



Texas State Organization  
The Delta Kappa Gamma Society International

# Techno-Tips 2016

February

My new joy this month is Flubaroo. Flubaroo is an add-on to Google Sheets (the spreadsheet application of Google). When you create a test/quiz with Google Forms, Google automatically creates a Google Sheets document which collects the answers to your test/quiz. Adding Flubaroo gives you the ability to grade all the tests in under 60 seconds. It creates a new spreadsheet which shows student grades in percentages and raw scores. It shows student answers to each question and highlights questions that the class had problems with.

If you need help creating a test in Google forms, please check out [Web of Notes](#) which gives a very long but thorough explanation of creating a test using Google Forms and then adding Flubaroo.

There is also a very comprehensive [Google Document](#) outlining how to use Google Forms and how to add and use Flubaroo.

If you are still in the classroom, using Google Forms to create tests and then Flubaroo to grade them is an indispensable tool. I hope you will take the time to explore this new tool.

*Kitty Hutchcroft*



## "I CAN SEE CLEARLY NOW!"

My New Favorite App:

I've added an app to my iPhone 6 that really comes in handy for me when I am trying to read something in fine print. (Which seems to be more often than not these days!)

Here's a photo of what I downloaded from the app store:



It even has a light! Yay!

*Dianne Henline*

## A Video for Thought

This QR Code is a link to a video called *Above and Beyond* from FableVision Studios.



To view the video, you will need QR Reader on a cell phone or tablet. The one I find easiest to use is called QR Droid. It is available for free from your app store.

After the app is installed, open it and select SCAN. Hold the phone in front of the screen, not too close, and center the image in the window of the reader.

*Shirley Owens*

## Peer Instruction and Interactive Learning

Last Spring, Dr. Eric Mazur from Harvard University gave a workshop at our university. I had taught 40 years at that time, in public school and at the university level, and was still interested in how to engage students and help their understanding of difficult topics in science. We learned the principles in a day, because the process is a compilation of techniques teachers have used for years, but structured in a form that is easy to learn and apply.

Eric Mazur's version of Peer Instruction requires student responsibility. Basically, the students read or watch the assigned material and respond by email or some other form of social media such as a bulletin board, listing two concepts that were difficult and one that was interesting to them. The teacher modifies the presentation to focus on those concepts, and there is usually a consensus in the class about what was hard. Demonstrations or videos can clarify a concept. In addition, during the class, following a presentation of the concept, there are ConceptTest Questions that the teacher shows on a screen or SmartBoard, which are multiple choice. In order to answer them, previous understanding has to be applied. The students vote privately on their answer (by "clickers" or fingers held in front of their chest) and the teacher decides if the question was too easy (most got it right), too hard (most got it wrong), or "in the ballpark", with 30-70% of the right answer. In the last instance, students pair up with another student with a different answer, and try to persuade their partner. It can get pretty chaotic. But the light often dawns! The teacher's role is to question, guide or challenge.

The students have been very positive about the method, after the adjustment that always follows "when the rules have changed". Some few resist, because "I know how it is supposed to be. You tell me what you want me to know, I memorize it for awhile, you give me a test and I put it down, and I get my A". (Direct quote from a student.)

The rules have changed, because as we have always hoped, the students will understand the ideas and apply them, not just memorize the information for a test and forget it. This method is the best that I have found to lead to understanding, not just memorization. It seems to work best in science and math, but I really think history, government, and English teachers would find this method valuable, too. I hope others will consider it!

*Bobette Doerrie*

### If you want to know more...

Here's a list of people and/or organizations to follow. Some specific to technology, others are curriculum based (mostly elementary & middle school).

Google Tips & Technology Resources:

[Shake Up Learning](#) (website and blog)

[Shake Up Learning](#) (Twitter)

[Amy Mayer](#) (Twitter)

[Amy Mayer](#) (website and blog)

MakerSpace resources:

[LittleBits](#) (Facebook)

[Austin Tinkering School](#) (Facebook)

[Austin Mini Maker Faire](#) (Facebook)

*Kitty Hutchcroft*



Digital Storytelling resources  
[Comic Book Software for Digital Storytelling](#)

Photography resources  
[Photography Concentrate](#)

Shirley Owens

### Jing, Jing, Jing - Not Bells

Not a lot of “Bells and Whistles”, simple to use, one of my must haves and all time favorite electronic tools is Jing. It allows you to create images, crop or move images. There are many other products that allow these features but this is my “go to” product. If it is not on a computer, I install it because I use it daily. Did I tell you it is FREE?

Jing is shared with you free as the introduction to a whole list of other fantastic video and image tools that are the pay products of TechSmith © - Camtasia, SnagIt, Screencast and others. Each product allows free trial period. But Jing rings my bell!

<https://www.techsmith.com/download/jing/>

Marsha Edney

### GHO - Talk & Share Screens

Google is my tech passion. One of the features called **Google Hangout** allows you to converse and work collaboratively online in discussion with you plus nine and screen share. You also can record sessions with GHO to enable posting video messages and the multitude of other video conferencing needs you might have. I am a monthly host to our Twitter chat for librarians - #tlxchat. My co-moderator each week and I use Google Hangout to discuss the outline and sequence of our 30 minute Twitter chat. I have spent hours discussing presentations or issues with several library buds as we share ideas and solutions or just talk the library business or the next conference presentation or trip. I Love GHO!

<https://hangouts.google.com>

Marsha Edney

### Photo Phun: Take 3!

I have been researching photography techniques for a class that I will be teaching in February. One of the articles I read suggested that a method of shooting a site or scene is to take three pictures: **wide, tight and medium**. I like that because it gives a more complete picture of a memory. Like a story, there is a beginning, middle and end.

I also found a very easy to use comic creator, [Comic Life by Plasq](#). This is one of the easiest comic creators I have tried. It is not free, but does offer a discount for education.

As an example, I made a comic of a memory. Last year, my whole family went to a family gathering in San Angelo. It took two cars. On the way back, my daughter's car decided to quit. This is the story.

Shirley Owens,



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