

# HAL CONNECTIONS

December 2007

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News from the ESU 10 HAL Consortium ([http://prodev.esu10.org/stories/storyReader\\$24](http://prodev.esu10.org/stories/storyReader$24))

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## Looking Ahead

### School Visits

I will be happy to visit your school. Just give me a call to arrange time and purpose.



### HAL

#### Coordinators/Teachers/Administrators

HAL Meetings: Focus—Book Study on Differentiation

ESU 10: 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

October 30, 2007

December 11, 2007

January 29, 2008

March 25, 2008

### Students

April 8, 2008:

ESU10 Regional Invention Convention

Register on ODIE

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## Interesting Websites to Visit

### Gifted Articles

The School Administrator "Gifted Education Left Behind"

<http://www.aasa.org/publications/saissuedetail.cfm?ItemNumber=8202>

Time Magazines "Are We Failing Our Geniuses?"

<http://www.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,1653653-1,00.html>

### Science Sites

How stuff works: <http://science.howstuffworks.com/>

Strange Matter: <http://www.strangematterexhibit.com/index.html>

### Math Sites

Math Aunty Math for K-5: <http://www.dupagechildrensmuseum.org/aunty/index.html>

Brain Teasers for Grades 3-8: <http://www.eduplace.com/math/brain/>

Pentomino Puzzle (Elem-High School): <http://www.theory.csc.uvic.ca/~cos/inf/misc/PentInfo.html>

Free clip art: <http://classroomclipart.com/>

## Possible Activities

### ESU 10 Regional Invention Convention

The goal of the Invention Convention is to give students a chance to find out about inventions, inventors, and the inventive process. We want students to be able to use both their creative and critical thinking skills to develop an invention.

The purpose of the Regional Invention Convention is to provide a forum for schools across the region to showcase their students' best inventions. Students participating in the convention should be in grades one through eight and are limited to 10 students per district.

#### **Inventions must include:**

- **Model of Invention**
- **Student Log**
- **Display Board**
  - **Name of invention**
  - **Statement of its purpose**
  - **Diagram of the invention**
  - **Description of how the invention works**
  - **Statement of how the invention would improve the quality of life now or in the future**

**Date:** April 8, 2008  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
**Site:** ESU 10, Kearney, NE  
**Fees:** \$10.00 per student  
(Covers awards, lunch, and snacks)

**Registration Deadline:** Teacher Intent Forms: March 7, 2008; Student Registrations: March 21, 2008

For more information contact Paula Mellinger ([pmelling@esu10.org](mailto:pmelling@esu10.org)) or go to the following website: [http://prodev.esu10.org/stories/storyReader\\$36](http://prodev.esu10.org/stories/storyReader$36)



## What can I do in my classroom?

### Grouping Options:

Flexible grouping results from sound decisions. Teachers consider how they want students to interact, which grouping option is most applicable to each instructional objective, and how to activate mental engagement so most of the students are engaged in learning most of the time.

One grouping option is not any better than another. We need to consider the instructional achievement opportunity that is available with each.

<b>Whole Class</b>	<b>Mixed-Ability Small Groups</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduction material</li> <li>• Directions</li> <li>• Modeling</li> <li>• Skills/concepts—when whole class is assessed to be at same level</li> <li>• Review</li> <li>• Group building</li> <li>• Read alouds</li> <li>• Closure</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperative learning</li> <li>• Centers</li> <li>• Peer tutoring</li> <li>• Study Buddies</li> <li>• Interest-based tasks</li> </ul>
<b>Similar-Ability Small Groups</b>	<b>Individual Work</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Centers</li> <li>• Skill/concepts—when students are assessed to be at different skill levels</li> <li>• When student learn at significantly different paces</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Test completion</li> <li>• Assessment/Grading of achievement level</li> <li>• Individual projects</li> <li>• Skill sheets</li> <li>• Computer applications</li> </ul>

Source: Kingore, B. (2007). *Reaching All Learners*. Austin, TX: Professional Associates Publishing

**Happy Holidays**