Moving Web Archiving Into the Classroom: Internet Archive’s K-12 Web Archiving Program

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About Internet Archive

- Non profit founded in 1996 by Brewster Kahle, as an ‘Internet library’
- Officially designated a library by the state of California (2007)
- General Web Archive started collecting born digital content in 1996: Currently 115 billion pages from over 65 million websites
- Archiving born digital content for partners since 2002
- www.archive.org
Archive-It

- Web archiving service enables small institutions to easily and effectively archive born-digital content.
- Subscription service since 2006
- 95 partners: University Libraries, State Archives, State Libraries, Museums, Public Libraries, Federal agencies, non-profit organizations
- www.archive-it.org
WELCOME TO ARCHIVE-IT

- Attend a live online demo: April 14 11:30AM PDT or April 28 11:30AM PDT
- or -
- Watch a 20 minute pre-recorded online demo now

Archive-It, a subscription service from the Internet Archive, allows institutions to build and preserve collections of born digital content. Through our user-friendly web application, Archive-It partners can harvest, catalog, manage, and browse their archived collections. Collections are hosted at the Internet Archive data center and are accessible to the public with full-text search.

Browse Our Partners

State Archives & Libraries
Choose a partner

Colleges & Universities
Choose a partner

Museums & Public Libraries
Choose a partner

Featured Collections

Green Sites, North Myrtle Beach High School
Sites selected by students at North Myrtle Beach High School as part of the Archive-It K-12 Web Archiving Program.

Browse Our Collections

- Public Collections A-Z
- Arts & Humanities
- Computers & Technology
- Government

As of April 2, 2009: Archive-It has collected 868,330,446 UHLs for 777 public collections!
Archive-It 2009 programs

Crisis, Tragedy and Preservation

- Virginia Tech Tragedy
- California Wild Fires
- Northern Illinois Shootings
- Iowa Floods
- Russia/Georgia conflict

Spanish User Interface

- Global Spanish speaking partners
- US Hispanic population

K-12 schools / Educational Partnerships

- 10 K-12 Program schools in 2009
- Archive-It as a teaching tool in graduate programs
K-12 Web Archiving Program

- Library of Congress, California Digital Library and Internet Archive
- Pilot in 2008 with 3 schools, 10 schools in 2009
- Classes work together to build Internet “time-capsules” of sites to preserve
- Students choose the sites to archive and use metadata to describe their choices
K-12 Web Archiving Program: Purpose

• Archive the web from a young adult’s point of view.

• Encourages and instructs students on a long term view of primary source born digital resources.
K-12 Web Archiving Program: Purpose

- Foster critical thinking skills in K-12 students
- Collaborative program that develops problem solving skills
ABOUT THE PROJECT

If you were a high school student, which websites would you want to save for future generations? This is the challenge we posed to students and their teachers. In the spring of 2008, Internet Archive, the Library of Congress and California Digital Library collaborated on a project that explores archiving the Web from the perspective of high school students. In the fall we plan to broaden the program’s outreach to additional high schools and eventually middle and elementary school students. To get involved and/or learn more, please email us at archive-it@archive.org.

We hope that stimulating students to think about history in the context of their own lives will provide them an opportunity to actively engage in selecting the matter of history in the future, and help students begin to grasp the tremendous challenges presented by a world in which information can be both generated and annihilated in a heartbeat.

Using the Archive-It service, students from three different high schools selected born digital content available via the Web to create “time capsules” to represent their world. By allowing students to identify sites that will be preserved for the long-term, the pilot gave teens a chance to identify and document their cultural history and the world that’s important to them. Unlike time capsules of tangible objects, which usually remain hidden for decades or centuries, the resulting Web collections are immediately visible and publicly accessible here, with full text search for study and analysis.

WHAT TEACHERS AND STUDENTS ARE SAYING

“...we noticed that many adults assume that this generation is just “playing around” when they’re on the computer or “not really paying attention” to what is going on in the world. I think our students have really shown that yes, they are playing but in a creative way that does require brain power and that they do pay attention to what is going on in the world. Just look at the sites they have chosen. They do care and they do want to have a positive impact on the world; they just do so in a format that is somewhat alien to generations before them.”

- Leigh Ann Hastings, Media Specialist, Charleston High School

“I knew that websites changed periodically, but I didn’t realize that once they are changed,
Sample Collections

• The Heartland: Newspaper, government and non-profit sites focused on Iowa
• Historical Black College Search: African American Colleges / Universities from across the country
• Games 4 Gals and Boy Games (separate collections): gender specific online games
• Green Sites: Environmental Websites
• Prom Guide
Challenges

• Time and priority
• Would like to integrate the program formally into class curriculum
• Methods for collaboration between different participating schools
• Need to develop more resource materials for teachers/students
Moving Forward

- 2008 - 09 program website launching May 09!
- Recruiting schools for the 2009 – 2010 school year
- More Schools, more collections, more data
Thank you!

http://www.archive-it.org/k12/

www.archive-it.org

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