



# The Learning Center at WPSD

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## Across The Pond

Take a "holiday" in our Learning Center as you travel "across the pond" for our first theme this school year.

As you enter, you can learn all about the 2012 Olympics, which were held in London, England this past summer. The competitors were able to "inspire a generation" with their amazing feats of athleticism. We'll never forget the UK's Jessica Ennis winning the gold in the heptathlon, Michael Phelps (USA) becoming the most decorated Olympic athlete, and Oscar Pistorius (South Africa) becoming the first double amputee to participate in the Olympic Games, running the 400 meters and the 1600 meter relay.



Continue into the Learning Center where you will be greeted by the royal family of Great Britain, Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge. Learn about the monarchy and also about the government of the United Kingdom.

Do you know what countries make up the United Kingdom? That's what you'll learn next! See the flags of Wales, Scotland, England, and Northern Ireland. Also, you will learn about the currency used there.



The United Kingdom is well known for many famous landmarks, such as Stonehenge, Big Ben (not our famous quarterback), Buckingham Palace, and many, many more.

Now, all we need are some "fish and chips" or "bangers and mash" to make our trip complete. Don't know what they are? Come for a visit "across the pond" in WPSD's Learning Center to find out!



We have an annual subscription to World Book Online and netTrekker. They are wonderful online tools for our students to use for their research papers or assignments.

Need to know the general students' username and password,  
2 please e-mail at [ckirkpatrick@wpsd.org](mailto:ckirkpatrick@wpsd.org)

## ----- Big Ben -----



Big Ben, a popular tourist attraction is located in the Palace of Westminster. Some people refer to Big Ben as the bell, clock, and clock tower while others say that Big Ben is the hour bell found in the clock. Since 2012 the official name for the tower is the Elizabeth Tower named in honor of Queen Elizabeth's 60th year as queen. The clock is the largest in Great Britain and can be heard at a distance of nine miles. It keeps excellent time and has rarely failed since completed in 1858.

## ----- London Bridge -----

The latest London bridge was built in 1967 to replace the London Bridge that was dismantled and rebuilt in Lake Havasu City, Arizona. It is one of 15 bridges that you find spanning the Thames River in London, England. The original London bridge was made of wood and it wasn't until 1209 that a stone bridge was built and this bridge was the one that inspired the very familiar nursery rhyme "London Bridge."



## ----- Tower Bridge -----

The Tower Bridge, like the London Bridge, is one of 15 bridges on the Thames River. It was designed by Horace Jones with the assistance of John Wolfe Barry. Its design style is Victorian Gothic and was completed in 1894. This bridge is unique with its two towers as it is a moveable bridge that opens to let large vessels through. Visitors can go inside this bridge to the walk way between the two bridge towers and can get a wonderful view of London.



## ----- Stonehenge -----



Stonehenge is a formation of very large rough cut stones that form a circle with the rock coming from other areas of the country. It was built in three phases from 3100 B.C. until 1500 B.C.

Archaeologists believe that Stonehenge was used

as a meeting place and for religious ceremonies. The reason it is thought to be a religious place is that the stones line up with the sunrise of the summer solstice and the sunset of the winter solstice. In the United Kingdom and Ireland there are similar ruins like Stonehenge but Stonehenge is the most famous.

## ----- Trafalgar Square -----

Trafalgar Square is a large square said to be the heart of London. Found in this square are many fountains and statues and in the center of the square is a tall column named the Nelson's Column with a statue of Nelson on the top. This column is in honor of Admiral Horatio Lord Nelson who led the English fleet in a victory over an attack by French and Spanish ships off Trafalgar which is located on Spain's southern coast. This square is also surrounded by many famous buildings including the National Gallery, Canada House, South Africa House, and St. Martin-in-the Fields church.



## ----- Westminster Abbey -----

Westminster Abbey who's official name is the Collegiate Church of Saint Peter is actually a beautiful church with a floor plan shaped like a Latin Cross. The Abbey in Westminster refers to the fact that this years ago served as a church for a monastery. It is here that many famous events have taken place such as the coronation of the English rulers. Westminster Abbey is also the place where over 3300 famous



4 people are buried including Charles Darwin and Sir Isaac Newton.

# Awesome New Books! @ your library

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- American Alligators: Freshwater Survivors...Aaron Feigenbaum*
- American Bison: A Scary Prediction...William Caper*
- Bald Eagles: A Chemical Nightmare...Meish Goldfish*
- Black-Footed Ferrets: Back from the Brink...Miriam Aronin*
- California Condors: Saved by Captive Breeding...Meish Goldfish*
- Florida Manatees: Warm Water Miracles...Meish Goldfish*
- Florida Panthers: Struggle for Survival...William Caper*
- Gray Wolves: Return to Yellowstone...Meish Goldfish*

## Snap Book Series

- Beginning Knitting: Stitches with Style...Kay Olson*
- Braiding Hair: Beyond the Basics...Jen Jones*
- Candle Making: Work with Wicks and Wax...Deborah Hufford*
- Fashion Crafts: Create Your Own Style...Deborah Hufford*
- Fingernail Art: Dazzling Fingers and Terrific Toes...Thiranut Boonyadhistam*
- Greeting Card Making: Send Your Personal Message...Deborah Hufford*
- Origami: The Fun and Funky Art of Paper Folding...Thiranut Boonyadhistam*
- Room Decorating: Make Your Space Unique...Deborah Hufford*
- Scrapbooking: Keep Your Special Memories...Deborah Hufford*
- Stamping Art: Imprint Your Designs...Thiranut Boonyadhistam*
- Updos: Cool Hairstyles for All Occasions...Jen Jones*
- Beading: Bracelets, Barrettes, and Beyond...Thiranut Boonyadhistarn*



## Which Came First? Series



- Clothing Creations: From T-Shirts to Flip-Flops*  
Jacqueline A. Ball
- Communication Inventions: From Hieroglyphics to DVDs*  
Jacqueline A. Ball
- Food Creations: From Hot Dogs to Ice Cream Cones*  
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- Household Inventions: From Toilets to Toasters*  
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- Sporting Events: From Baseball to Skateboarding*  
Gabriel Kaufman
- Transportation Inventions: From Subways to Submarines*  
Sandra Will

## Snapshots @ your library

