

Kerpoof Scholastics News September/October 2008



Welcome to the September/October 2008 Kerpoof Scholastics Newsletter. Our goal is to provide information about [Kerpoof's free resources for educators](#). If you have colleagues who you think would be interested in receiving this newsletter, please feel free to forward it to them. If you have received a forwarded copy, you can sign up for your own free subscription.

We want Kerpoof Scholastics to be a great resource for you. Please feel free to contact me with comments or suggestions. You can e-mail me at caryn.jones@kerpoof.com.

Sincerely,
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Kerpoof wins Gold!

Kerpoof was recently awarded a Parent's Choice Gold Award for in the Web site category. Parent's Choice reviewed the thousands of Web sites for children and picked their top fifty 'sites to receive awards. Kerpoof received one of only four Gold Awards. The Parent's Choice review said: "The software is intuitive and easy to use, giving children - even those who aren't proficient in art - an opportunity to produce and share successful artwork quickly and without frustration." [Read the entire review.](#)



Meet Kerpoof
Are you attending the National School Board Association's T + L Conference in Seattle? Kerpoof will be attending as well. You can visit us in Booth #236. We are also presenting a workshop called "Using



Kerpoof's Free, Online, Multi-Media Toolkit to Improve STEM Performance in K-8." This workshop will be held in Room 607 from 2:15-3:15 p.m. on Oct. 28. We hope you'll sign up to attend!

Kerpoof will also be attending the Innovative Learning Conference in San Jose. Visit us in Booth #503 from Oct. 14-16.

Have you tried Kerpoof's Teacher Tools?

We pre-announced these tools in our August newsletter and we hope that you have discovered the new tools on the site. You can now register for a "Kerpoof Teacher Account" that will allow you to quickly create Kerpoof accounts for an entire class and to turn access to collaboration tools (like the group message board) on or off from your Teacher Tools panel. Please let us know what you think about the new tools!

New fun on Kerpoof

We've added more options for movie scenes! Just in time for Halloween we've got five new spooky scenes to choose from for even more Halloween fun. We've also added new storylines called "Rock Party" and "Far Away Land" each with several amazing scenes to choose from. All of these new items are available to all users.

There are also lots of new items available in The Kerpoof Store that can be purchased with Kerpoof Koins. Add to your arsenal of creativity in Make a Drawing with four new pens: a glitter stick, a water pen, the crazy pen and the splattershot. Then check out the new Kerpoof Animated Characters you can add to your scenes. All of these new items are available to members and nonmembers alike. Have fun!

Kerpoof podcast

While we were at the National Education Computing Conference in June Tim Holt, director of instructional technology for the El Paso ISD and author of the Intended Consequences blog, stopped by our booth to talk to Tom Fischaber, Kerpoof's COO. [Watch the podcast Tim recorded here to learn more about Kerpoof.](#)

Florida State Standards flyer available

If you teach in Florida, take a look at our new flyer with ideas of how Kerpoof might be used to meet the Florida Sunshine State Standards. How Kerpoof is best used in a standards-based curriculum is of course up to you, but hopefully the flyers we provide will give you some ideas for starting points. We would love to hear from you about how you choose to use Kerpoof to meet specific standards for your state.

New lesson plan available at Kerpoof

There is a new lesson plan available at Kerpoof Scholastics this month. Take a look at it and the other lesson plans we have available.

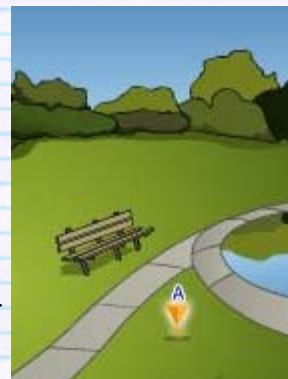
Celebrate Sport

Build on the excitement of this summer's Olympics with this new lesson plan that helps develop language arts skills. Students in grades 2-3 will practice vocabulary, writing and oral presentation skills. Older students (grades 4-8) will learn the basics of sports journalism and try their hands at writing a sports article.

Tips and Tricks

What's a waypoint?

One of the most important programming constructs in the Kerpoof Movie Maker is the idea of using waypoints to tell characters where they are supposed to go. It might help to tell students that waypoints "point the way" for the characters. Most methods are a two-step process: drag the method to the timeline and fill out the dialogue box. The "Move" method requires three steps: place a waypoint, drag the method to the timeline and fill out the dialogue box. Once students get the hang of the Move method, it's easy for them to remember, but sometimes they need a reminder when



they use it for the first time.

Idea Center

Journal starter

If your students write in a journal or notebook each day, use Kerpoof to help come up with ideas for them to write about. You can create Kerpoof scenes and ask students to write about what's happening in the scene. The wackier the scene you create, the more creative the students will have to be. For example, a scene from one of the alien planets could have students writing a short story explaining who lives on the planet and who came in the space ship. What are they talking about? How will they communicate?



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