

Canadian Vocational  
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canadienne de la  
formation professionnelle

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**BOOK REVIEW**
 **NUNAVUT'99**
*Changing the map  
of Canada*

 Nortext Multimedia Inc.  
and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., 1999

With dismayingly little fanfare nationwide, Canada's youngest territory came into being April 1.

In celebration of Nunavut, Nortext Multimedia Inc., an Iqaluit/Ottawa marketing/communications/publishing company, has assembled a commemorative book deserving of the attention of every Canadian.

It's introduced by Pierre Berton, and includes the expected congratulatory messages from the prime minister and other government officials.

You'll find maps and stats, both historical and current, pertaining to Nunavut, and an Inuktitut lexicon/pronunciation guide. The articles are written in a variety of combinations of Inuktitut, Inuinnaqtun, English and French.

The book traces the history of the Inuit and the long and sometimes torturous rebirth of Nunavut—"our land"—with articles by John Amagoalik (chief commissioner of the Nunavut Implementation Commission), Robert McGhee (Museum of Civilization curator of archaeology), and many more Canadian and international authors, journalists, activists and scholars.

The well-written, informative articles—*Living with change*, *Our language, our selves*, *Hunters and high finance*, to name a few—make it as valuable as any textbook in the classroom, and the photographic contributions of the *Nunatsiaq News*, Peter Ernerk, Mike Beedell and others add great beauty to that value.

The book can be ordered by visiting [www.nunavut.com/nunavut99](http://www.nunavut.com/nunavut99) or calling 1-800-263-1452.

Take note: The cost of this glossy, full-colour, 134-page book for teachers and librarians ordering multiple copies is only **\$2.50** per copy—just the shipping and handling charges.

A great price for a great book.

—Ruthanne Urquhart

from page 21

**5. Use follow-up activities.**

ESL learners benefit greatly from having language and content information reviewed and reinforced. Follow-up activities would differ according to the content area being studied, but might include games, debates, short research assignments and mini-presentations.

**Conclusion**

Content instructors who incorporate these principles and techniques into their teaching will enrich both themselves and their ESL learners. By becoming more confident in dealing with ESL learner needs, and by acquiring strategies and techniques for making content accessible to ESL learners, content instructors can assist ESL learners to:

- keep up with non-ESL classmates;
- complete assignments and pass exams; and
- successfully complete courses rather than choose to drop out because of second language difficulties.

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## schoolfinder.com site for success

EDGE Interactive Publishing Inc. has added career, finance and community sections to its [www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com) site.

The interactive career section helps students find schools, firms and associations relating to their career choice, and offers an interest test and links to more than 170 career profiles.

In the finance section, students can get information on loans and budget planning, and link to [scholarshipscanada.com](http://scholarshipscanada.com), Canada's #1 scholarship search engine.

The community section provides an interactive forum for discussion of career-related problems and solutions.

[www.schoolfinder.com](http://www.schoolfinder.com) has added chat rooms, bulletin boards and a Q&A service called "Einstein."



The Canadian Vocational Association  
canadienne de la formation professionnelle **CVA/ACFP**

**www.cva.ca**

Visit CVA's website  
for up-to-date  
association news  
and information

**BOOK REVIEW**

## Jivin' Johnny's Classroom Teacher's Emergency Lesson Plans

Jjohnny Press  
www.jjohnnypress.com  
ISBN 0-9686403-0-3

This book's promotional package opens with "Instant help for the supply teacher, novice or overworked veteran."

Maybe so, but the people who truly benefit from what's between these psychedelic covers are students.

#30 Storyboard: Present a story, procedure or the evolution of something in 8 or 12 cartoon panels...

#45 Relationships: If you and your chosen partner had a hurtful disagreement...

#58 Money: Provide at least 20 reasons why a loaf of bread which once cost 25¢ now costs \$1.25. Then explain why a computer that 20 years ago cost \$900 now costs only \$300...

There are 89 other equally interesting, challenging and valuable lesson suggestions here, ranging from advertising through interviewing skills to inventing.

Jivin' Johnny, *a.k.a.* John Philips, has been teaching in Ontario for almost 32 years. He failed at university, was booted out of the navy, and fired from a job. He and wife Carol lost a young son.

He describes his teaching approach as "direct-to-life," and says his experiences have given him a "different perspective on what's important versus what are mere educational bookkeeping details."

The lesson suggestions here are grassroots exercises in vocational education. They may take place exclusively in the classroom, but they're fresh and innovative enough that, with students' imaginations in the mix, the classroom becomes a newspaper office, an embassy, a cartographer's drawing board.

At \$21.88, the book's a steal. It's not available in stores yet, but can be ordered on-line at [www.jjohnnypress.com](http://www.jjohnnypress.com).

—Ruthanne Urquhart

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## Chicken Soup for the Canadian Soul

Do you have an inspirational true story to share on love, parenting, unity, achieving goals, facing adversity, overcoming loss or other similar themes of the heart?

*Chicken Soup for the Canadian Soul* is being compiled right now, and we're looking for such stores.

It's a great opportunity to be published, and to share your experiences/wisdom with others.

All authors whose stories are chosen to appear will be paid for their work, and have a short bio in the book.

Stories should be one to five pages double-

spaced. Please remember to include your name and contact number/e-mail address.

Telephone toll-free 1-888-766-2446, local 1-905-881-8995 or visit our Web site at [www.aaron.com](http://www.aaron.com) for complete story guidelines.

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## WEB SITE REVIEW

# teachers.net

With more than 15,000 pages up and running, and more added daily, **teachers.net** is the Internet's most comprehensive Web site for teachers worldwide.

It's based out of San Diego, Cal., but don't let **teachers.net**'s American roots fool you. A quick read of any of the 40+ chatboards reveals it's truly a global site, visited regularly, and contributed to, by teachers from every industrialized country around the world.

Probably the most valuable link of pages on the site is *Lesson plans*, where you'll find more than 1500 lesson plans covering everything imaginable.

A five-minute surf turns up *Fun with Proverbs* (T. Schmenk, Matsuyama Board of Education, Japan), *Trip to Moon, Mars, or where ever!* (V. Profit, Opasquia Middle School, The Pas, Man.), *Dairy farming in New Zealand* (K. McCully, Uretiti District Primary School, Whitianga, NZ), *Math* (Noom, Kasetsart University, BKK Thailand), *Classical Period: Understanding Four-bar sequences* (J. Chad Green, Ft. Smith Christian School, Ft. Smith, Arizona), *Portuguese Literature* (M. F. Patrão, Escola Secundária Alcaides de Faria, Barcelos, Portugal)...

While a few have to be requested (e-mail addresses provided), most are available on-site. Anyone may post or request a lesson plan.

Site administrators boast a general request posted on one of the chatboards can garner more than 100 responses in 12 hours. A teacher friend tried it—71 replies in 12 hours. If that's the average, it's a good one.

Throw in regular columnists, live meetings and workshops, a Web ring, a teachers' bookstore sponsored by Amazon.com, a link of Web site design pages, a job centre, a calendar of upcoming teaching-related events worldwide, and much more, and you have a Web site guaranteed to provide everything but a polished apple.

—Ruthanne Urquhart

# Web Hound II



*The National Post* has released its *Web Hound II: The Dog goes to School* Web site recommendations.

Here are the best of the best:

**forum.swarthmore.edu** A terrific Math site for students, parents and teachers.

**www.IHateCalculus.com**

This site has a comprehensive list of links to calculus sites. The index page has a brief "rant" by Jacob, the site owner, that includes some mild profanity, though nothing as strong as what elementary students hear every day in the schoolyard.

**www.forkz.com/Science/Math/Algebra/High\_School\_Math/**

This is a great list of links to Algebra sites offering everything from theory to equations.

**edie.cprost.sfu.ca/~rhlogan/gen\_chm1.html**

Simon Fraser University's site offers more than you'll ever need to know about chemistry.

**www.itg.lbl.gov/ITG.hm.pg.docs/Whole.Frog/Whole.Frog.html**

This site offers the opportunity to dissect a virtual frog—no blood or formaldehyde, and the graphics aren't state-of-the-art, but it should tickle budding biologists' fancies and teach them something, too.

**promo.net/pg**

Project Gutenberg aspires to offer the world's texts on-line. Thousands of texts are currently available—literature, textbooks, speeches, biographies—and more are added regularly.

**www.bibliomania.com/**

This site has the full texts of classic fiction, popular fiction, short stories, drama, poetry, dictionaries, and research and religious texts.

**www.poetryloverspage.com/**

Just what the URL says—a collection of translated Russian poets plus the complete works of Rudyard Kipling, Edgar Allan Poe and Robert Louis Stevenson, with more to come.

**www.startingpage.com/html/quotations.html**

A huge, comprehensive collection of quotations—from Bartlett's and The Bible through politicians and philosophers to other famous (and infamous) people—destined to augment the term papers of every student.

**www.mtroyal.ab.ca/programs/academserv/lib/Subguide/sgfrench.htm**

These links may not be able to perfect your accent, but you'll be able to read and write French and dabble in French history and culture.

**german.about.com/homework/german/index.htm**

**www.studyspanish.com/**

Ditto for German and Spanish.

**www.k12.nf.ca/hcsc/chic/history.htm**

Holy Cross School in Newfoundland has put together a comprehensive site about Canadian history aimed at K-12 students.

**www.plpsd.mb.ca/amhs/history/cdnhist.html**

Manitoba's Arthur Meighen High School offers a Canadian history site researched and compiled by students. There's a disclaimer regarding the accuracy of the content, but they needn't have included it.

**www.ouc.bc.ca/fiar/his\_home.html**

Okanagan University College's *Important moments in Canadian history* site offers a timeline synopsis of Canada—very handy.

**www.canadiangeographic.ca/geomaps.htm**

As if *Canadian Geographic*'s main Web site wasn't informative enough, they've added a series of maps offering not just the geography of Canada, but the seasonal movements of smog, UFO hot spots, NHL hometowns and other interesting stuff.

**atlas.gc.ca/legacy/schoolnet/**

This is a terrific bilingual site by Industry Canada and Natural Resources Canada offering the geography of Canada and facts and stats about population, Voisey's Bay, the sovereignty issue in Quebec, and more.

**www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/index.html**

Love it or hate it, the CIA does have a comprehensive world geography site. It offers maps and stats for every country. The only hitch is that it's updated once every two years; right now, what's posted was compiled in January 1999. Still, it's a worthwhile site.

Visit **www.nationalpost.com** for the complete Web Hound II list of sites.