

January 2014



INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

*New Social Studies 1
Content*

*End of 2013
Cool Tool
Roundup*

Teacher Feature 2

New Social Studies Content

Revolutionary War

Last month, resources were added to one new Social Studies topic: *Revolutionary War*. Resources were also added to five current topics: *Westward Expansion, Colonial Times, Government, The Underground Railroad, and Native Americans*. To access these resources, login to your teacher account and choose the search button, or choose the links tab in your classroom management account. Under the topics search, choose the Social Studies subject.

End of 2013 Cool Tool Round-Up

In case you missed them, here is a round-up of four cool tools we shared in past 2013 newsletters. Enjoy!

Our Little Earth is an international newspaper for kids that provides short articles on current events and news from around the globe.

<http://www.ourlittlearth.com>

Rewordify is an online tool that simplifies texts by replacing difficult vocabulary words with easier synonyms.

<http://rewordify.com>

Oxford Owl has a large selection of free ebooks that include audio and accompanying activities.

<http://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/home/reading-owl/find-a-book/library-page>

We Give Books is another great site from the Pearson Foundation that allows access to picture books online.

<http://www.wegivebooks.org/books>



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Teacher Feature: Julie Paisley

Meet Julie Paisley. She teaches at Whittier Elementary School in Clinton, IA. She is currently in her second year as the LRC Director and previously taught 5th grade for 14 years at the same school.



Julie has used StarrMatica for the past three years—one year in her own classroom and two years training and assisting every teacher in her building as they utilize everything that StarrMatica has to offer.

Each classroom has a SmartBoard and at least 5 student computers to use individually or as centers. Every classroom also spends 90 minutes a week in the computer lab for activities required by the district. Here is how she uses our content in her own words:

*It was as a 5th grade teacher that I used StarrMatica the most. I found the Reading and Math practice activities extremely helpful with all of my students. **StarrMatica is a tremendous tool for differentiating in the classroom.** I assigned each student different activities and levels, based on their needs. I was able to keep track of each student's progress, so I knew their successes and weaknesses.*

*I am very excited about sharing everything that is new on StarrMatica this year with all the teachers at Whittier. **Having Science, Social Studies, SmartBoard activities, and Common Core connections added to the site is a tremendous resource for all the grade levels as they plan their instruction.***

Our teacher features are posted on [our blog](#) and are housed on the [testimonials page](#) of our website.

Would you like to be a featured teacher? [Contact us!](#) We would love to hear about your experiences.



Need help finding that perfect digital resource? Email or call StarrMatica's digital content experts. We would be happy to help!

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