


**From:** "District Information Technology Coordinator" <ditc@sd79.bc.ca>   
**Subject:** Updates from Lisa  
**Date:** 23 November, 2014 2:42:10 PM PST  
**To:** teachers@sd79.bc.ca  
**Reply-To:** "District Information Technology Coordinator" <ditc@sd79.bc.ca>

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1 Attachment, 402 KB

Hello Everyone-- welcome to the last week of November! As we begin the season of Concerts and other interruptions, I just wanted to share a quick update with you this week. This issue is dedicated to the teacher who wants to employ more technology into their practice, but just isn't sure how to do it.

Earlier this year, I sent out a request to SMARTBoard-using teachers. I was so happy to receive so many responses from teachers who were using-- or wishing to use-- SMARTBoard technology in their classrooms. (BTW, if you meant to reply to that email and \*forgot\*, it's not too late-- I'd love to hear from you, and I am compiling the information for forward directions).

Before I get to my "share" for this week, a few shout-outs. Thank you to Karen Rainy and Susan Kelland at Discovery school who welcomed me into their classrooms to teach a little iPad lesson. I love being in classrooms, either in front of the room, or side-by-side teaching with you.

My other adventures included a Jam-Packed PLC mini-workshop with the Cowichan Secondary Humanities and Languages Departments. I've hit 3 schools now on PLCs and Staff Meetings, and am booked for 2 more, so please don't hesitate to ask-- I can tailor it how you wish, for as much time as you like. I'll even bring hand outs, possibly in the form of chocolate. A recap of my adventures can be found here: [Uncomfortably Teachable Moments](#).

Finally I'd like to share this cute little SMARTBoard lesson. It was created by Catherine Ellis, who teaches K-1 at Alexander El. She is what I would describe as a power-user of SMARTBoard and Notebook technology. She makes it look easy, and really understands that part about making technology work for you, as opposed to making the work hard or unnecessarily convoluted.

The file attached is a little centres-style game, suitable for K-2, at least, but really lots of kids would enjoy this. You can also repurpose this activity for older students. In the case of Catherine's game, it requires the students to understand the value of whole numbers, and greater-than/less-than. The whole numbers could be replaced by fractions or decimal numbers, or instead of being sequential, the numbers could be scrambled to really up the difficulty. The object is simple: "Guess the value of the digit. One monster governs greater-than and the other less-than." Indeed the Monsters could be swapped out with any icons that would fit your theme or concept. It happened to be centre time when I was in the class, and "Monster-Squeeze" was proving very popular. Please feel free to use, share or edit the game, and consider sending Catherine an invitation to connect with you if you have any questions or ideas to share.

That's all from me on this sunny Sunday afternoon. Thank you, as always, for your feedback, your kind invitations to come to your schools, and your willingness to share.

Until next time, I remain

Virtually yours,

Lisa

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**Lisa Read**

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