



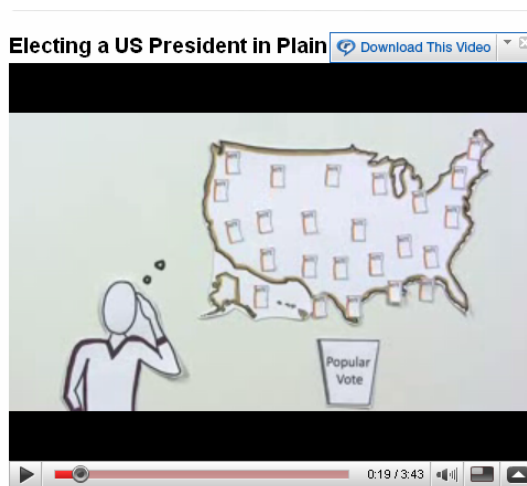
October 13, 2008

# Weekly Widget

## Electing a US President in Plain English

Finally!! I understand how our Presidents are elected!! This Video, by Common Craft, titled Electing a US President in Plain English, is a great explanation for 4th and 5th graders on how the voting process and Electoral College works.

It can be found several places, but I'm giving you the YouTube link because YouTube expands to full screen easily.



[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ok\\_VQ8I7g6I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ok_VQ8I7g6I)

Weekly Technology  
Tips and News for VVE  
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### Electoral College

1. a body of electors empowered to elect someone to a particular office
  2. (US) such a body chosen to elect the president and vice president
- Wiktionary

## For the Younger Grades-Weekly Reader Election Center 2008



This is an interactive site with a more primary introduction to the candidates, and a link to quizzes.

<http://www.weeklyreader.com/election/>

### Tech Tuesday

Tuesday, October  
14th

3:30 in Dell Lab 1

Topic:

Website Work  
Session

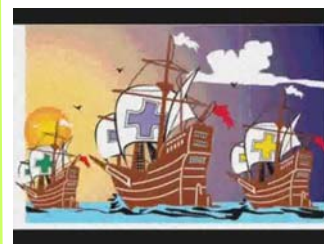
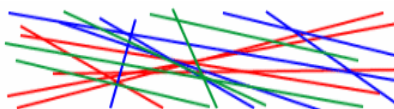
## Great Math Links from Jana

Jana Bolles shared a site with me that I wanted to pass on. It looks like this

site was developed with the Home School Teacher in mind. This is not the first good resource that has come out of the Home School community. Scroll down a bit until you see the Math Category. Maybe some of these will be useful for you. Thanks, Jana!!

<http://homeschooling.gomilpitas.com/directory/Math.htm>

How many lines appear in the drawing?  
a) 14 b) 16 c) 18 d) 19





## Kerpoof Teacher's Page and Newsletter

Visit the Kerpoof Teacher Page for Lesson Plans, Classroom Ideas, Standards Based Activities and more.

<http://www.kerpoof.com/teach>

Watch a Video about using Kerpoof

[http://www.kerpoof.com/teach?c=demo\\_video](http://www.kerpoof.com/teach?c=demo_video)



I think I forwarded the Kerpoof Newsletter to everyone last week. There are some nice tips towards the bottom. To Subscribe go to the Kerpoof Teach Link above and scroll down to the newsletter section. All you have to enter is your email address.

Here are some ideas that caught my eye:

### **New fun on Kerpoof**

We've added more options for movie scenes! Just in time for Halloween we've got five new spooky scenes to choose from for even more Halloween fun. We've also added new storylines called "Rock Party" and "Far Away Land" each with several amazing scenes to choose from. All of these new items are available to all users.

### **Idea Center**

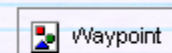
#### *Journal starter*

If your students write in a journal or notebook each day, use Kerpoof to help come up with ideas for them to write about. You can create Kerpoof scenes and ask students to write about what's happening in the scene. The wackier the scene you create, the more creative the students will have to be. For example, a scene from one of the alien planets could have students writing a short story explaining who lives on the planet and who came in the space ship. What are they talking about? How will they communicate?

### **Tips and Tricks**

#### *What's a waypoint?*

One of the most important programming constructs in the Kerpoof Movie Maker is the idea of using waypoints to tell characters where they are supposed to go. It might help to tell students that waypoints "point the way" for the characters. Most methods are a two-step process: drag the method to the timeline and fill out the dialogue box. The "Move" method requires three steps: place a waypoint, drag the method to the timeline and fill out the dialogue box. Once students get the hang of the Move method, it's easy for them to remember, but sometimes they need a reminder when they use it for the first time.



Items from the Timely Movies and Tie Ins Section of the Newsletter:

- November 2: Set the clocks back an hour as [Daylight Savings](#) ends, then watch our movie on the topic and explain why we "spring forward" and "fall back" every year.
- November 4: Election Day is here! [BrainPOP Spotlight: Election '08](#) has all the content you need for your lessons about the election process and the way the U.S. government works.
- November 7: Watch our movie about the Nobel-winning scientist [Marie Curie](#), born on this day in 1867, and delve into her pioneering work with radioactivity.

From Brainpop



And...  
BrainPop Jr.

BrainPOP Jr.

- Watch our [Book Reports](#) movie and teach the class how to share the good books they've read.
- With the new movie on [Sound](#), show children how all of Moby's "beeps" make it to their ears.
- Look both ways before you watch this movie: Annie and Moby learn about [Safety Signs](#) and their meanings.
- [Columbus Day](#) is October 13th; explain the significance of the explorer with our movie.
- October also means Halloween is just around the corner. Annie and Moby celebrate while they learn about [Even and Odd Numbers](#).

## Atomic Learning Videos - PB Wiki Workshop

Want to learn more about wikis? The Atomic Learning PB Wiki Workshop has all the information in bite sized, 1-2 minute video clips. From "What is a Wiki?" to collaborating with other classes using a wiki, the PB Wiki Workshop can help you see how a wiki can be used in your classroom.



<http://movies.atomiclearning.com/k12/pbwiki>

I would love to help you with any wiki ideas.