

# Tech Beat

*Technology with a heartbeat*

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## What If You Were Your Student?

If everyone around you were talking about computers and computers and computers, and you didn't know beans about computers except that you were being forced to learn about them, sink or swim, how would you feel? Angry, frustrated, anxious? What advice would you give yourself?

I would suggest that some good advice would be to accept the presence of technology in this century and begin to take baby steps toward learning more about it. Nothing is scary when you understand it or learn to use it.

The same is true for other concepts: math, science, reading, jobs, writing, making money, making friends, gaining trust, self-respect, being perfect, and more. Everything seems huge when we know nothing about it. We gain confidence by taking a step at a time until we can run right through it and into the next giant facing us.



Our attitudes about life govern our learning about it. Fear is not a teacher; fear paralyzes. What can we do to learn more about things we fear? As we learn ourselves, we become teachers for our students who have often faced fear all of their lives. We teach best what we are learning. True?

## Selected Online Resources for Self-Directed Learners (and their mentors...)

This month, the Four Corners Virtual Resource Center is offering an online segment on developing activities and credible assessment for ABE/GED/ESL students. The January segment is filled with lots of links to general resources and activities in each area. You are strongly invited to enroll (free) and become part of our online community of adult learners, learning to teach students to learn. Join us at...

<http://www.swadulted.com/CourseSite/index.htm>

## LINCS Workshop in Cortez <http://literacynet.org/lincs/>

Paul Heavenridge, Director of Western-Pacific LINCS, visited the SWBOCS Adult Program in Cortez in December and presented an awesome workshop on using the site for learning. He also worked with participants on creating an online project that will be published and used by adult ed programs all over the world. The Cortez program decided to create a template with adult ed students, dealing with resources to address the need for information about the legal system and the health system in Montezuma County. The template can be adapted by other communities wishing to help students understand those aspects of their communities.

Check out the site and all of its resources, dedicated exclusively for adult students in the world. Check out what's there to help you! — <http://literacynet.org/lincs/studentlearner.html>