



# The Gaggle

Bringing You a Gaggle of News Monthly

Volume 2, Issue 11  
June 2007

## Summertime Gaggle Projects

Since your students' Gaggle accounts can be used from home all summer, Gaggle is the perfect tool to help foster your students' literacy skills over the summer months. Here are just a few simple project ideas you can utilize this summer with your students:

**Family Pen Pals** – Have your students choose one family member (such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle) whom they can correspond with throughout the summer via email. This allows your students to keep in contact with their extended family, while increasing their reading, writing, and keyboarding skills at the same time!

**Summer Reading Reviews** – Have your students choose one or two of their favorite books to read over the summer and share summaries and reviews of the books through Gaggle. Students can use their blogs or a message board to post their summaries and reviews, or they can send this information to their classmates through email. This is a great way for students to get exposure to many different books and it may spark their interest to read more over the summer!

**Vacation Message Board** – Create a message board where your students can post information on the places they visit over the summer. They can include information about what they did on

vacation, what they thought of the place they visited and something they learned on vacation. This activity not only helps increase literacy, but it can also be used as a geography lesson as students learn about the places their classmates have visited.

**Summer Journals** – Your students can use their blogs as an online summer journal where they can post daily or weekly entries about what they are doing. Students can include information about vacations, summer jobs, sports, and post pictures as well. This activity allows your students to stay up to date with each others lives throughout the summer while working on their literacy skills.

**Local Library Summer Reading Program** – Most local libraries host a summer reading program for students to encourage them to read and keep their minds engaged over the summer. You can use email to keep your students updated and informed on events going on at your local library or around the community in general.

This summer, help your students increase their literacy skills in a fun learning environment with Gaggle!

## Training Tips

*Learn helpful tricks about the Gaggle system here.*

### **Lesson Plan Message Board**

Are you looking for a place to share your Gaggle lesson plans and learn a few new projects to try? Gaggle provides educators with a special message board just for this purpose. Simply go to the Message Board section from your Jump To menu, click on "Educator Message Boards," and then click on the board entitled "Share Email Lesson Plan Ideas." This message board is designed specifically for teachers to share their ideas with other teachers and to ask questions and share advice. It is a great resource for teachers who are looking to expand the use of Gaggle in their classroom!

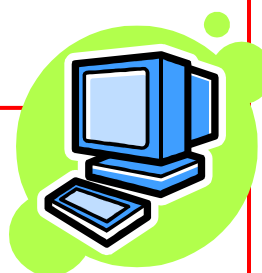
### **Coming Soon!**

In the fall of 2007, Gaggle will be introducing its new Velocity 4.0 interface. The new interface is optional, but is much more advanced than the current version of Gaggle. It offers powerful features and has the look and feel of Outlook Express. The Velocity interface is in the final stages of testing and will be ready for the start of the new school year!

## Curriculum Corner

*Learn helpful ways to integrate technology into your daily classroom activities.*

We love to hear success stories from educators about how Gaggle has enhanced the classroom environment for your students. If you have a success story or a curriculum project you would like to share with us, please email us at [elizabethc@gaggle.net](mailto:elizabethc@gaggle.net). We may end up featuring your story in The Gaggle next year!



**Enjoy your  
summer  
vacation!**