

Roles of Technology *in Your Action Research Project*

1. Technology is a tool to develop the foundation / knowledge base for your study.

Starting Points:

- ERIC Educational Resources Information Center <http://www.eric.ed.gov>
- UNF Databases <http://www.unf.edu/library/guides/bases.html>
- The Gateway to Educational Materials <http://www.thegateway.org/>
- Professional organizations...
- Colleague suggestions...

Record references using APA Format (p.179).

Reference record:

Author	Date	Title	Published in	Publisher

To automatically format your references in APA format use the free RefWorks service online at <http://www.refworks.com/Refworks>

APA Online Style tips <http://www.apastyle.org/>

2. Technology can be a part of your action plan.

Examples:

- Electronic books will help learning disabled students increased their interest in reading and their use of CRISS reading strategies.
- Concept mapping software will improve abstract concept development in physical science.
- Publishing an online writing “ezine” will improve interest and experience in writing.

Questions to consider:

- How will my students use the technology in the work of learning?
- What evidence do I have that the integration of the technology will lead to the results I want?
- Will my students have adequate access to the technology?
- What additional adjustments to the classroom will be needed to successfully integrate the technology?

Starting points:

- Florida's Educational Technology Clearinghouse
<http://etc.usf.edu/index.htm> from the Florida Center for Instructional Technology <http://fcit.coedu.usf.edu/>
- Professional organizations. The International Society for Technology in Education has an extensive lesson plan database at http://cnets.iste.org/search/t_search.html
- Technology in education agencies. The Regional Technology in Education Consortia have articles and ideas at <http://www.rtec.org/resource.shtml>
- The US Department of Education has articles and guidance at <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/EdReformStudies/EdTech/welcome.shtml> and <http://www.ed.gov/Technology/index.html>
- Learn from other teachers. Check Kathy Shrock's site at <http://school.discovery.com/schrockguide/> or Jamie MacKenzie's From Now On at <http://fromnowon.org>
- Check technology integration websites, like <http://www.4teachers.org/>
- Searches for the specific technology. For example, a Google search (<http://www.google.com>) for "student web page publishing"
- Searches for the instructional use of the technology. For example, search for "concept map science"
- Check technology vendor sites for "best practice" testimonials
- For instructional technology research summaries, check <http://www.gsu.edu/~wwitr/>

3. Technology as a tool for organizing and communicating your research.

- Word process
- Organize/plan(Inspiration)
- Access Web resources
- Analyze (Excel)
- Communicate during the process (Blackboard/Email)
- Visual design for sharing results (graphics, PowerPoint, digital photography)

Technology Action Plan

<i>Stage of action research</i>	Literature review	Classroom integration	Organizing and communicating
<i>Choose area, define question</i>			
<i>Collect data</i>			
<i>Organize data</i>			
<i>Analyze and interpret data</i>			
<i>Take action</i>			
<i>Share results</i>			