regardless of industry. Some companies are wondering, "where to start?" This is the first step.

Time: 3:00 - 4:30 pm
Venue: 3 Lim Teck Kim Road, Singapore Technologies Building #08-02

Call 6227 7996 to register.

HOLA Showcase @ NIE

On the 27th of January, ACP participated in the Open House Festival held at the School of Technology Innovation Center (STIC) at National Institute of Education. The e-learning festival aims to introduce the use of ICT in education to the future teachers.

HOLA, the Heuristic Online Learning Agent, was showcased during this eLearning festival as one of the modern ICT applications in education.



ACP @ e-ICON World Contest, Seoul



ACP was invited to showcase our products at the 1st e-Icon World Contest at Seoul, Korea. e-ICON is an e-learning International contest of outstanding New Ages hosted by the Korea Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MEST) and jointly organised by Microsoft (Korea) and the Institute of APEC Collaborative Education. The event was held from February 17 - 25, 2011.

Our Managing Director and General Manager had the opportunity to meet with policy makers and educators from Korea, Taiwan, China, Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Brunei, Russia, Peru and Mexico.

Highlights

Obtain National recognition plus a chance to win Microsoft Xbox 360 & compete in USA!

Microsoft Office Academic Skills Challenge 2011 is here!

The challenge provides a platform for students to showcase their extraordinary skills in using Microsoft Office tools. This nationally recognised competition enables students to:

- * Develop their skills in Microsoft Office Word®, Excel®, and PowerPoint®
- * Gain international recognition from Microsoft and Certiport
- * Win attractive prizes inclusive of Microsoft Xbox 360®!



ACP is an official partner of the Singapore 2011 Microsoft Office Specialist competition.

Visit www.certiport.com.sg/challenge2011 for more info.

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