

# TECHNOLOGY TO ENGAGE, COMMUNICATE, AND HAVE FUN!

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**“If we teach today’s students as we taught yesterday’s,  
we rob them of tomorrow.”  
- John Dewey -**



- Easily, Quickly, and Immediately send Text Messages to large groups of people – FREE!
- People sign-up via their phone to your “textmark”.
- You send messages from the website tool or from your phone.
- A small ad will appear at the bottom of your message. (A paid version is available with no ads.)

The screenshot shows the TextMarks 41411 website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with buttons for HOME, TOUR, BUZZ, MANAGE, DEVELOPERS, and HELP. The main content area is titled "MASC1 TextMark Management Panel" and includes several sections: "Usage Stats" (Last Used: 2010-10-07), "TextMark Response" (Text: no response), "Configuration", and "Developer Extension". On the right side, there is a "Send Alert" section with a "VIEW MY TEXTMARK" button and a "SEND ALERT" button. The "Send Alert" section also includes a text input field and a "SEND ALERT" button.



www.twitter.com

## - Using Twitter to communicate via text message to a large audience -

- Through Twitter, people can subscribe via text message to a Twitter account and receive updates (tweets) via text message on their phone. Other than the person who maintains the account, users do not need a Twitter account, nor do they need to visit the Twitter website. This Twitter feature is called "Fast Follow".

- The person/organization who wishes to use Twitter and send messages to others, will need to go to www.twitter.com and create an account. The "username" that is created will become their twitter name that is advertized and given to others.

- After the initial account is set up, anyone can then follow this Twitter Account:
  - Send a test message to: 40404 with the message: "follow [twitter name]"
  - Example: To follow MASC's Twitter Account, send a text message:  
To: 40404  
With a message of: follow missouristuco

More info on signing up via text message:  
<http://bit.ly/nawdtech>

- The user who created the Twitter account and wishes to communicate with everyone who has signed up via text message, will send updates from their Twitter account. These messages will arrive in real-time to all subscribers via text message.



- You can also advertise your Twitter page so people can view your past messages or people who use Twitter can follow you. The URL to your page will be: [www.twitter.com/ \[username\]](http://www.twitter.com/[username])  
Example of MASC's Twitter page: [www.twitter.com/missouristuco](http://www.twitter.com/missouristuco)

- Use the "Fast Follow" tool within Twitter to communicate with a large group or organization without obtaining phone numbers and texting individually. Teachers can encourage students and parents to sign up to their class Twitter account to receive reminders about assignments/tests. Advisors/Students can use it to remind their organization of upcoming events.

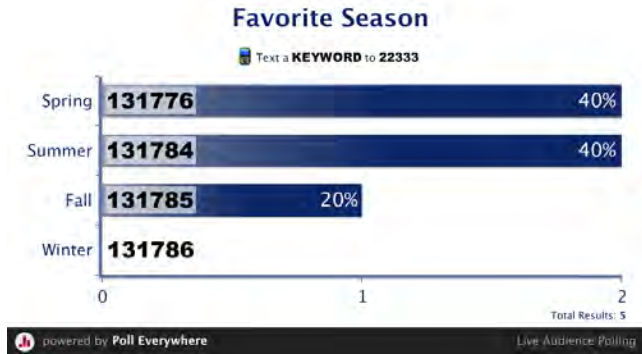
- The person managing the Twitter account and sending messages can do so via www.twitter.com, by sending a text message (which is then received by all subscribers), or via the Twitter App on a smart phone.

Twitter Help pages: Twitter Mobile Help: <http://bit.ly/nawdtech1>  
Twitter General Help: <http://bit.ly/nawdtech2>



## Poll Everywhere [www.polleverywhere.com](http://www.polleverywhere.com)

- Conduct Live, Free polling to audiences. Project poll for people to follow live.
- People will respond via Text Message at no cost to them.
- Results update in real-time, can be exported and saved.
- Conduct multiple-choice, free-text, or goal polls.
- [www.iVoted.com](http://www.iVoted.com) is another free service – nearly identical

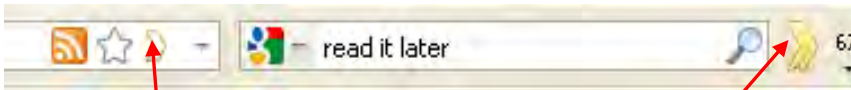


## Read it Later [readitlaterlist.com](http://readitlaterlist.com)

- Ever have some articles online that you can't get to now but want to "read it later?" Use ReadItLater to save webpages and easily access later via browser or via smartphone.
- Works best with FireFox (installs as an add-in)
- Able to save pages so you can view even when not connected to the internet.
- Syncs with your Smartphone (iPhone best) so you can access pages on your mobile device.

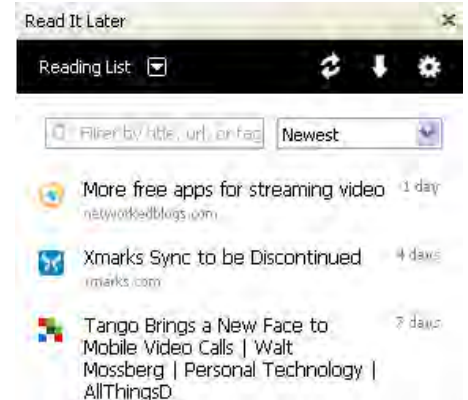
### One Click Saving

Read It Later adds a button in the address bar. Clicking the icon automatically adds the current page to your list in one click. That's it.



Click to Save Webpage.

Click to view saved webpages.



## [www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net) or [www.tagxedo.com](http://www.tagxedo.com)

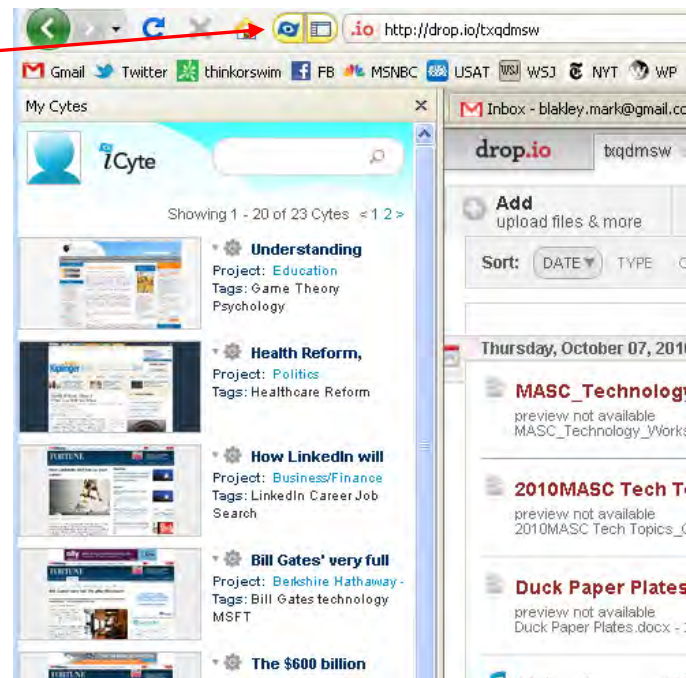
- Generate "word clouds" from text you provide. The clouds give greater prominence to words that appear more frequently in the text





www.icyte.com

iCyte buttons



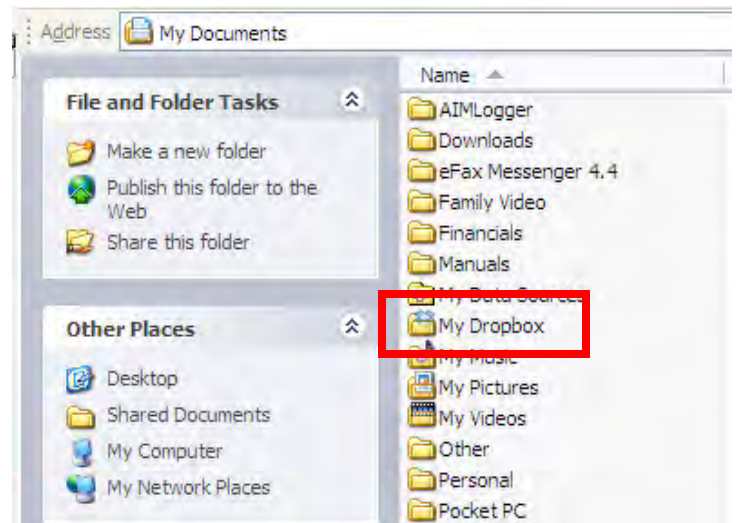
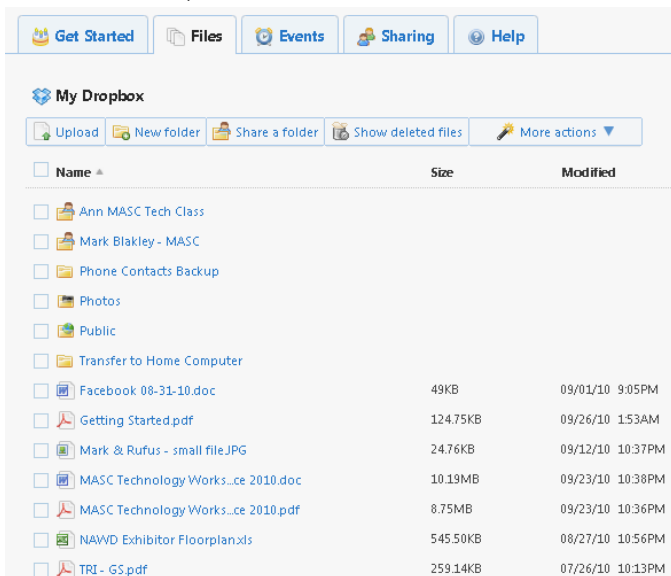
- Want to save great online articles or pages but don't want to print and file them away? Use iCyte to create your own online library.
- iCyte saves websites just as they appear, to be accessed anytime – even when offline.
- Sort into various “projects” to organize your saved pages.
- Acts as your own personal online library.

dafont.com www.dafont.com

- A huge library of Free fonts.
- Easy to install on your system so fonts appear in all programs.
- Learn how to “install” the fonts: <http://www.dafont.com/faq.php>

Dropbox www.dropbox.com

- Dropbox installs a folder on your computer. Anything in this folder is accessible on other computers. Install on multiple computers and your Dropbox folder will sync among all systems.
- Any file/folder put in your Dropbox folder will be accessible on your other Dropbox folders on other computers. Eliminates the need to carry USB keys or email files.
- Also able to create an unlimited number of “shared” folders. Grant anyone access to this folder and everyone can access the files in it. Great for wanting to get the same files to multiple people.





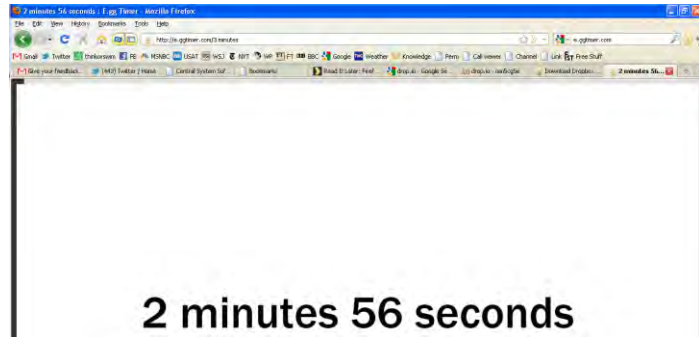
## <http://e.ggtimer.com>

- Fast and Extremely Easy way to create a “count-down” timer
- Instead of telling students you have 30 minutes to complete this assignment, why not just project this site so all can watch the time count-down.



welcome to  
**e.ggtimer.com**

Start a timer



## Sync Bookmarks Across Browsers

- Sync your bookmarks/favorites within the same browser on different computers. Add a bookmark on your computer at school and see it automatically added at home.
- Each browser has their own syncing tool (see below for each tool)
- Xmarks ([www.xmarks.com](http://www.xmarks.com)) syncs bookmarks within different browsers (add bookmark in IE, it will sync with Firefox.)

FireFox: “FireFox Sync” – [www.firefox.com/sync](http://www.firefox.com/sync) (Also able to sync history, settings, etc.)

Google Chrome: Set-up with settings. - <http://bit.ly/chromesync>

Internet Explorer: “Windows Live Mesh” - [explore.live.com/windows-live-mesh](http://explore.live.com/windows-live-mesh)

## [www.media-convert.com](http://www.media-convert.com)

- Convert a file to a different format. (Example: WMA to MP3, AVI to MP4)

## [www.depositfiles.com](http://www.depositfiles.com)

- Send files up to 2GB to others. Simply upload the file and the recipient will receive a message to download it.

## [bit.ly](http://bit.ly) or [tiny.cc](http://tiny.cc)

- Take long URL’s and shorten to share with others. Able to customize the ending of the URL.
- Able to track how many people have clicked on the URL and where they are located.

Example:

<http://www.nasc.us/NASCConferencesandPrograms/NationalStudentLeadershipWeek.aspx>

Shorten to: <http://bit.ly/masctech>



## [www.techsmith.com/jing](http://www.techsmith.com/jing)

- Take a picture or make a short video of what you see on your computer monitor.
- Share it instantly via web, email, IM, Twitter, or your blog.

## Video on why to use technology in the classroom!

<http://www.youtube.com/user/mascvideos#p/f/14/aEFKfXiCbLw>

or

shortened using bit.ly: <http://bit.ly/techinclass>

## Additional Technology Tips, Tricks, & Tools

### File Converters

[www.media-convert.com](http://www.media-convert.com) – Convert files to other formats. (Best site)

CutePDF Writer: Installs as a printer. Save to PDF.

[www.zamzar.com](http://www.zamzar.com): Convert files or upload from video sites

### Share Large Files:

[www.depositfiles.com](http://www.depositfiles.com) (Up to 2GB)

FileSend.com

TransferBigFiles.com

### Other Tools

[www.animoto.com](http://www.animoto.com): Make quick videos from video, pictures, music

[www.namechk.com](http://www.namechk.com) – Check if your username is taken on various websites

[www.docverse.com](http://www.docverse.com): Realtime sharing of documents

[www.MediaFire.com](http://www.MediaFire.com): Host and share files

[www.meehive.com](http://www.meehive.com): Your Personalized Newspaper

[www.photobucket.com](http://www.photobucket.com): Upload, manage, and share videos

[www.speedtest.net](http://www.speedtest.net): Test your internet speed

[www.WindowsLive.com](http://www.WindowsLive.com) SkyDrive: Share files and save online.

Microsoft Password Checker: Is your password a strong password?

[www.vimeo.com](http://www.vimeo.com): “Professional” video hosting service. (Same as YouTube)

[www.ustream.tv](http://www.ustream.tv): Stream video online and from your SmartPhone

[qik.com](http://qik.com): Stream video online and from your SmartPhone

[www.justin.tv](http://www.justin.tv): Stream video online and from your SmartPhone

[www.wordle.net](http://www.wordle.net): Create images from lists of words.

[www.tagxedo.com](http://www.tagxedo.com) : Create images from lists of words.

[www.xmarks.com](http://www.xmarks.com): Sync bookmarks/favorites among computers and among different browsers.

### Technology Sites / Blogs

Walt Mossberg AllThingsD

Maximim PC

The Windows Blog

Official Google Blog

Tekzilla

Smart Computing

PC Today

Slashdot

Engadget

Gizmodo

CNet

TechRepublic

TechCrunch

ZDNet

PC Today

Slashdot

Engadget

Gizmodo

CNet

TechRepublic

TechCrunch

The Mozilla Blog

Consumer Reports

Electronics Blog

AppleInsider

Silicon Alley Insider

Phone Scoop

Just Another iPhone Blog

ZDNet

Mashable

Web100.com

iLounge

