#### Do You Know Jack H......oops......I mean Harry K?

Teaching through music can help to enliven your curriculum. The rhythmic beat can often have your students learning without even knowing that is what they are doing. There are a lot of lower elementary resources out there to help enhance subjects you already teach. Some of the best of the best must be purchased such as music from Jack Hartman, Dr. Jean, and others. Some resources can be found for free though. Dr. Jean has some online videos that you can access through YouTube by following the links at her website, <a href="http://www.drjean.org/html/videoLinks.html">http://www.drjean.org/html/videoLinks.html</a>. My wife came across another great teacher/music maker that she had never heard of before though thanks to a posting on Facebook. His name is Pete Harry or "Harry Kindergarten" as he is known online. He has a myriad of videos online at his own YouTube channel where he covers subjects in fun ways. You can find his YouTube channel at the following: <a href="http://www.youtube.com/user/HarryKindergarten">http://www.youtube.com/user/HarryKindergarten</a>. Most of his videos are focused on very early elementary since he is a Kindergarten teacher by trade. While video is not the only medium that should be used on whiteboards, throwing a little in every now and then can help excite your students, especially when the music and visuals are this much fun. I would encourage you to check out Harry and his work. You might also check out YouTube in general and do a search...you never know when someone else has posted something that may enhance your own teaching.

#### **Tech Tuesday Session**

May 3<sup>rd</sup>—Multimedia
Presentation Tool Prezi
(www.prezi.com) is an
awesome way to add
animated transitions and
zooming into presentations
that you may want to create
for class or professionally.
Come join me as we look at
Prezi and all of its exciting,
easy to use features.

## THE TECH

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# TRAINER

### **Scanning Documents Now and Building a Folder Structure Can Save you Time This Fall**

Teaching becomes vastly easier when you have access

to all of the materials you need without having to spend valuable time looking for them. The tech trainer has covered scanning documents and folder creation this year, and that is really all you need for this task. With the year winding down, there is no better time than now to start preparing for next year. By combining those two technology tasks you can create a digital library of resources that you will be able add to, and pull from, in the future. Anything you scan can be projected directly on your whiteboard from your computer, saving you the time of writing out problems and examples before working them in class. Building a scanned digital library also saves you time later if you need to hand out worksheets (I know we are trying to create a paperless world, but as of now we still use worksheets from time to time). Typically if you copy worksheets, you have to find your resource, walk to the copier, make a copy of the sheet you want, and the process repeats until you have every handout you would like to use. By building a digital library you can select all of the files you need worksheets made of, print to the copier, and then pick them up shortly thereafter (no more waiting for the copier to be free because they will print when the copier is idle). If you are interested in this, there is time involved on the frontend; however the time is repaid doubly later when you need to use your resources. The first step to develop your own digital library of resources is to create a folder structure. Do this on the g:/ drive so that your documents are safe from year to year. Try to create a structure that makes sense and think of the folders as you might think of folders in a filing cabinet. The next step is to scan your documents, name them appropriately, and save them to the folder they belong in. That's it! A little investment now can pay off big later!

### Scientific Websites Worth a Second Look

Every now and then you come across a website that makes you say, "wow!" Two such science sites came to my attention this past week. If you teach science at any level I would encourage you to check them out. The "Exploratorium" is a site from the museum of the same name which focuses on "kid friendly" science. It not only houses cool ideas and videos, but also other interactive websites built by the library on differing subject matter. You can find the Exploratorium site by clicking here. The second site is called the "Emergent Universe" and delves into structure from smaller parts. It is an interesting site linked with information about Alzheimer's and general information about changing perception based upon level of observation. You can find it at this address.