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The Power of Technology in the Classroom: *So Much More than Drill and Practice*
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Synopsis:

This workshop discusses the benefits of using technology in the classroom. Technology can be an effective way of presenting a message and should be considered because of the practicality that it provides in various situations in the classroom.

Summary:

- Technology is bringing about dynamic changes in the school environment and some resistance to this change is expected but will eventually have to be overcome
- The internet has brought about new challenges to teachers and students concerning information literacy, online safety, and copyright laws
- The internet has so many wonderful, free resources for teachers which include teacher tools, resources, background content, and interactive and exploratory activities
- Keeping Informed and Up-to-date with Technology in the Classroom
 - Teachers, using technology, can now be in touch with thousands of teachers all over the world. There are listservs, message boards, and newsletters that come right to a designated e-mail box. Teachers can post questions, comments, and success stories. E-mail messages and newsletters keep teachers informed on a daily basis about professional issues and the latest technology news.
- Keep Up-to-Date and Informed: Subscribe to Newsletters
 - Newsletters come usually once a week and will supply you with information about using technology in the classroom on a regular basis. There are always terrific resources and websites. Teachers “in the field” give articles and web site referrals and you will never be at a loss for current websites. Newsletters often highlight holidays or events that are happening during the month.
- Using Digital Images in the Classroom
 - Today, a teacher no longer has to collect physical pictures to show students; they can have these images at his/her fingertips by searching for them on the Internet. In order for a student to understand, they often must visualize an object or a conceptual idea. Showing them a realistic image of a person, an event, an experience, or an object will often bring the idea “to life” for them and make learning so much easier. The Internet has a countless array of pictures and there are websites that will help you to find them.
- Making images from the internet “User Friendly”
 - There are many ways that technology provides opportunities to capture images for use in your documents, classroom materials, classroom decorations, communications, or to provide a visual aide to learning. When capturing images from the web, you must be aware of copyright limitations and should teach students to give credit to their sources. For educational purposes, teachers are permitted to use the clip art and images found on the Internet. Permission must be granted when an image is being published on a website. Some web sites have images designed specifically for educators to use.