



OBAMA-BIDEN TRANSITION PROJECT

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TO THE OBAMA-BIDEN TRANSITION PROJECT

Free educational resources for everyone

Thinkfinity.org

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www.verizon.com/foundation





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Thinkfinity.org is designed to improve education and literacy achievement.

To educators, technology is both an opportunity and a challenge. They don't have time to scour the millions of resources available online to find content that is credible, appropriate and standards-based. Yet, to engage today's students – of all ages – technology is a must.

That's exactly where Thinkfinity.org comes in. This comprehensive Web site delivers free online resources to advance student achievement, including: top-quality, standards-based, K-12 lesson plans; student materials; interactive tools; connections to educational Web sites; research-based models and courses; and metrics for literacy instruction. From the classroom to literacy programs, afterschool or home environments, Thinkfinity.org gives teachers, instructors and parents the tools they need to increase student performance today and create the lifelong learners of tomorrow.



Voted Best Site For Free Lesson Plans

For two years in a row, *Edutopia* magazine's readers ranked Thinkfinity.org as the best site to download free lesson plans and resources – all provided by the top experts in education.

In a nutshell, here's what clicks with teachers who use Thinkfinity.org:

- Content is free and meets national education standards and the educational standards adopted by each of the states.
- Finding information is simple and fast.
- Content providers are knowledgeable and trustworthy.
- Lessons are exciting, fun and cover a depth and breadth of topics.
- Resources can be readily used by an individual student, small group or whole class.
- Literacy materials are targeted to early childhood, K-12, family, adult and English language learners.

“Producing interactive, engaging lesson plans is a necessity to reach our children in the classroom today. Thinkfinity is concise, easy to navigate and provides quick access to tried-and-proven lesson plans.”

Charmona Whitfield, School-Based Technology Specialist, Mosby Woods Elementary School, Fairfax, Va.

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The Verizon Foundation is a proud member of several leading education organizations.



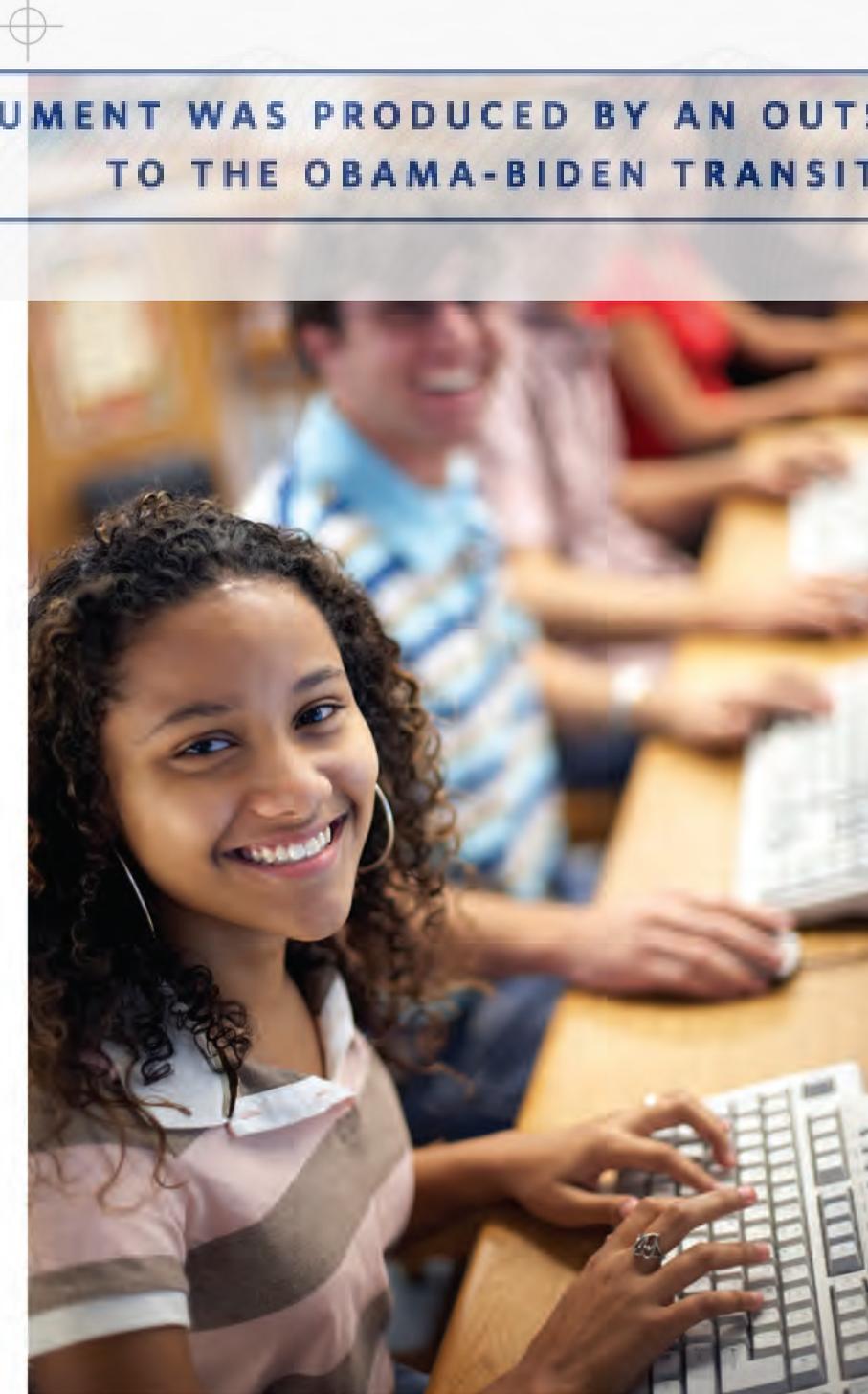
Thinkfinity Professional Development has earned the NETS-T Seal of Alignment.



Our Commitment

“We have a long history of supporting quality educational resources and programs – with our technology, our employees and our funding – to promote lifelong learning and growth. Thinkfinity will continue to evolve, leveraging the latest technologies and communications tools to provide innovative, relevant resources for teaching and learning in the 21st century.”

Patrick Gaston
President, Verizon Foundation





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Professional Development Makes A Difference

Thinkfinity's free, comprehensive professional development program shows educators – from classroom teachers to literacy instructors – how to effectively use Thinkfinity's resources to improve instruction and student achievement in a variety of settings in their schools and communities.

Thinkfinity training is flexible and easily customized. Our online and face-to-face K-12 training can be readily adapted to match state and local needs. Our courses for literacy instructors cover all stages of literacy across the lifespan.

Thinkfinity professional development and training materials have earned the prestigious Seal of Alignment to the National Education Technology Standards for Teachers (NETS-T) awarded by the International Society for Technology in Education.

Thinkfinity has longstanding partnerships with State Education Departments and statewide education organizations, which comprise the Thinkfinity State Education Network. These partnerships help ensure that Thinkfinity resources and professional development opportunities reach all educators.



The Classroom and Beyond

Learning takes place at all hours of the day so Thinkfinity features a unique space just for afterschool educators tailored to fit their needs and promote dynamic, experiential learning, both online and out in the community. Thinkfinity's afterschool portal uses academically rich resources and includes examples of multi-disciplinary modules that weave together hands-on learning experiences from across the collection. And, with the addition of My Thinkfinity, afterschool educators will be able to search for and tag resources most relevant to their needs and even share suggestions for project-based learning modules of their own.

Try it. www.thinkfinity.org

Whether you're a teacher, media specialist, literacy program manager or afterschool professional, please take a look at the free, high-caliber resources we have to offer.

"Thinkfinity is the window to the outside world. It brings authentic task, project-based learning into the classroom. Thinkfinity is what every teacher needs."

Dr. Stephanie Anne Baird, Instructor
University of Alabama at Birmingham

"We need to be flexible for our volunteers. Through the Thinkfinity Literacy Network we can provide critically important educational content in a different and effective manner that better suits some of our volunteer's fast-paced lifestyles."

Heidi L. Fisher
Executive Director
Literacy Volunteers of Chippewa Valley, Wisconsin

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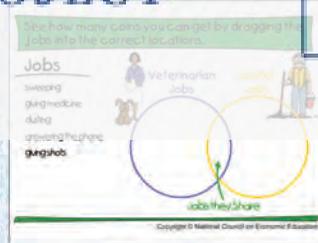
With [Perfect Pitch](#), orchestral music is as fun as a day at the ballpark. Students can mix and match instrument sounds to create a winning orchestral team, then test their orchestra know-how with an interactive quiz.



artsedge.kennedy-center.org



Students use this interactive venn Diagram, part of the [Dog Gone Job](#) lesson on EconEdLink, to compare and contrast job functions.



www.econedlink.org



EDSITEment offers an interactive quiz in which students answer questions as they follow [Marco Polo's Voyage](#) along a map.



edsitement.neh.gov



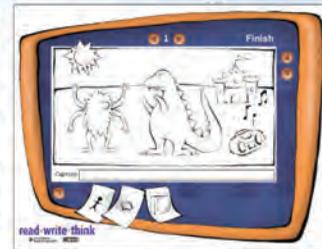
The [Fraction Game](#) applet from Illuminations provides practice working with relationships among fractions and ways of combining fractions.



illuminations.nctm.org



The [Comic Creator](#), provided by ReadWriteThink, invites K-12 students to compose their own comic strips for prewriting, pre- and postreading activities and as a form of literature response.



www.readwritethink.org

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Thinkfinity Content Partners



Thinkfinity resources are created and approved by the leading organizations in education and literacy. Here's a look at some of our most popular resources.

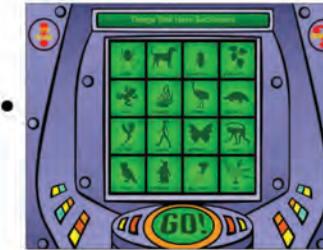
- American Association for the Advancement of Science
- The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts
- National Council on Economic Education
- National Council of Teachers of Mathematics
- National Geographic Society
- International Reading Association
- National Center for Family Literacy
- National Council of Teachers of English
- National Endowment for the Humanities
- ProLiteracy Worldwide
- Smithsonian- National Museum of American History



www.thinkfinity.org



Thinkfinity Literacy Network empowers literacy instructors, tutors, teachers, librarians, parents and volunteers to advance literacy and lifelong learning. The Thinkfinity Literacy Network provides a wealth of professional development courses, top-quality student materials, best teaching practices and hundreds of valuable resources created by trusted and leading experts.



www.sciencenetlinks.com



Using the Science NetLinks interactive [A Touch of Class](#), students classify plants and animals such as a frog, jellyfish, venus flytrap, bat, human and seaweed.



Smithsonian National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center



Content from the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History is now available through Thinkfinity! The Museum brings history to life through the exploration of objects and other original materials from its vast collections. A new web portal called Smithsonian's History Explorer will launch in time for the 2008/2009 school year.



www.nationalgeographic.com/xpeditions



Developed by the National Geographic Society, Xpeditions brings rich, standards-based content to life for K-12 educators, students and their families. The site includes free online and printable educational resources, including lesson plans, informal activities, an interactive atlas with over 1,200 printable maps and Xpeditions Hall, a virtual learning museum.