

THE RENZULLI LEARNING SYSTEM: A Technology Based Application of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model

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“Differentiation” is the contemporary buzzword in curriculum and instruction, but the reality is that most teachers simply do not have the time necessary to do it well! Remarkable advances in instructional communication technology (ICT) have now made it possible to provide high levels of enrichment services to students who have access to a computer and the Internet. The Renzulli Learning System (RLS) is an Internet based enrichment program that is built on a high-end learning theory that focuses on the development of creative productivity through the *application* of knowledge rather than the mere acquisition and storage of knowledge. The Renzulli Learning System goes beyond the popular “worksheets-on-line” or courses on line that, by and large, have been early applications of ICT in most school situations. These early applications have been based on the same pedagogy that is regularly practiced in most traditional teaching situations, thereby minimizing the role of the Internet to a gigantic encyclopedia rather than a source of information for first-hand investigative and creative endeavors.

The Renzulli Learning System is a comprehensive program that begins by providing a computer-generated profile of each student’s academic strengths, interests, learning styles, and preferred modes of expression. A search engine then *matches* Internet resources to the student’s profile from fourteen carefully screened data-bases that are categorized by subject area, grade level, state curricular standards, and degree of complexity. A management system called the Wizard Project Maker guides students in the *application* of knowledge to teacher or student selected assignments, independent research studies, or creative projects that individuals or small groups would like to pursue. Students and teachers can evaluate the quality of students’ products using a rubric called The Student Product Assessment Form. Students can rate each site visited, conduct a self-assessment of what they have gained from the site, and place resources in their own Total Talent Portfolio for future use. The RLS also includes a curriculum acceleration management system for high achieving students that is based on the many years of research and widespread use of a curricular modification process called Curriculum Compacting.


Teacher functions allow downloading of hundreds of reproducible creativity and critical thinking activities as well as numerous off-line resources for lesson planning and curricu-

lar integration. Management functions allow teachers to group students by interests and learning styles. The management tools also allow teachers to place teacher-selected resources in individual, whole class, or selected students' portfolios for classroom or special project use. Teachers can oversee all student activity including where and when students have been on-line using the RLS, projects or assignments underway or completed, and areas where curriculum has been compacted. The system can be used at home and during the summer, and parents can view their own son or daughter's work on the system. The principal or designated project manager can also examine all activity taking place in a given building or program. This feature allows for accountability, system assessment, and guidance in staff development and program planning needs.


Persons interested in examining the Renzulli Learning System can tour the site at www.renzullilearning.com and further descriptive information can be obtained at info@renzullilearning.com.

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Renzulli Learning System Overview At-A-Glance




Individualized Strength Assessment



Total Talent Portfolio



Application of Resources to Class Work And Projects



Resource Matching With Search Engine And Data Bases

- Reproducible Activities
- Teacher Monitoring Tools
- Lesson Plans & Learning Maps
- Grouping By Interest Areas, etc.
- Teacher Favorites Portfolio
- Curricular Related "Push -Ins"
- Built-In Assessment Tools
- Parent Review Access
- 24/7/365 Usage
- Staff Development Tutorials
- Built In Accountability and Staff Development for Teachers