

Weaving a New Web: Identifying Resources for Virginia Educators and Education Leaders

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Introduction

“Very few web resources are indexed to curricula, state frameworks, or national standards” (Roschelle & Pea, 1999, p. 23). In reviewing a series of issues related to the potential of the World Wide Web in education, Roschelle and Pea discussed the need to “tune” resources more closely to specific situations. They added, “The cost of identifying relevant resources on the web is much too high for overburdened [educators] to undertake” (p. 23). While there are a growing number of web-sites that provide links to education resources on the World Wide Web, the sponsors of the majority of these initiatives have not specifically connected their content with the needs and interests prevalent within a state. With this problem in mind...

VITaL, the **V**irginia **I**nitiative for **T**eaching **a**nd **L**earning, is being developed as a web-based clearinghouse of up-to-date information pertinent to the needs of educators and education leaders in Virginia. The project, which is in the early stages of development, will focus on identifying World Wide Web resources and organizing them according to state education interests and initiatives. Providing teachers and education leaders with resources pertinent to state's education agenda will enhance their ability to "locate, communicate, and process information" that may allow them to "become more proactive in approaching [education] challenges" (Donatucci, 1995, p. 14).