

Big Deal Book, May 15, 2017



Maximizing **TECHNOLOGY** in
the 21st Century Classroom

VSTE partners with Big Deal Media to bring you the best in online resources for digital learning and professional development plus grant and competition opportunities and more. In this edition, you can Get to Know the EU, Respond to Current Issues, Host a Hackathon & More.

Here are a few of our favorites from this edition...be sure to check the full Big Deal Book for more great resources!

Stories of Women in American History

A substantial portion of the **New-York Historical Society's** fourth floor has reopened as the **Center for Women's History**, a cutting-edge **museum** and **scholarship hub**.

Hackathons for Girls

Black Girls CODE hosts community-oriented "girls only" hackathons for girls between the ages of 12 and 17.

Game-based Learning with Primary Source Materials

Recognizing the potential of digital games to promote primary-source use for discovery and problem solving, the **Congress, Civic Participation, and Primary Sources Project** is developing **KidCitizen**, a *free cross-platform app* that provides **game-based learning activities with primary sources** for K–5 students.

[Big Deal Book, May 15, 2017](#)

Not everything in the Book is time sensitive so be sure to check out the [archives](#).

[Big Deal Book, May 1, 2017](#)

VSTE partners with Big Deal Media to bring you the best in online resources for digital learning and professional development plus grant and competition opportunities and more. In this edition, you can Celebrate Women in Science, Connect Shakespeare to Hip-Hop & More.

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Global Network of Coding Clubs

CoderDojo is a loosely connected global network of *free volunteer-led, community-based programming clubs* for young people. The volunteers are usually a mix of technical mentors and nontechnical volunteers.

Posters Celebrating Women in Science

A science-trained designer, Amanda Phingbodhipakkiya, has created a series of posters celebrating women in science to connect the Women's March to the March for Science.

Educational Hip-Hop Videos

Flocabulary, the interactive learning platform that uses educational hip-hop to engage students and increase

achievement across the curriculum, has launched its first mobile app.

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[Big Deal Book, April 17, 2017](#)



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Weekly Poetry Radio Series

During April, **National Poetry Month**, students can embark on a journey into the world of daily poetry by tuning into **PoetryNow**, a weekly **radio series** that features some of today's most accomplished and innovative poets.

Meaningful Making Projects

Illustrated with color photos of real student work, *Meaningful Making: Projects and Inspirations for FabLabs and Makerspaces* contains project ideas, articles, and best practices from educators at the forefront of making and hands-on education.

American History Through Stories of Diversity

Teachers, students, and the general public can dive into the diversity of American history at **OneHistory.org**, where they can listen to the voices of America, past and present.

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[Big Deal Book, April 3, 2017](#)



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Mobile Poetry Library

With **The Poetry Foundation's POETRY mobile app** for iOS and Android, students can take hundreds of poems by classic and contemporary poets with them wherever they go.

Activities in Celebration of Reading

"Drop Everything and Read" (D.E.A.R.) is a national month-long celebration designed to remind people of all ages to make reading a priority activity in their lives.

Weekly STEM Podcasts

Covering the outer reaches of space to the tiniest microbes in our bodies, **Science Friday** is the source for entertaining and educational stories about science, technology, and other cool stuff.

[Big Deal Book, April 3, 2017](#)

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[**Big Deal Book, March 15, 2017**](#)



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STEAM Design Competition

The **Cooper Hewitt Design Museum's National High School Design Competition: Good For All** is open to all youth aged 13–19 who are high school students in grades 9–12 anywhere in the United States.

Virtual Journey Through Shakespeare's Globe Theatre

With **Shakespeare's Globe 360**, students can step inside the famous Globe Theatre in England and discover how it was constructed, see what it would have looked like years ago, and learn about theater life in that time.

Digitized Recordings of FDR's Speeches

The **Roosevelt Presidential Library & Museum** allows teachers to bring President Franklin D. Roosevelt right into their classrooms with **digitized recordings** of his most important **speeches**.

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Big Deal Book, March 1, 2017



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Design Education in All Disciplines

The **Smithsonian Cooper Hewitt, National Design Museum** offers several resources on how to integrate design-thinking connections into the K-12 classroom.

Contest on the Relevance of Thoreau's Ideas

Each year the **Live Deliberately Essay Contest**, sponsored by the **Walden Woods Foundation**, invites youth aged 14-21 from around the world to respond to a selected quotation from Henry David Thoreau, reflecting on how his words and ideas are still

alive and relevant in their lives and in the world.

Digital Archive of Historical Documents

The Nat Turner Project's **digital archive** lets students read original documents related to the only large-scale slave revolt ever to occur in the United States.

[Big Deal Book, March 1, 2017](#)

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[Big Deal Book, February 15, 2017](#)



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Math Ideas with Liberal Arts Connections

Developed at Westfield State University in Massachusetts, **Discovering the Art of Mathematics: Mathematical Inquiry in the Liberal Arts** is publicly available through a collection of *free books* and *workshops*.

Immersive Virtual Reality Experiences

Developed by **The New York Times**, the **NYT VR app** for **iOS** and **Android** puts users at the center of stories in an immersive virtual reality (VR) experience.

Program Spotighting Frederick Douglass's Legacy

Frederick Douglass spent his life fighting for justice and equality. Born into slavery in 1818, he escaped as a young man and became a leading voice in the abolitionist movement.

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Global Awareness Activities

#GlobalSpeedChat is a worldwide **collaboration platform** on which students respond to activity prompts, such as "If the world had a flag of its own, what would it look like?"

Robot Simulator

RobotBASIC is a multifeatured, general purpose, versatile **programming language** with an **integrated robot simulator**.

Media Production Lessons

Produced by **WNYC Studios** since 2014, **Radio Rookies** has been developing a series of **free lesson plans** for educators who are interested in using **audio production as a teaching tool**.

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Creative Computing Network

ScratchEd is a network of educators who are using the student-friendly **programming language Scratch** in their classrooms, often in unexpectedly creative ways.

Digital Pre-algebra Game

A product of the **Learning Games to Go Project** spearheaded by **Maryland Public Television**, ***Lure of the Labyrinth*** is a **digital game** for middle school pre-algebra students.

Magazine for Makers

As a leading voice of the maker movement, *Make:* publishes tested projects, skill-building tutorials, in-depth reviews, and inspirational stories, accessible by all ages and skill ranges.

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Lesson on the Influence of Fake News

C-SPAN Classroom has a new **lesson plan** that is timely given the recent discussions about fake news stories created and shared through social media. **Media Literacy & Fake News** is a *free* lesson plan based on five C-SPAN videos featuring authors and other experts talking about the role of media in influencing how people think about political topics.

Family Coding Event

Pioneered by the California nonprofit **MV GATE**, **Family Code Night** is a whole-school family event that ignites coding and computer science learning at any elementary school and in any family. The program engages K–5 children and their parents or guardians in the experience of doing their first hour of computer programming together in an early evening special school program.

Lessons on the Ideas of Democracy

Facing History and Ourselves has produced a series of *free videos* and **accompanying lessons** that introduce a rigorous study of the **Reconstruction era** into American history classrooms. The video series presents interviews with scholars who offer insight into this complex history and address questions of freedom, justice, equality, and citizenship that are at the heart of the Reconstruction era.

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