



Volume 14  
October 2008

# Tech-Talk

## Dixon-Style

Stowers' Technology Newsletter

Created by  
SAD, ET



## November

### **Native American Heritage Month**

<http://www.native-languages.org/kids.htm>

<http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/nativeamerican01/inner.html>

### **11: Veteran's Day**

[http://www.va.gov/kids/k-5/games\\_activities.asp](http://www.va.gov/kids/k-5/games_activities.asp)

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/crafts/veterans/>

### **22: Thanksgiving**

[http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic\\_thanksgiving/](http://www.scholastic.com/scholastic_thanksgiving/)

<http://www.billybear4kids.com/holidays/thanksgiving/games.htm>

## Setting up Your Text

Margins: The empty spaces at the top, bottom and sides of the paper are called margins. There are four margins on every page. If a page did not have margins, your words and sentences would run off the page. Margins are like putting a frame around your works: it helps them look nice and neat.

Justification: Justification is the placing of your words, sentences and paragraphs along the left margin, the right margin, or both margins.

Left justification is the most commonly used. Text is lined up against the left side of the page.

Right justification lines your text up along the right side of the page. There are not many reasons for you to use this function, but one reason may be wanting to write an address in a letter on the top right side of the page.

Full justification is when your text is lined up evenly on both the left and right sides of the page. It stretches out your words and letters so they meet the left and right sides of the page.

Centering your text means to put your text in the exact center of a page. You can center the title of a report, or a whole paragraph if you want to, on the top and the middle of the page. You do not have to guess and measure because the computers knows exactly where the center of the page is and will do it for you.

**Left Alignment**

**Right Alignment**

**Center**





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vozME is a web tool that turns any text into an audio file. You can listen to it immediately online or download it to your hard drive.

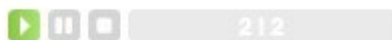
Go to: <http://vozme.com>

The interface is very simple and doesn't even require a login. Just type or paste some text (English, Spanish, or Italian) and click the "Create MP3" button.

A new window will open and will provide two options—to listen (green arrow) or download the file (click on link)



[vozme.com](http://vozme.com)



[Download mp3](#) ("Save as")

## Random Word/Name Picker

This is a web tool that selects a random word from a list that you provide. When used with a projector, it is a great way to review vocabulary words, important dates, or concepts -- or use it to randomly pick a name from your student list. Click on the link below:

[http://www.classtools.net/main\\_area/fruit\\_machine.htm](http://www.classtools.net/main_area/fruit_machine.htm)

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## Imagination at Work

A fun web tool that allows your students to be creative as they practice and share their artistic skills:

Click on this link:

[www.imaginationcubed.com](http://www.imaginationcubed.com)

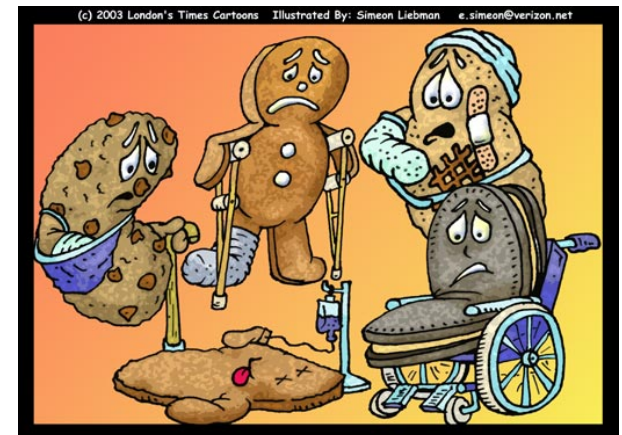


## Privacy Setting for the Internet (for Kids & Teens)

- Open Internet Explorer (e)
- Click Tools
- Click Internet Options
- Click on the Privacy Tab

Note: There choices from Block All Cookies to Allow All Cookies and everything in between.

- Move the slider and make your choice
- Click Apply



DISABLED COOKIES





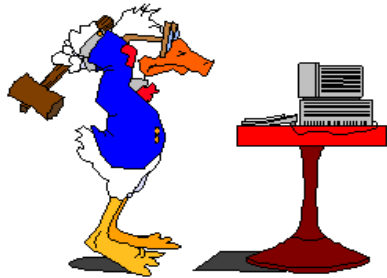
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Is your computer giving you problems?

## MOUSE PROBLEMS

### No mouse pointer at all

- Check that the mouse is connected to the back of the machine. The connections are color-coded.
- Reboot the machine.

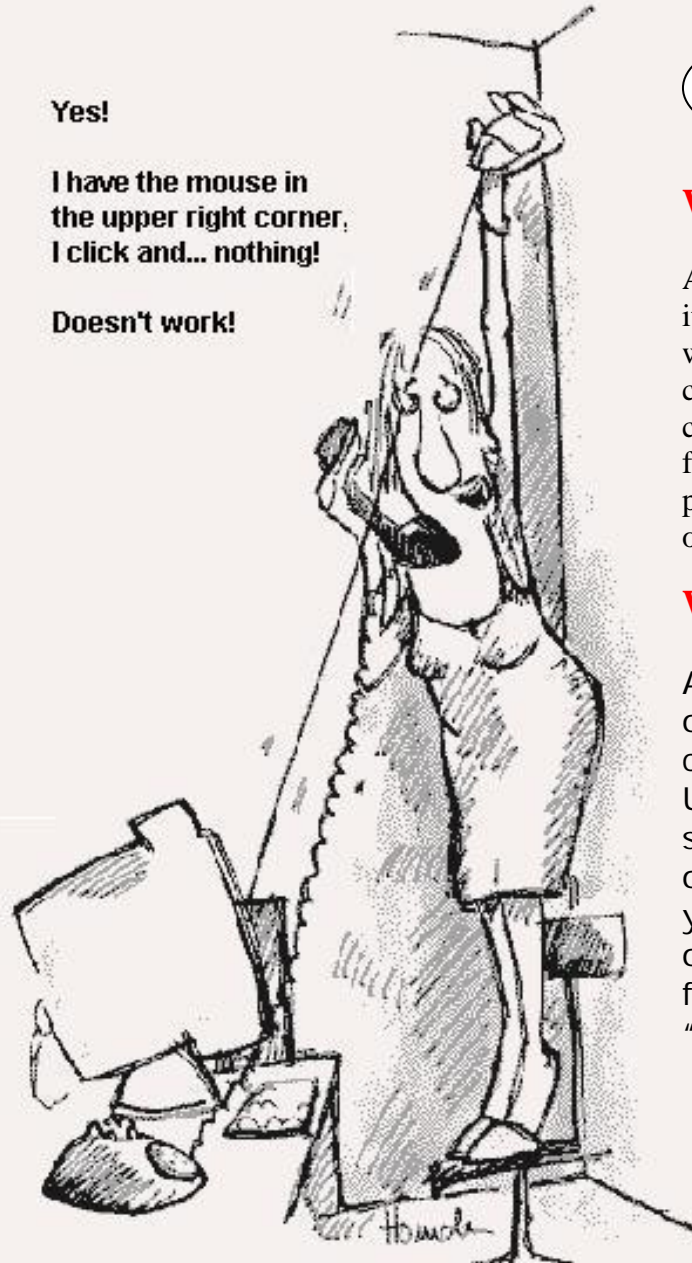
### Limited or erratic mouse movement

- Check that the ball is in the mouse (younger kids sometimes play with these...)
- Reboot the machine
- Clean the mouse (alcohol pads are good to clean with—do NOT use glass cleaner!)

Yes!

I have the mouse in the upper right corner, I click and... nothing!

Doesn't work!



## Computer Chat



### What is a Computer Virus?

A virus is a program that will seek to duplicate itself in memory and on disks, but in a subtle way that will not immediately be noticed. A computer on the same network as an infected computer or that uses an infected disk (even a floppy) or that downloads and runs an infected program can itself become infected. A virus can only spread to computers of the same platform.

### What is a Zipped File?

A zipped file is a file that contains one or more files that have been compressed into the ZIP format. Usually you zip files because of their size. If you wanted to email a couple of .jpg (pictures) or large documents, you would put the pictures or files in one folder. Then right-click on the folder; choose "send-to"; then choose "Compressed (zipped) file".

---until next week