



Summer 2011

Watson School of Education

First Years of Teaching Newsletter

Doing More with Less!

Nowadays, teachers are asked to do more with less. Yet, economic woes have also led to resourcefulness and creativity in many teachers! Check out the tips these veteran teachers share when asked about doing more with less!

"Doing more with less is something that all teachers are getting better at year after year, but "less" doesn't mean we don't have a challenging and interactive classroom. For me, this has a lot to do with technology. Utilizing the internet with its vast resources and web 2.0 tools helps me stay current and pushes me to extend creativity in my classroom on a budget!" — **Leah Ashley**
New Hanover High

School, New Hanover County

"I have found that with K-2 classrooms I feel the need to copy lots of things to get in the 'practice' of letters and numbers. A cheaper, more Earth-friendly alternative is to print three or four copies front and back, laminate them, and put them in a center for practice with dry erase markers! The kids can use them over and over and you only made four copies. Another important tactic is to know what you have in your classroom and use it to trade - your trash might be your neighbor's treasure!"

-Caroline Cordell
Malpass Corner Elementary School, Pender County

Technology Tips 101

Are you tired of Power-Point? Have you tried to engage your students and spice up your instruction with effective Web 2.0 tools?

DocsTeach (<http://docsteach.org/>) is a website sponsored by the Foundation for the National Archives. It contains ready to use tools for teaching with documents in the classroom, as well as over 3,000 primary documents from the National Archives.

PBSNewsHourExtra (<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/teachers/>)

provides unique current events resources for teachers: stories, pictures, maps, video, and much more!

VoiceThread (<http://voicethread.com/>) is a site that allows students to create collaborative, multimedia presentations. Students can upload Power-Point slides, share files, and comment!



Save the Date!

The First Years of Teaching Support Program will host 3 Professional Development Days for Beginning Teachers (teachers in their first three years) during the 2011-2012 school year. Topics

include the innovative use of technology, strategies for differentiation, meeting the needs of diverse learners, classroom management practices, leadership development, and much more! BT Pro-

fessional Development Days are scheduled for:

December 2, 2011
February 24, 2012
April 20, 2012

To register, visit www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1





Have you registered as a member of the First Years of Teaching Support Program?

***Go to:
www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1***

E-Mentors Available!
UNCW is offering an additional layer of support for beginning teachers. eMentors are available for all interested BTs. You will be paired with someone in your subject area who you can communicate with via e-mail. Ask questions about classroom management, content, and share resources! To sign up go to www.uncw.edu/ed/teach1.

Beginning Teacher Spotlight

This newsletter is created for YOU, the beginning teacher, with your needs in mind! With that said, I would love to be able to highlight your successes, lessons, and professional achievements. Don't be shy! Feel free to contact me and share your success. Have your classroom high-

lighted in our newsletter and share your strategies with teachers outside the walls of your individual schools! I can be reached via email at lewiss@uncw.edu or by phone at 910-962-7669. I look forward to hearing from you!

~Somer Lewis
Teacher-In-Residence