

Point - Click - File & Save

Technology Integration @ LMS

“Sorry I’m late this month.”

Vol. 2 Issue 6

Randy Dehetre, Technology Integration Teacher

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Sorry, Sorry, Sorry!

I really do hope that there are teachers out there that look forward to my monthly newsletter. Those of you that do look forward to my monthly news, tips, and tricks probably noticed that **“Point - Click - File & Save”** didn’t arrive in your mailbox on time this month. Please accept my sincere apologies. Other duties around school and at home have taken up a great deal of my time. Those things happen. Better late than never!

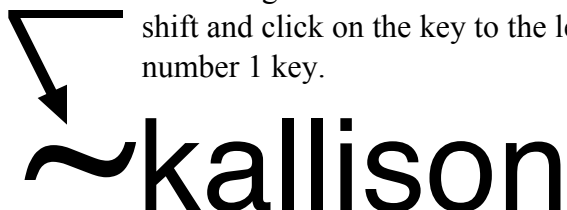
Hmmm, wasn’t that last sentence an English idiom? Yes it is and you can learn more about idioms at www.goenglish.com where you can find a new idiom every day. Why? Because variety is the spice of life. Should anyone ask you where you learned about www.goenglish.com, just say word of mouth. Okay, I have to shake a leg and move on!

Kay--You Made My Day!

Over vacation, I ran into Kay Allison in the LMS lobby. Actually she chased me down to say that she is having success with her web page. Kay is putting together a really nice web page to showcase her students' work. Kay is doing all of the coding in HTML herself and she was very excited to tell me that she was able to solve a code problem all by herself. She’s excited about her web site and is obviously having fun with the design. Once she goes “live” you will be able to see it at <http://www.lewiston.k12.me.us/~kallison>

We will be seeing some really great things on this web site. Once she has her site exactly as she wants it, I will remind you to take the time to visit.

Don’t forget the tilde. Hold down the shift and click on the key to the left of the number 1 key.



~kallison

I’ll Give You a Doughnut for an A

This has nothing to do with Technology other than the fact that I first learned about this on the Internet. Recently, I read this same information in the latest issue of “Technology and Learning.” So, it must be true! Krispy Kreme Doughnuts is rewarding students with a free doughnut for each A that they earn on their report cards. This offer is good for up to six doughnuts during a single grading period.

Seriously, I doubt that eating six doughnuts is going to make a big difference in anyone's weight; however, turning such a reward into a lifelong habit definitely will. Rewarding students with doughnuts is an interesting approach to take for any business considering the push by school systems across the country that are promoting healthy lifestyles.

Whatever happened to learning as its own reward?

A

=



An excellent open-ended writing prompt for students!

Should you want to read more about this go to: <http://www.newstarget.com/002630.html>

Also check out:

http://www.commercialalert.org/index.php/external/true/article_id/266

On a positive note, while I did research on this subject, I also learned what other schools are serving their students on a regular basis. I encourage you to do a similar search. I believe that you will find that our school lunch program is making real strides in providing healthy options for our students.

Let Your Computer Help You Plan for Those Days When You Can't be in School



Sick Teacher
(Before)



Happy Teacher
(After)

- Use the drawing module of *AppleWorks* to draw your seating charts. Keep your charts current and in the formation of your room. Include the first and last names of the students.
- Use *NoteTaker* to make a web site that students can go to on days that you aren't in school. In this online notebook, explain what you want the students to do. Include worksheets that can be printed out for students to handwrite on or link to an *AppleWorks* download so that answers can be typed.
- Instead of asking a fellow teacher to pick up your material for the sub, send it via e-mail to your buddy teacher.
- Create a mailing list of your students so that you can e-mail them with your expectations for the day.
- If you are not too sick, allow students to e-mail you with questions. Use your MiddleMaine account so that you won't be bugged with questions over LewNet.
- Create a unit especially for a sick day. Keep it on your computer so you can easily find it, print it, and have it ready for photocopying.
 - Leave seating charts, absent report pads, emergency evacuation forms, class lists, and the smile/sad face poster in a place that a sub can easily find.
 - Make sure that you have plans for the day and that any special equipment is working and ready to go.
 - Remember, the sub is doing you and the students a favor. Don't ask them to do your paperwork. We want them to return and sub again.
 - If a student gives a sub a hard time, make sure that you deal with it properly upon your return.

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Tech Clinics

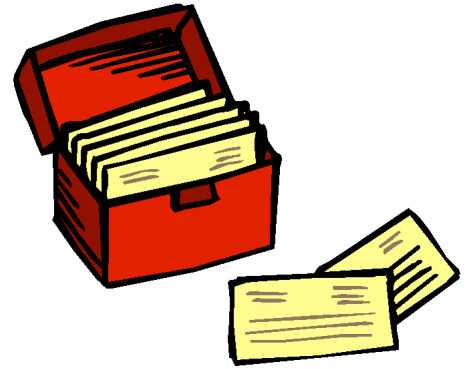
Last Chance
For
Beginner
NoteTaker

Sign up in the Teachers Room

Last Chance Until Next Year

A Few Notes About NoteTaker

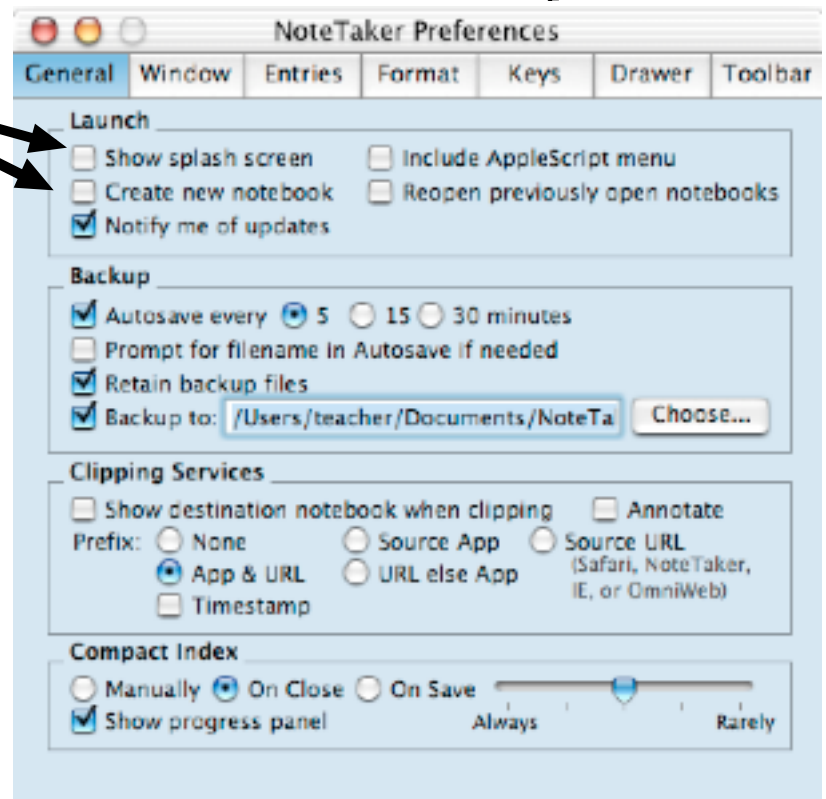
Are you a preferences junky? If you are, *NoteTaker* has something especially for you. *NoteTaker* provides users with a 7-tabbed Preferences window. These preferences will allow you to customize how *NoteTaker* works for you. To get to the Preferences window, simply go to the *NoteTaker* menu and click on Preferences. In the window that opens, you will find tabs that will give you options for various parts of the program. The tabs are: General, Window, Entries, Format, Keys, Drawer, and Toolbar.



I find that unchecking these two boxes is helpful.

A very basic but useful modification is found under the General tab. I have unchecked the “Show splash screen” and “Create new notebook” checkboxes. The splash screen is only an advertisement and “Create new notebook” isn’t really necessary especially when I just want to open a notebook that I have used before.

Under the Backup Section, you will notice that I have Autosave on for every 5 minutes. I use this only as a safeguard. I still save my work regularly using the Command and S keys. By the way, the Command key is the one with the apple on it. Why they don’t just call it the Apple key is beyond me!

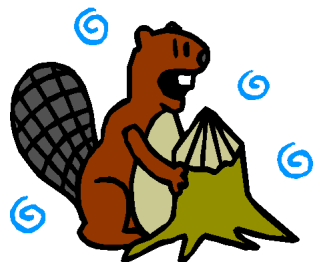


One Small Word of Caution: If and when the student image includes *NoteTaker*, you might find that the students preferences may be different than yours. At least with *AppleWorks*, a good majority of students don’t bother with making adjustments. When teaching *NoteTaker* to your students, remember to set your preferences to the default settings as your preference changes may confuse students that are expecting their program to work exactly like yours.

Aquaminds Needs Your Help

NoteTaker is a great program; however, this application is a work in progress. You may often run into problems using this program. Operations that look pretty straightforward in the manual sometimes don’t work. Aquaminds needs your help and asks that you report problems to their design staff. They do listen and fix any problems in a timely fashion. To report a problem, go to www.aquaminds.com and click on the Support link. Make sure you are very specific about what happened so that they can recreate the problem.

Aquaminds is also willing to listen to any suggestions you have that might make *NoteTaker* even better. Got any ideas? Write to them. They will write back--usually within 24 hours!



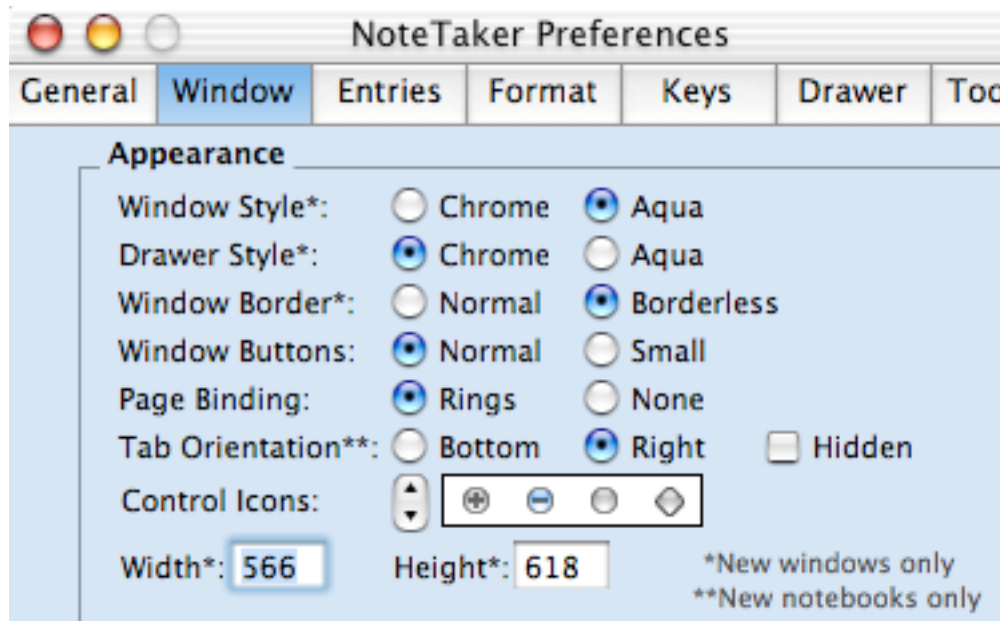
Leave Some Trees for the Beavers!

Bucky Beaver, President of the Busy Beavers Local 504, has contacted me with concerns about students printing everything under the sun. Not only does unnecessary printing take business way from the beavers but it is costly to the school system. Please remind your students to print wisely.

Bucky was really angry at David and me for introducing *NoteTaker*. He wants us to stress that when you print with *NoteTaker*, you need to keep in mind that going to the File menu and selecting Print will cause the program to print the whole notebook. This could be a considerable number of pages, depending on the size of the notebook. Please make sure that if you don't need to print the whole notebook but only one page, go to the File menu and click on Print Page. Should *NoteTaker* become part of the student image next year, please make sure that you pass this on to the students.

Tabs Left, Tabs Right, No Tabs at All

In *NoteTaker* Preferences, under the Window tab, you can change the orientation of your tabs. This can only be done with a New Notebook. Simply click on the appropriate "radio" button in Preferences before you begin your notebook. You can use either Bottom, Right, or Hidden. Quit out of *NoteTaker* and then boot it up again. The change will take place.



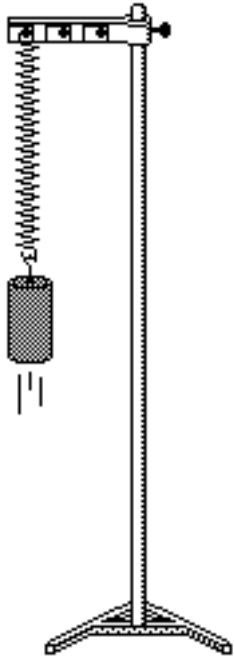
Programmers call the little circles "radio buttons" as they look like the radio buttons on an old car. You simply click on the one you want. If you decide you want to change, click on another radio button. What about the square ones? Those are called checkboxes.

Find and Replace



Click here to use Find and Replace.

Oh! What a site! Did you catch that? "Site" should have been "sight." I do that all of the time. I know better, but my fingers sometimes type the wrong word. In *Notetaker*, there is a Find and Replace With utility. Just click on the magnifying glass found in the drawer. When the utility appears, it asks for the word you want to search for, and then gives you the option of replacing it with another word. You are able to select the scope of the search by selecting Notebook, Section, or Page. It works great. Give it a try!



Hooke's Law

If a vertically mounted rod, wire, or spring is supported rigidly at its upper end and weights are added to its lower end, the amount by which it is stretched is found to be directly proportional to the weight applied. This is known as Hooke's Law.

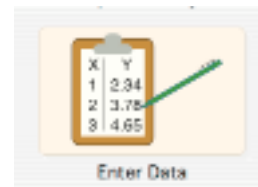
I remember this experiment from high school physics. It's an easy enough concept, but how do we show or prove Hooke's Law to our students? If you had *DataStudio* on your MLTI Apple iBook, you could show this graphically. Guess what? You and your students do have *DataStudio* and, thus, everyone has within their computer a graphing calculator.

In your Applications folder, look for this icon. Place it on your dock for easy access. Click on it to start up *DataStudio*.



DataStudio

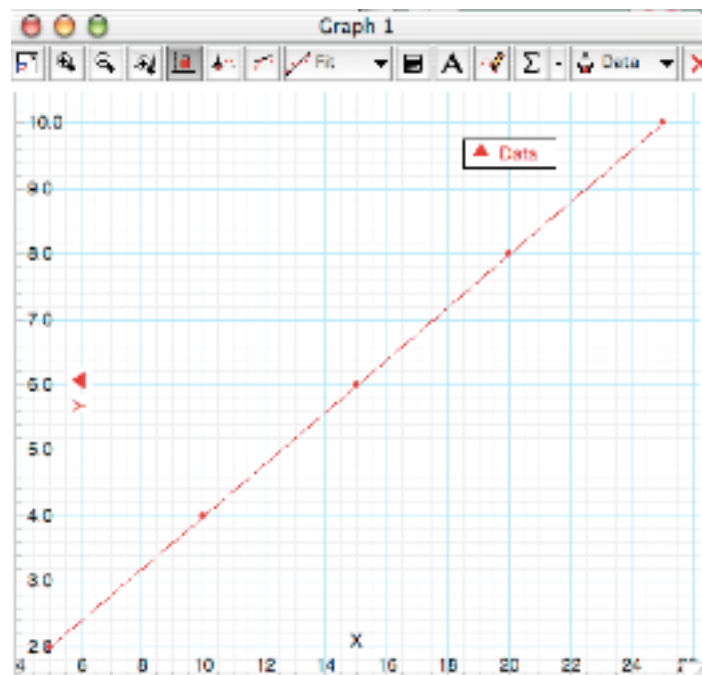
You don't need probes to use *DataStudio*. By clicking on this icon you can easily enter your data.



Now enter your data. I used the X axis to represent pounds. The Y axis represents length in inches. See how I entered my data. As I entered the data, my graph automatically represented my findings with a linear line.

Table 1	
▲ Editable Data	
X	Y
5	2
10	4
15	6
20	8
25	10

My Data

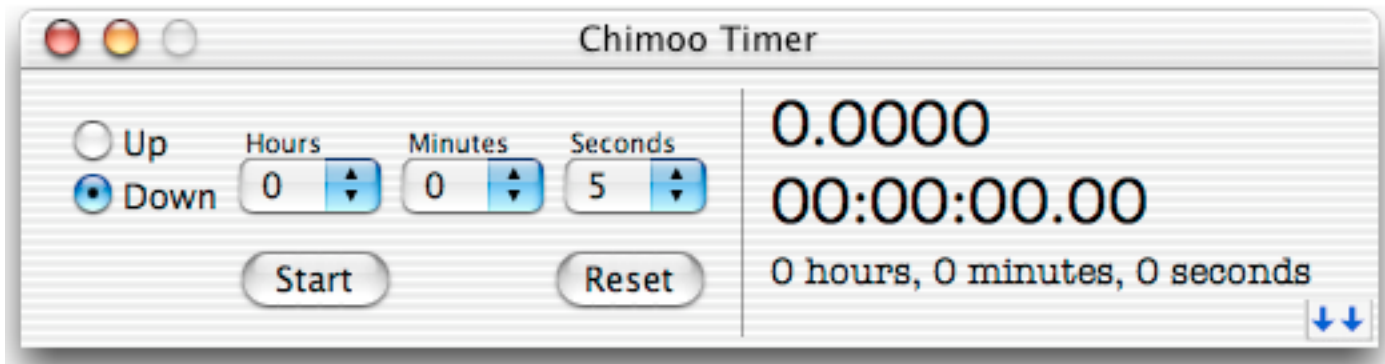


My Graph


(Please Note: My graph probably doesn't show up as clearly as it did on my computer. I lose a lot of detail when I photocopy these newsletters. Feel free to check out this newsletter in all of its colorful glory on the [school department's web site](#).)

Plenty of great opportunities for
Math and Science teachers hidden within *DataStudio*.

Free Timer - Yours for the taking!



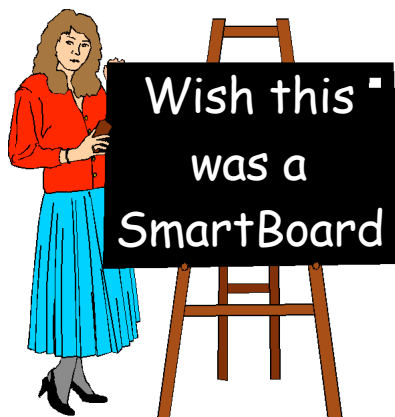
If you often have timed tasks for your students, the *Chimoo Timer* may be of interest. You can have it play a simple beep or speak a message once time is up. I have demonstrated this timer during my technology clinics. If you would like a copy of this program, simply go to <http://www.versiontracker.com> and enter a search for *Chimoo Timer*. If you time student tasks, I'm sure you will be happy with this timer.



For Supporting the X-treme Typing Challenge @ LMS

Please don't stop challenging students to improve their typing skills. You may be surprised at just how much students are getting from practicing with *UltraKey* and then participating in our program. This past Christmas, I was shopping at Penney's and was chased down by a former student. She wanted to tell me that she continued working on her typing skills at LHS and that now she types accurately and with speed. A satisfied customer! We sometimes don't realize just how much our efforts have meant to our students. She thanked me and now I'm passing that thanks on to you. We, the LMS staff, made a difference together.

Okay, how did you do that?



You know you're getting old when the newly hired teacher in the next room asks "What's a chalkboard?"

Do you mean, how did I add the writing to the chalkboard? If so, it was easy. I made a text frame using the Text Tool. Remember, since I'm in word processing, I had to hold down on the option key while I clicked and dragged.



← Text Tool

Wish this
was a
SmartBoard

I then wrote my message, changed the text color to white, and then dragged it onto the chalkboard. I found the teacher with the chalkboard in Clippings.