

SHORT CIRCUITS

The Schrockguide Newsletter

Vol. 2 No. 8

ISSN: 1525-836X

April 2000

Online Tools Part 2



Flashbase

<http://forms.flashbase.com/>

Last month I told you about various online tools to help you in the classroom. Since last month, I have used Flashbase for a number of things and have other ideas how to use it effectively. Setting up an account is free, but the free account contains advertising and does not allow you to upload data to the site. You can download collected data in tab-delimited format, which will import easily into any spreadsheet or database program for further data manipulation. The Premier Service does not contain any advertising and allows you to upload information to the site. When writing to billing@flashbase.com to inquire about purchasing the service for our school district, I was very pleasantly surprised when the president of the company wrote back and said Flashbase would upgrade any school district account to the Premier Service for free! I created the District account, sent him the username, and he upgraded the service. What a great thing!

Some ideas for using Flashbase:

- Maintenance and computer work orders can be filled out and tracked by the requestor
- Filling out report cards via the Web (everything can be passworded)
- Updating of staff directory information
- Organizations and clubs can have members update their contact information
- Quizzes and tests can be created



Palm Pick of the Month



Due Yesterday

<http://hotfiles.zdnet.com/cgi-bin/texis/swlib/hotfiles/info.html?fcode=00159R&b=zdpalm>

Another homework and assignment piece of shareware. *Due Yesterday* helps students organize assignments and stay on top of grades. Each entry lets students record details about the project and class, as well as its due date and point value. They can organize assignments into user-customizable categories, and sort them by due date or type. A navigation bar lets the student jump quickly to check on grades, the next assignment, or other items. Since each entry allows students to record the assignment's score and weighted value, determining a current grade is easy.