

## November Technology Newsletter

Happy November! Read on to learn about all the exciting and engaging opportunities students have experienced this month!

### **Third Grade:**

Students have been using their notes to create a “rules” poster to display in their homes to teach others what they have learned about Internet Safety. Students have had the opportunity to explore the tools within the Google Docs toolbar to add more pizzazz to their posters. These tools included changing the font, size, color of text, inserting images, and using the spelling and grammar features to edit their work.

In the coming weeks, students will learn how to use Destiny (our electronic card catalog) to find fiction and non-fiction books. Students will take a tour of the library, learn how to find appropriately leveled books, and identify important information, such as call numbers to find books they want to check out. Students will apply their understanding by taking part in a cooperative Scavenger Hunt to demonstrate what they learned.

### **Fourth Grade:**

Students have been productive in their efforts to engage in an independent, self-paced study in order to earn their digital badges. This month many students focused on earning their Destiny and Inquiry Model badges. Students are encouraged to check in at the end of each period by reporting their badge focus for the class, as well as their effort and engagement progress. The following descriptions summarize the tasks and criteria needed for students to earn the badges below. Feel free to visit your child(ren)’s Google Classroom to see their projects.

**Destiny:** Students will demonstrate their understanding of Destiny by finding print resources, identifying accurate call numbers and locations, and finding books in a variety of genres successfully.

**The Inquiry Model:** Students will learn, use, and apply each of the parts of the Inquiry Model to complete a research project. Topics this trimester include identifying scholarly sources, as well as locating and providing citations from a variety of sources.

In the coming weeks, students will work to complete all five of their [assigned badges](#). Upon completion of these tasks, students will have the opportunity to create a “Learning Plan” to focus on an area of interest for independent study. Students are asked to set an objective, list materials needed, and conference with the teacher to discuss and reflect on their specific plan.

### **Fifth Grade:**

Students have been learning about extensions or small software programs that maximize use of their Google Chrome browsers. Students have learned how to install appropriate extensions including an Adblock for Youtube, as well as a citation creator called Scribe. Students were also introduced to Screencastify, an extension that allows the user to record their screen activity to create tutorials.

Moving forward, students will be exploring the power of a Primary Source. To begin, we will utilize Google Trainers through the Google Applied Digital Skills Curriculum, which will allow students to master Google Docs, Google Slides, and collaborating in an electronic document with a partner, all while writing a Choose Your Own Ending Story!

### **Hour of Code**

Each year students are given an opportunity to participate in the Hour of Code to celebrate Computer Science Education week. This hour long event

will take place the week of December 9-15th. You can look for coding resources in your child(ren)'s Google Classroom during this weeklong event.

## Problem-Solving Playdates

This month students have focused on learning how to:

- Upload pictures from an Ipad to a folder in their Google Drive
- Insert pictures from their Google Drive to their website
- Insert a textbox to add text on pages within their website
- Identify their September and October "challenges" with supporting pictures and descriptions
- Add reflections from their September and October "challenges" with supporting pictures and descriptions

*Please find more information and artifacts on our website, [jackjackterlibrary.com](http://jackjackterlibrary.com) in "Problem-Solving Playdates" tab.*

## Typing

In an effort to improve and strengthen their keyboarding skills, we encourage students to use [typing.com](http://typing.com). With your permission, students can click "Student Login" at the top right and then "Sign in with Google." It is recommended that grade 3 students complete the Beginner lessons, grade 4 students complete the Intermediate lessons, and grade 5 students complete the Advanced lessons.

## How can I connect to JJIS to find additional information?

- Our **website**, [jackjackterlibrary.com](http://jackjackterlibrary.com), has been **UPDATED!** See resources, access our library catalog, check out artifacts from our "Problem-Solving Playdates," and read our "Technology Newsletters."
- **Email us:** [bajohnson@colchesterct.org](mailto:bajohnson@colchesterct.org) or [khebb@colchesterct.org](mailto:khebb@colchesterct.org)
- Follow us on **twitter:** @technojohnson and @k\_hebb to see what we're doing in our classes!

- Subscribe to our **youtube channel** by visiting [youtube.com/jjislmc](https://www.youtube.com/jjislmc) to view learning events, Town Meetings, and other special activities taking place at JJIS.