

K to the 8th Power

Integrating Academics and Technology
for Standards-Based Computer Literacy



K to the 8th Power - Students Area - Microsoft Internet Explorer

File Edit View Favorites Tools Help

Back Forward Stop Home Search Favorites Refresh Print Mail

Address http://www.kto8.com/students/students.php

Links Google

K to the 8th Power

Students Area

Welcome Adam Jones from Lincoln View School

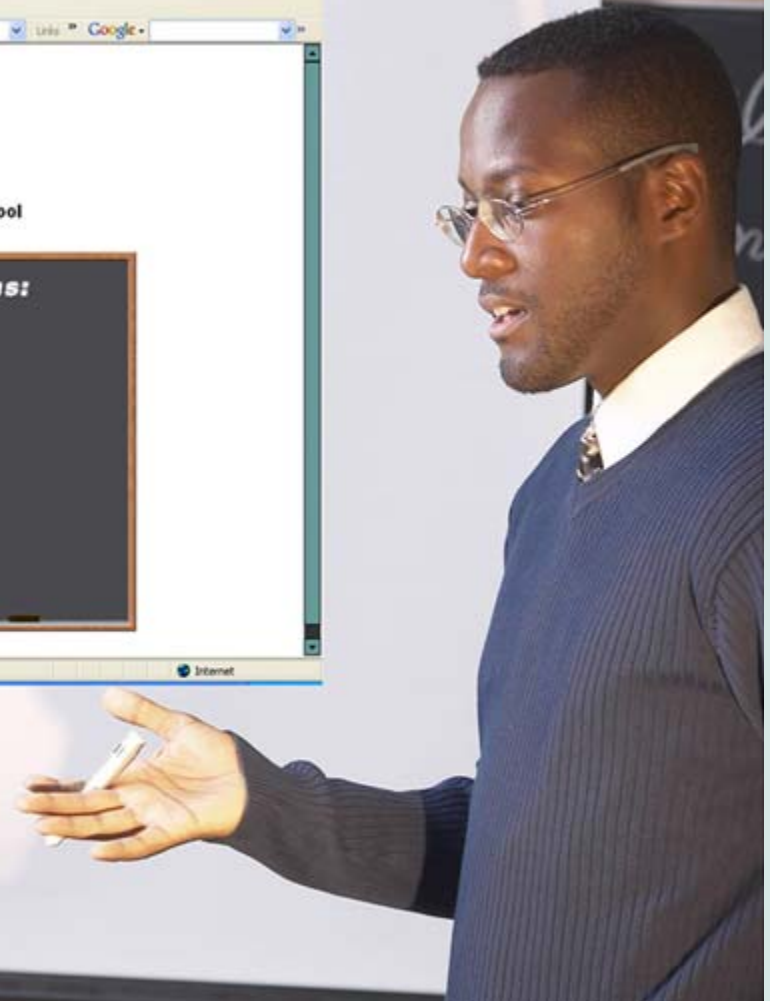
Currently Assigned Lessons:

Mr. Reed's Class

- Root Words From Science
- Idioms and Analogies
- Similes and Metaphors
- Microsoft PowerPoint - Level 4
- Deoding Words
- Number Prefixes
- Subject and Predicate
- Technology Assessment Part 3
- Technology Assessment Part 4
- Technology Assessment Part 1
- Antonyms, Synonyms, and Homonyms
- Nouns, Pronouns, and Verbs
- Rhyming Words

Logout

118932 Done Internet



Getting Started Guide
K to the 8th Power

Table of Contents

Table of Contents	1
Introduction.....	2
System Requirements.....	3
Step 1: System Settings (PC & Mac).....	3
Step 2: Software Settings - Windows PC	3
Step 3: Software Settings - Apple Mac.....	3
Step 4: Test your computer configuration	3
Disable your browser’s pop-up blocking software	4
Audio.....	4
Bandwidth.....	4
Check the resolution of the students’ computer displays.....	5
Create a desktop Shortcut to the Student Login Page.....	5
Site Administration	5
Submitting Your Student Roster.....	5
Best Practices for Student Success	6
Provide an orientation class	6
Have older students help the younger students.....	7
Use the Curriculum Guide as a basis for planning	7
Use “Lesson Tracks” for technology focus	7
Recommended lessons for beginners at early grade levels.....	8
Recommended Beginning Lessons for Kindergarten	8
Recommended Beginning Lessons for First Grade	8
Recommended Beginning Lessons for Second Grade.....	8
Contact Information.....	9

Getting Started with K to the 8th Power

Introduction

This document will help in the initial set up and usage of the K to the 8th Power Technology Courseware. It is divided into several sections including:

- ✓ System Requirements
- ✓ Site Administration
- ✓ Class and Student Administration
- ✓ Best Practices for Student Success
- ✓ Contact Information

If this is your first comprehensive computer lab program, we recommend that you follow these steps closely. Please don't hesitate to call us or email us if you have any questions or suggestions.

System Requirements

The K to the 8th Power online curriculum and website require users to have the system and software settings listed below in order to function properly.

Step 1: System Settings (PC & Mac)

Pop-up Blockers:	Allow K to the 8 th Power content to be displayed.
Audio .mp3 files:	All audio .mp3 files must be playable.
High speed internet:	More than 56Kbps per computer is recommended.

Step 2: Software Settings - Windows PC

Operating System:	98, 98SE, Me, NT 4.0, 2000, or XP
Browser:	Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5.5+
Plug-ins:	Macromedia Flash Player version 6.0+ and Adobe Reader*
Screen resolution:	800 x 600 or higher (1024 x 768 preferred)

Step 3: Software Settings - Apple Mac

Operating System:	Mac OS X 10.2.8+
Browser:	Firefox 1.0.6+ or Microsoft IE 5.2
Plug-ins:	Macromedia Flash Player version 6.0+ and Adobe Reader*
Screen resolution:	800 x 600 or higher (1024 x 768 preferred)

Step 4: Test your computer configuration

1. Click on this [link](http://www.kto8.com/requirements.php) to automatically test your computer configuration for the requirements listed above. (<http://www.kto8.com/requirements.php>)
2. Click on each of the three **Test Now** links to make sure your system settings are compatible with the K to the 8th Power content. If not, follow the instructions on each page to change your system settings accordingly.
3. Click on the **Download** links if you do not have all the required software components.

* Required for teachers and administrators only.

Disable your browser's pop-up blocking software

In order for the K to the 8th Power Courseware to function, your pop-up blockers MUST allow content from K to 8 to be displayed. There are two methods for determining if you have pop-up ad blocking software enabled?

1. Click on this [link](#), select **Test Now** to the right of the words "Pop-up Blockers," and follow the instructions. (<http://www.kto8.com/requirements.php>)
2. Review the 6th grade lesson "[Use Context Clues](#)." If the lesson tries to load but nothing happens, you are being blocked by a pop-up blocker. If you are blocked, follow the instructions in item 1 above.

If you get blocked, you will need to make a small configuration change to your browser otherwise the K to the 8th Power Courseware will not function. The change depends on the version of browser and pop-up blocker you have. You may need to ask your technical support person for help. The best thing to do is to set the pop-up blocker to allow all pop-ups from <http://www.kto8.com>. This will allow all lesson content from K to the 8th Power to be displayed without affecting your protection from other content.

Audio

All lessons are designed with an audio track that is part of the lesson content. To take advantage of the audio the student computers should be equipped with headsets.

Some schools and districts have begun to block audio files in the mp3 format. This is probably to keep students from downloading music files. However, all of our lessons have audio formatted as mp3 files and the lessons will not function properly without audio.

To test your computers for the ability to play mp3 files, follow the instructions in Step 4 on the previous page.

Bandwidth

The K to the 8th Power Courseware is a media rich online curriculum. In order to enjoy all of its many benefits, it is necessary to have a high speed internet connection. For optimal use, we recommend 56Kbps or higher per computer.

To test your internet connection speed, follow the instructions in Step 4 on the previous page.

Check the resolution of the students' computer displays

The Kto8 lessons are designed to run at a resolution of 800x600 or larger. If the computer supports a 1024x768 resolution this is the preferred setting. In an 800x600 configuration the Kto8 lesson will fill up the entire screen. In a 1024x768 configuration the Kto8 lesson will be 800x600 and it will be centered in the middle of the 1024x768 screen. This will make it easier for the students to open additional windows when necessary and navigate to them when necessary.

Create a desktop Shortcut to the Student Login Page

To make a shortcut on the PC desktop follow these steps (This is for Internet Explorer version 6.0 but it will be similar for all versions of Internet Explorer):

1. Go to the [Kto8 Assignment](http://www.kto8.com/students/) page (http://www.kto8.com/students/)
2. On the browser menu bar select **File**
3. On the File drop down menu select **Send**
4. Select **Send Shortcut to Desktop**

Students will be able to click the shortcut icon on the desktop and go directly to the login page.

Site Administration

Submitting Your Student Roster.

When you first start with K to the 8th Power, you have the option of submitting a spreadsheet containing all of your student's names, user names, passwords and teachers names. This will expedite the process of getting your school set up. It typically takes 1-2 days to have your school up and running once the spreadsheet is submitted.

Optionally you can enter the information yourself. This is not recommended because of the time and energy it will take to type in all of this information.

Following is an example of the information required to set up your entire school via the spreadsheet technique.

Student Name		Grade	User Name	Password	Teacher
First	Last				
Robert	Ott	6	roberto	ro	Ken Reed
John	Smith	7	jsmith	ranger	Ken Reed
Frank	Williams	7	frankw	rocks	Ken Reed
etc.					

Best Practices for Student Success

When it comes to computers, students have a wide range of knowledge and skills. Over the past several years we have witnessed a number of practices that have helped teachers, lab directors and students succeed. Following are some examples of these “Best Practices.”

Provide an orientation class

The K to the 8th Power curriculum was designed to be used by the student with minimal intervention from the lab director or teacher. This can be best accomplished by providing an orientation class before students begin taking lessons. For older students who already have computer experience, this orientation session may only last a few minutes. One of the best ways to conduct the orientation session (if your lab is equipped to do so) is to project a lesson so the whole lab can see.

At a minimum, the following items should be covered in the orientation class:

- ✓ How to Login
- ✓ What is the Chalkboard?
- ✓ How to start a course
- ✓ Course Navigation. Show the students the purpose of each of the buttons such as the Forward, Back, Audio, and Table of Contents buttons. It might also be helpful to show the older students the Resource Button and how to access resources such as photos and audios. You might also want to show the younger students the Glossary feature.
- ✓ Special Course Pages. There are several pages in every course that the students should be familiar with. These include Game, Assessment, and Activity pages. Show the students how to access the activity steps and how to watch the ShowHow animations.
- ✓ Basic Window Management. Show the students how to click between Windows (using the Task Bar or the Alt and Tab keyboard keys) and how to Minimize, Maximize and Close windows.

If you would like to show a short demonstration of how to use K to the 8th Power, [click here](http://www.kto8.com/student_overview/student_overview.html) to view a tutorial. Because every lesson works essentially the same way, providing this short orientation session will get your students up and running very quickly. (http://www.kto8.com/student_overview/student_overview.html)

You will need a projector and a computer attached to the Internet to view effectively this demonstration.

Have older students help the younger students

Successful schools teach the older students first. Once the older students have been through the orientation class and taken at least one lesson themselves, they can help teach the younger students how to take a lesson. For instance, 5th and 6th graders go through an orientation and then take a lesson. These students then help with the orientation and first 2 lessons of the Kindergarten and 1st grade classes. They don't actually do the lessons for the younger students they simply sit next to them and help when needed. Our experience indicates that this is a beneficial experience for all the students.

Use the Curriculum Guide as a basis for planning

Successful schools keep the computer lab in synch with what is going on in the classroom. The curriculum guide can be used by the classroom teacher to help decide what is taught in the computer lab. The curriculum guide lists each lesson by grade with a short description of the academic part of the lesson and the technology part of the lesson. For instance, if Mrs. Smith's fifth grade class is studying nouns, pronouns and verbs in class, then assign that lesson in the lab.

Use "Lesson Tracks" for technology focus

If you plan to focus on a specific technology aspect such as word processing, use one of the predefined tracks for assigning lessons. These tracks are put in order by grade for your convenience.

Recommended lessons for beginners at early grade levels

Younger students will need to start with the easiest lessons. Here is a list of recommended lessons for children in grades K-2. Keep in mind that you can assign any lesson to any grade, so you might want to start your 1st and 2nd graders with Kindergarten lessons.

Recommended Beginning Lessons for Kindergarten

- ✓ Keyboarding Letters A to M
- ✓ Keyboarding Letters N to Z
- ✓ Keyboarding Numbers and Letters
- ✓ Computer Components
- ✓ Basic Shapes
- ✓ Basic Colors

Recommended Beginning Lessons for First Grade

- ✓ Computer Components
- ✓ Keyboarding Letters A to M
- ✓ Keyboarding Letters N to Z
- ✓ Keyboarding Numbers and Letters
- ✓ Letters A B C
- ✓ Letters D C F
- ✓ Letters G H I
- ✓ Money
- ✓ Time

Recommended Beginning Lessons for Second Grade

- ✓ Computer Components
- ✓ Keyboarding Letters A to M
- ✓ Keyboarding Letters N to Z
- ✓ Keyboarding Numbers and Letters
- ✓ Rhyming Words

Contact Information

Feel free to email or call us if you have questions, suggestions or need help. We would love to hear from you!

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