

Technology Integration Ideas

The TechnoMe project integrates technology into an *All About Me* social studies unit. The activities are an ideal way for children to develop self-awareness, accept differences in others, and build relationships. The activities are completed using a template, which supports beginners with limited keyboarding and computing skills. This project can be modified for older students by customizing the template to add additional slides using provided resources.

Benefits to incorporating an *All About Me* unit into curriculum:

- *Build Self-Esteem:* Use the *All About Me* activities to have students reflect upon what makes them special. By recognizing characteristics that make them unique, students develop a sense of self-worth.
- *Learn about Students:* Use the *All About Me* activities to get to know your students. Discover their strengths, goals, likes, and personal interests. This is a fun way for students to tell you about themselves. Use this information to support learning.
- *Develop Friendships:* Use the *All About Me* activities to help students recognize others in the class that have similar interests. This can become a starting point for fostering relationships amongst students.
- *Build a Sense of Community:* Use the *All About Me* activities to have students learn about one another. By sharing personal details students form a connection with one another.
- *Develop Oral Communication Skills:* Use the *All About Me* activities to have students practice public speaking and active listening.

Suggestions for sharing the TechnoMe project with others:

- *Determine an Audience:* Prior to beginning the unit inform students who will be seeing their slide shows. Decide if students will share their presentation with the entire class or a small group of students. Consider expanding the audience to include family members. You can email a link to parents or print the slide show to create an *All About Me* booklet.
- *Create a Class Album for an Open House:* Build a sense of community. Combine students' completed slide shows into a class album using instructions in Assignment 7. The album can be set to play automatically in the classroom during Open House or printed and placed outside the classroom door to introduce parents to the class.
- *Make a Class Bulletin Board:* Personalize your classroom. Print Slide 4 in the template; which is the flower decorated with a student photo and images of things they like. Use the printouts to create a *We Grow and Learn in Class X* bulletin board.

Ideas for extending the activities in the TechnoMe project:

- *Engage in Goal Setting:* Have students set a personal or school-related goal using the template in Extension Activity 1. Brainstorm options for meeting the goal and then establish a plan. Monitor progress towards achieving the goal. Celebrate successful completion of the goal.
- *Build a My Family Graph:* Recognize similarities and differences in families. List the members in the immediate family using the template in Extension Activity 3. Print the slide. Assemble the printouts into a simple graph to compare the number of people in each family. Use questioning to develop mathematical reasoning. For example, *How many people have four members in their family? What is biggest size of family? What is the smallest size of family?*

- *Collaborate to Complete a Puzzle:* Recognize the unique physical characteristics of others. Transform a student photo into a puzzle using the resources in Extension Activity 4. Trade with a friend that has the same number of puzzle pieces. Draw attention to the fact that although the puzzle design is the same, each puzzle is unique. Mix the two puzzle pieces together for an extra challenge.
- *Use a Graphic Organizer to Compare Similarities and Differences:* Identify similarities and differences in others. Form a partner group. Have each person tell about themselves while the other practices actively listening. Afterwards, each person completes the Venn diagram in Extension Activity 5. If working with older students, share the same diagram to have students jointly complete the organizer.

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