

# Technology Tips & Treats



Delta Kappa Gamma—Alpha State

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## Free Tablet Software? ... There's an App for that!

Apps for tablets, smart phones, and some mp3 players are available in all categories and at many different price levels. Although most sell for only a few dollars, in this day of budget cuts, free is always a nice price. Many software developers offer lite versions of their apps at no cost hoping that users will like what they see enough to buy the full version. Another tactic developers use is to make limited-time free or discounted apps offers. How do consumers know when this happens? Well, there are apps for that! Here are a few that can be downloaded from the App Store.

**PandoraBox** is a free app that

helps users stay aware of all sales and new arrivals in the App Store. Software companies reduce prices on apps all the time, but usually for only a few hours or days to stimulate sales. This app allows users to create their own favorites list in order to track when the apps go on sale or become available for free.

**AppMiner: Daily Freebies** keeps track of paid apps that are being offered free from software developers. Users can search the site for favorites or use the Freebies list to find new apps. Besides the App Store information, AppMiner provides links to website, videos, and blogs where users

may access extra information and product reviews.

**AppFree HD** is another app that lists apps where users can find free-for-a-day apps and sales apps. They update their information daily. This app can be used to spot one-time-only opportunities. Categories are well marked and easy to navigate. Apps are listed by date they went on sale so the user can tell which apps deals may be expiring soon.

**For twitter users:** Freeappaday.com and Texas Computer Education Association (TCEA) send out free and sale app notices daily to their followers.

“Technology Tips & Treats” is a monthly publication created by the 2011-2013 Technology Committee.

Our goal is to provide you with the most up-to-date technology information to assist you and your chapter in the 21st Century!

Please let us know what you think of our newsletter at [sreddingdkg@gmail.com](mailto:sreddingdkg@gmail.com), Shelly Redding, Technology Committee Chairman

## More to Searches

Google is one of the most widely used search engines in the internet today, but most people do not go beyond the first few web results. There is so much more. On the bottom, left-hand side of the window, click on “**More search tools.**” .

- Check out **Sites with images** for pictures related to your search
- **Related Searches** gives you a list of other search terms on topic to try.
- **Visited pages** takes you to sites you have already visited.
- **Not yet visited** will weed out already viewed sites.
- Looking for the definition, choose **Dictionary**.
- Select **Reading level** and choose between Basic, Intermediate, or Advanced. to accommodate your students' abilities.
- **Social** will display links to different social media sites, such as twitter, if user is logged into Google account.
- **Nearby** will display results within a few miles of your location.
- **Translated foreign pages** will display in English pages originally written in another language.
- **Verbatim** will search for exactly what you type in, misspellings and all.

## Technology

### Tip of the Month

Having a hard time coming up with a secure password? Try

<http://passwordbird.com/>

Using answers you give to three questions, the Password Bird will create two possible passwords from which to choose. Don't like them, provide different answers and try again.

# Organizing Your Web Browsing with 3x3links

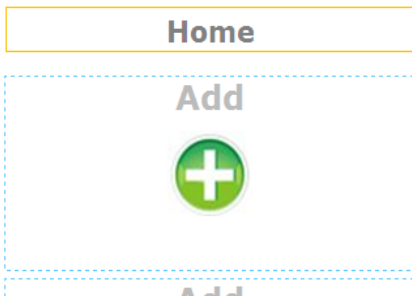
Giving an in-service and need to access several websites during the presentation? Get organized with 3x3links. This minimalist start page lays out your shortcuts in a nine square grid for easy access. All you need is a free Google account.

## Planning

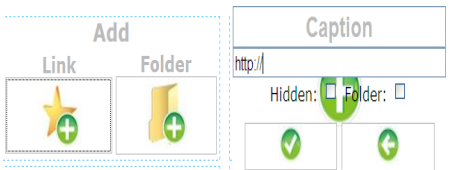
- Decide in the number of websites you will be using.
- Categorize them if there are more than nine,
- Determine the order they should be displayed.
- Know or be able to access the URLs for all of your sites.

## Getting Started

- Go to <http://www.3x3links.com>.
- Sign in using a Google account. There is a link to get a new Google account if you do not already have one.
- Click the first square to start adding links.



- Click the + under Link and either copy and past or type the URL into the box. Click the check mark when finished.

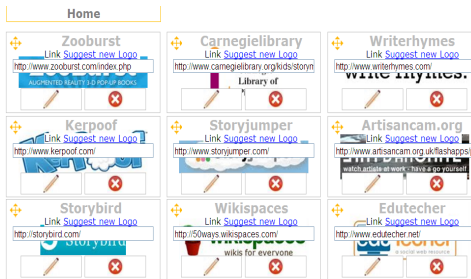


- If you have more than nine URLs and need to group them, click the + under Folder. You will be asked to caption the folder. Then

you can follow the above step to add the links.

- Continue until you have added all of your web sites.

Customize your view by clicking one of the two options in the customize menu. The site defaults to grid view, but you can easily change it to list view if that is easier for you to work with



Your 3x3page is ready to be used, but there are a few options that you might want to consider to improve the page. Options are located in the top right hand corner..

## Options

- **Overview:** tells about each option.
- **3x3Pages:** Shows your existing 3x3 pages. Create a new 3x3page here
- **Personal Links:** Create a Vanity URL that will allow others to access your 3x3page.
- **Look&Feel:** Change background and add or hide additional controls
- **Tweaks:** Make links open in new tab.

There are other options that you can explore on your own that are not as critical as those explained above.

After you have made your changes click on Homepage at the top right of the screen and you will see what the 3x3page looks like.



## Uses:

- **Professional Development:** Put all of the websites used in your training in one place for easy access

<http://www.3x3links.com/photostory>

- **Tech tool organizer:** All of the web-based tools you use in one convenient location.

<http://www.3x3links.com/classroomtools4>

- **Student links pages:** Keeps all websites you wish the students to utilize in one place. Arrange them in folders by categories.

<http://www.3x3links.com/students>

- **Virtual field trips/Webquests:** Organize links for special lesson plans or activities.

<http://www.3x3links.com/wordclouds>

