One Computer Classroom: Issues

Connect to Standards
How will students individually demonstrate their understanding?
Match specific task to specific standard
Worksheets, Scored Discussions, Answer Cards

Keep It Simple
How can I keep from being overwhelmed?
Replicate - same software, different activities
Group Writing, Concept Maps, Diagrams

Model Concepts
What's the best approach for demonstrations?
Students watch
Teacher talks through steps
Students talk through steps
Write down steps as group
Students work in center

Incorporate PowerQuests
How can I facilitate inquiry-based learning?
Stimulate inquiry with text, visuals, video
Illustrate ideas in many formats
Facilitate critical thinking - discuss, debate, role play

Explore Internet Resources
How can the group explore websites?
Focus on a single webpage with quality information
Increase browser font size
Print out supplemental material
Preload or save pages

Return to same site regularly
word of the day
this day in history
news of the day
Do journal individual writing

Involve Students
How will students stay involved?
Group Questioning
Small Group Activities
Individual Activities

Facilitate Group Activities
How can I do everything (talk, type, listen) at once?
Share responsibilities
Teacher acts as facilitator
Student works keyboard
Students brainstorm on paper

Large Group Activities

Management Considerations

Consider Hardware Needs
What hardware do I need to go with the computer?
Large Display
Monitor, scan converter, data projector
Digital Camera, Video Camera
Microphone & Speakers
Printer

Consider Timing of Projects
How often should I use technology?
Vary use to fit needs
One shot - short, concise activity
Brainstorming issues

Short term - a series of sessions
Process writing a class short story

Long term - a series of weeks
Collect recycling data and add to graph

Ongoing - over semester or year
Add to Inspiration document as you read a book

Think Equity
How can I make computer time equal for all students?
Don't try. Instead, think equity
Instead, meet the most needs
Make all projects exciting!
Make time on task productive
Don't use the computer as a reward

Small Group Activities

Explore Center Approaches
How can centers be organized?
Theme activities
Project based productions
Varied activities
4-5 students at a time

Provide Effective Support
How can I help students become independent?
Step-by-step instructions
Handouts & Worksheets
Electronic worksheet
Templates
Bookmarks

Consider Center Activities
What activities work well in centers?
Group Activity:
research, presentation, data graph, WebQuest

Reoccurring Activity:
journal writing, bookmark pages, vocabulary activities

Encourage Collaboration
How can I encourage collaboration?
Assign roles: Keyboardist, Leader, Director, Writer, Photographer, Editor, Researcher
Require individual and group outcomes

Explore Scheduling Options
How should I organize time at the computer?
Consider many approaches: Regular rotation schedule, Activity stations, Pull-out system
Focus on times that will not be skipped or interrupted

Build Realistic Expectations
What's practical and realistic in small groups?
Keep typing & data entry short
Use a template
Add to class project: chain writing

Find Help
How can I make it work?
Peer tutoring
Cooperative Learning
Adult/Mentor Assistants