



# Learning Technologies Connecting A Community of Learners

## Connections

Welcome back. Connections come in many different forms. At this time of year we think of relationships with our students, parents and colleagues. Then of course there is our curriculum—new ideas to try, a myriad of options to choose, linking the concepts. With this in mind, we offer you a snapshot of our beginning-of-the-year professional learning opportunities to consider.

### Blogs—sd41:

Consider having a web presence to share your favourite links or information to your target audi-

ence (students, teachers, parents). Having a single place where your audience can go is a great communication forum and organizer timesaver. [Tues. Oct 16; 3:30-TLC...]

### Advanced Blogging:

For those who would like to take it to the next level—How about integrating classes to take full advantage of a blog platform. Conversation holds the key to deep critical thinking. The ability to see conversations as threads of ideas linking one to another is a way to visually show change in the thinking proc-

ess. Use visual elements in ways that draw people into the discussion. Try embedding research information or polls to create buzz. [Oct. 25; 3:30-TLC]

### Tech Snacks (online):

These live webinars are opportunities to engage in little bits of information. We'll be sharing how connections are made with tools like Kurzweil, online bookmarks-Symbaloo and Diigo, ipad apps, writing strategies, graphic organizers -Kidspiration/ Inspiration, comics; Glogster, Google Docs, Edmodo, and many more.

## Volume 7, Issue 1

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### Professional Learning:

**Oct 1, 3** Fast ForWord Intro Training days (sites only)

**Oct 4**— Destination Success Start Up and Support

**Oct 9** - Reading Assistant-Fast ForWord

**Oct 16** - JumpStart Blogs Series

**Oct 25** - Advanced Blog Tips

**Oct - Dec** Tech Snacks

Oct - Feb Writing Workshop

**Nov 15, 20** - Fast ForWord Part 2 Progress Tracker (sites only)

Destination Success & Raz-Kids

\*Check SD Calendar as sessions are updated.

## So Much More...

### Writing, Writers and Writers Workshop:

The power of "choice and voice" is strongly held in the writing workshop notion. We take this process to a whole new level by merging it with Google Docs. This online environment allows for extreme flexibility in the revision process (where the real ideas come to light). Collaboration and conversation is built naturally into

the environment and writing takes on a whole new perspective. Get an inside track on all your students without the mess of paper—we create your class ids. Check the Staff Development Calendar for this series starting soon.

**Destination Success Online (Reading or Math):** Students requiring extra support from basic skills to enrichment can take advantage of the flexi-

bility of this program. Lessons, guided and independent practice are part of the interactive environment. [Oct 4]

### Raz-Kids (new):

This pilot offers students in Tier 2 focused on reading fluency by listening and reading a variety of text. Comprehension is integrated. See SD Calendar for details of how your school can be involved.

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# Learning Technologies

## Where's the Info?



### Staff Development Calendar:

<http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/staffdevelopmentcalendar>

Details on how you incorporate these ideas and tools as part of your gateway to learning can be found:

<http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/learningtech>

<http://digisandbox.wordpress.com>

<http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/fastforward>

<http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/idevices>

### Our Learning Technologies Team:

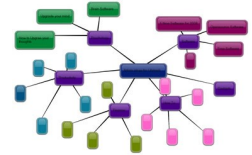
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## Worth Checking Out:

**Graphic Organizers** (organizing ideas, outlines, converts to writing views)



Inspiration 9

Kidspiration 3

InspireData

Popplet (web and ipad)

### Communicating the MI way:

PhotoStory 3

Movie Maker

Audacity (audio)

Edu-Glogster

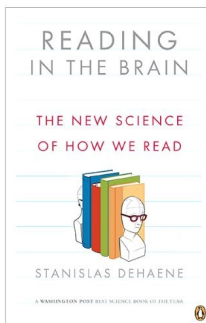


## A Lens on Learning

### Reading in the Brain—The new Science of How We Read.

- Stanislas Dehaene

"The act of reading is so easily taken for granted that we forget what an astounding feat it is. How can a few black marks on white paper evoke an entire universe of meanings?" This book combines cognitive, cultural and neurological sciences interwoven with human stories that brings to life how we come to understand the written word. A fascinating read for any-

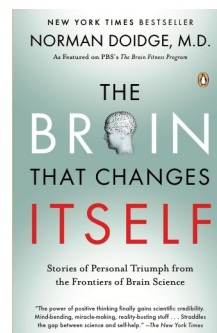


one wanting to know what happens in the brain when we read or what happens when we struggle with acquiring reading skills.

### The Brain that Changes Itself.

- Norman Doidge

An incredible collection of stories of people, real people and how the power of neuroplasticity can change the brain in significant ways. Chapter 3 is devoted to the story of Dr. Michael Merzenich (one of the founders of Scientific Learning's Fast ForWord program).



Links to chapter and videos can be found at: <http://blogs.sd41.bc.ca/fastforward/research-information/>

If you are interested in how reading and reading fluency can be supported through the use of one of the products of Reading Assistant [builds reading fluency and comprehension] Fast ForWord, please contact Janet Chow ([janet.chow@sd41.bc.ca](mailto:janet.chow@sd41.bc.ca)).

