

## Tooth Party

Laurel Kaae, Williston

One of the traditions of our Turkish students is to have a "Tooth Party" when a child's first tooth appears. I was so fortunate to have been invited to this celebration.

One of the ladies put a rug on the floor. The little boy was placed on the rug. A dish of soft chickpeas and other edible seeds were given to one of the other ladies, Songul. All of the rest of us circled around the child. Songul sprinkled the peas and seeds on the little boy's head as she recited prayers. When the prayers were recited the person with the best teeth started eating the chickpeas from the rug. After she started eating the rest of us were allowed to eat the chickpeas too.

Cigdum told me that this tradition is for the first tooth and that the prayers are that the child will have good teeth all his/her life.

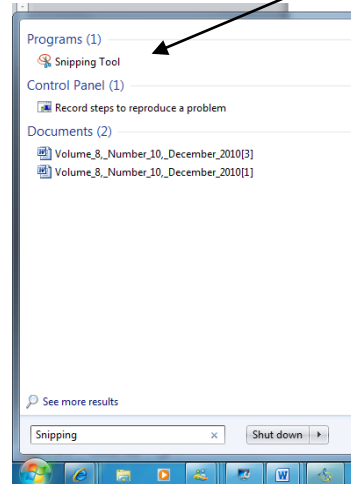
After the tooth celebration was cleaned up a table cloth was put on the floor. Plates, silverware, and food were placed on the tablecloth. We then all sat together on the floor to eat a Turkish lunch.

## Technology Snipping Tool

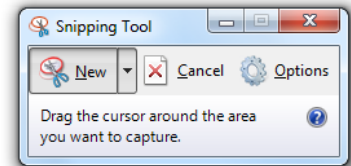


Instead of using Print Screen (Prt Scr) to capture an image on your computer you can use the Snipping Tool.

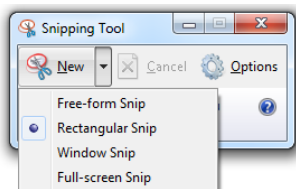
To find the Snipping Tool: Type in Snipping Tool in the search box. The icon will appear.



Click on Snipping Tool wording or icon and this will appear.



You can choose which form you want to use to snip:



Decide what you want to snip and have fun with the highlighter, pens, etc.

Sample of the “snipping tool”

*Info:*

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For more information:

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Use-Snipping-Tool-to-capture-screen-shots>

<http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows7/products/features/snipping-tool>

You Tube Video for the Snipping Tool:

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bs6tzfzc\\_c](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0bs6tzfzc_c)

<http://video.about.com/windows/Screen-Capture-With-Snip-Tool.htm>

## 2011 is the International Year of Chemistry

**"Chemistry—our life, our future,"**

The 2011 International Year of Chemistry coincides with the 100th anniversary of Marie Curie's Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

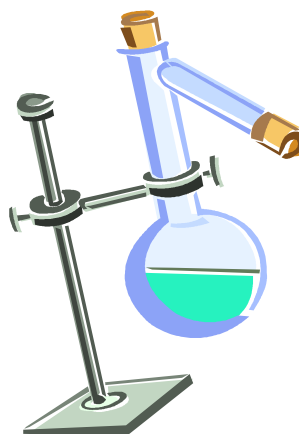


NBC has “Chemistry NOW Project” which features videos on chemistry in everyday life. They are in the 6<sup>th</sup> week of 31 weeks with a video each week representing something with chemicals. There have been educational videos on cheeseburgers (cheese and burger), molecules, bonding, and chocolate. Excellent videos!

<http://nbclearn.com/chemistry>

More links:

<http://www.scientificamerican.com/blog/post.cfm?id=international-year-of-chemistry-kic-2011-02-14>





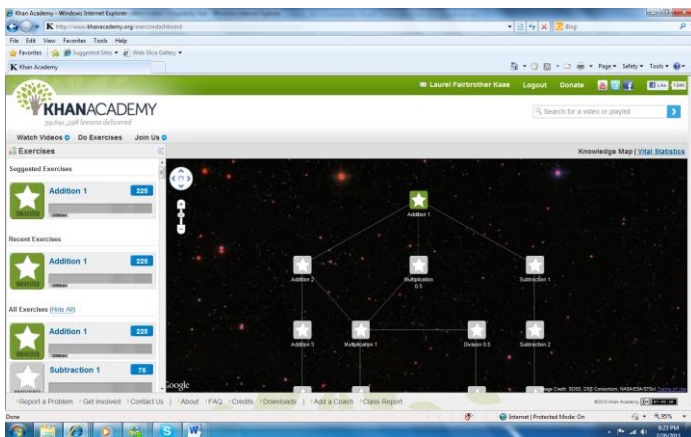
### What KHAN Be Done With It?

Some instructors are integrating KHAN ACADEMY into their classrooms.

Here is a website on how one teacher is using Khan Academy in her classroom:

<http://journeyintech.blogspot.com/2011/02/what-khan-be-done-with-it.html>

### Yes, We Khan



At Khan Academy you can create a profile for the site simply by logging in through Google or Facebook. You can track your progress with some wonderful metrics. Teachers can monitor student progress in groups. Students can earn badges to keep them interested. The list goes on and on and it's all free.

For more information:

<http://singularityhub.com/2011/02/13/yes-the-khan-academy-is-the-future-of-education-video/>

## THE MIDDLE EAST GEOGRAPHY QUIZ...

This little exercise is interesting and gives you an eagle eye view of where all the countries we read about in the daily news are located.

Drag the country's name onto the map (a few are tiny!)

There is no score or time limit. This is a learning tool.

Don't be afraid to make an error, try again [and again, if need be!] and once you have finished the puzzle you will be far more educated about this very intense part of our world.

[http://www.rethinkingschools.org/just\\_fun/games/mapgame.html](http://www.rethinkingschools.org/just_fun/games/mapgame.html)

### Social Capital, Social Media, and Adult Literacy Education

Tom Sticht  
International Consultant in Adult Education

Over two decades ago, in a 1989 paper entitled Making the Nation Smarter: The Intergenerational Transfer of Cognitive Ability, Barbara McDonald and I asserted that quote "The challenge for the future is how to manage the intergenerational development of cognitive ability in such a way that we can provide the human and social capital needed for making the nation smarter." end quote We indicated that quote "A society that wants to bring about the development of individual human capital must also attend to the development of social capital." end quote

Since our report in 1989, a considerable amount of policy and practice within the field of adult literacy education has focused upon the development of human capital, that is, the development of an individual's language, literacy, and numeracy, the so-called "basic skills."

However, it is only in the last few years that attention in

the adult basic skills education field has turned attention to the idea of developing social capital with adult learners. For instance, in August 2010, the Centre for Literacy in Montreal issued a report entitled *Social Capital Outcomes of Adult Learning and Literacy Initiatives: How Do We Measure Them?* The report states quote "Human capital refers to the knowledge and abilities that individuals possess, while social capital refers broadly to the social connections and understandings between people that enable them to work together, live together and learn from each other, i.e. resources of the collectivity.p.1." end quote

Following up on the foregoing report, in January 2011 a report entitled *Making Sense of Social Capital Theory Through the Lens of Adult Learning* was produced by Maurice Taylor and associates at the University of Ottawa. The authors state that research findings quote " suggest that the creation of social capital can have a positive impact on learners' lives especially in the areas of personal, family, work, education and public lives. The increase in confidence, seen in data collected over time, was correlated to the ability of learners to acquire new skills and network with peers. p.16"end quote

In my 1997 *Functional Context Education* notebook which I used in workshops for adult literacy educators, I argued for the social basis of mind and discussed how the motivation of learners to persist in programs could be formed in social groups and networks (churches, clubs, gangs, etc.) with which an individual interacts and which motivate and support him/her, that is, they provide social capital. Literacy programs can help form social capital by having peer learning, team activities, small group instruction in which members of the group support each other's efforts, social parties, holiday parties, invited community members to tell how community groups support the learning activities of learners, and other activities that encourage social interactions and communication.

Today, social media using digital technologies offer additional opportunities for both teachers and learners to obtain and provide social capital to help them sustain and advance in their teaching and learning activities. Numerous discussion groups for adult literacy educators can be found using the internet and provide opportunities for teachers to learn from one another and obtain motivation for their daily work. Additionally, Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, and other social sites serve to provide social capital.

Numerous internet-based resources are available for

adult learners to pursue study on their own, and many programs are now offering distance learning opportunities as adjuncts to their classroom work or as stand alone learning opportunities. Teachers can provide social capital through the use of cell phones, emails, or sites such as Twitter, Facebook, etc. Of course, learner to learner peer interactions can also be conducted using digital social media.

The essentially social basis of literacy and other cognitive processes which require social capital for their development is captured in John Donne's classic 1624 devotion, *No Man Is An Island*. In a newspaper for adult literacy educators and learners that colleagues and I produced several years ago we borrowed John Donne's devotion and changed it to *No Mind Is An Island* for the newspaper motto. Here our idea was to explicitly express the idea that we all are engaged in sharing our minds and that all minds are part of our collective, virtual mind.

Overall, adult literacy education, like the other components of our educational system, serves the general purpose of improving the entire network of minds in the society in which we live and helps to maintain our very survival as a society of human beings in contemporary times. Using traditional face-to-face tutoring, classrooms, and/or the latest digital social media, adult literacy education makes a valuable contribution to our Nation's store of social capital used in forming bridges among minds, fostering social inclusion, and insuring that *No Mind Is An Island*.

tsticht at [aznet.net](http://aznet.net)

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