Concepts addressed:
Methods for Enhancing Student Learning through the use of a Variety of Resources and materials

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Learning in an Electronic World

- It is no longer a question of "whether" technology will play a role in the literacy of students, but rather to what extent it will take. There are two complimentary approaches when incorporating technology into the classroom:
  - Enhancing and Extending

Enhancing the Existing Methods

- This could include using writing software programs to assist students with the writing process.
- Simulation software to support and existing units.
- In other words: this approach supports the learning already happening.

Extending Beyond the Walls

- This could be virtual field trips
- Virtual simulations
- On-line tutoring and mentoring
- Listservs for teachers and students
- In other words, takes the learning opportunities beyond the scope of the classroom and provides learning not readily available.

Principles of Computer Aided Instruction (CAI) in the Classroom

- Principle 1: Provide opportunities for creative uses of technology
  - This does NOT mean Power Point replaces overheads
  - This does NOT mean a worksheet by any other name
- Principle 2: Use technology in ways that promote critical literacy
  - The Internet is NOT a large encyclopedia
  - We do not "learn" science through computers
- Principle 3: Use technology in ways that promote authentic communication
  - The reading and writing facilitated through the Internet needs to promote critical literacy for all ages of learners
- Principle 4: Use technology in ways that increase student motivation and interest in meaningful learning

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Learning independently means students are able to construct their own knowledge rather than simply recall information supplied by the teacher.

**Virtual Field Trips**

- [http://www.field-trips.org/trips.htm](http://www.field-trips.org/trips.htm)
- [http://campus.fortunecity.com/newton/40/field.html](http://campus.fortunecity.com/newton/40/field.html)
- [http://www.efieldtrips.org/](http://www.efieldtrips.org/)
- [http://www.uwsp.edu/geo/proiects/virtdep/vft.html](http://www.uwsp.edu/geo/proiects/virtdep/vft.html)

**Primary Sources**

- Library of Congress
  - [http://www.loc.gov/homepage/lchp.html](http://www.loc.gov/homepage/lchp.html)
- Smithsonian
  - [http://www.loc.gov/homepage/lchp.html](http://www.loc.gov/homepage/lchp.html)
  - [http://americanhistory.si.edu/](http://americanhistory.si.edu/)
  - [http://americanart.si.edu/index3.cfm](http://americanart.si.edu/index3.cfm)
  - [http://www.si.edu/resource/faq/start.htm](http://www.si.edu/resource/faq/start.htm)

**Service Learning**

- Service learning for elementary students
  - [http://www.servicelearning.org/resources/lesson_plans/](http://www.servicelearning.org/resources/lesson_plans/)
  - [http://www.fiu.edu/~time4chg/Library/ideas.html](http://www.fiu.edu/~time4chg/Library/ideas.html)

**Web Quests**

- [http://www.bestwebquests.com](http://www.bestwebquests.com)
- [http://www.webquest.org/](http://www.webquest.org/)