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Assignment 3.11: Website Evaluation

VoiceThread
<http://voicethread.com>

A VoiceThread is a collaborative, multimedia slide show that holds images, documents, and videos. It allows people to navigate slides and leave comments in five ways (via microphone, telephone, text, audio file, and webcam). I selected this site because I was introduced to it this summer during the Cherokee Rose Writing Project. I found it a creative and effective way to facilitate classroom learning via technology. Students have created math videos showing how to solve problems and classmates have commented on them. It can be used for just about every school subject. VoiceThread facilitates collaboration between students and teachers in an innovative way that is sure to make learning fun, which is quite valuable. Teachers can use the site to record videos that feature various assignments and then have the students post their answers. The teacher has privacy control and can approve comments before they are posted. Students can use the site to record videos to embed in a PowerPoint class presentation or for any other educational visual purpose. They can also export videos to MP3 players or DVDs to play as archival movies. This is valuable to both students and teachers for incorporating technology into lessons which have become required by school systems. The site can be used for any grade level and for any curriculum standard. Simple voice and video commenting takes place in your web browser with no software to install. VoiceThread can also be used for the therapy setting. For future speech/language clients, I plan to create videos of some therapy techniques to break up the monotony of drills.