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# Welcome to Trap!t Education

A resource for educators, new for the 2012-3 academic year

By Ethan Siegel

### Outline:

- Educational Needs
  - ◆ New for 2012-3, the CCSSI
- ◆ Trap!t's unique product
  - ◆ How Trap!t Education can fill those needs
- Vision for Classroom Success
- Resources for Educators

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### Educational Needs

- ◆ Welcome to the era of the CCSSI
  - ◆ CCSSI = Common Core State Standards Initiative
  - ♦ New Core Standards have replaced No Child Left Behind
  - ◆ New Standards for reading + math take effect in 2012-3
- ◆ 45 States + Washington, D.C. have already adopted reading standards
  - ◆ Grade-specific Reading (10), Writing (10), Speaking + Listening (6) and Language (6) standards
  - ♦ 66-page document *plus* subject-specific supplements

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### **Educational Needs**

New focuses under the Common Core:

- ◆ Incorporation of digital media / internet technology
- ◆ Increased focus on research in reading & writing
  - Information gathering / vetting
  - ◆ Evaluation of quality of information and sources
  - Comparison of multiple sources of information

Simply citing Wikipedia is *not* sufficient!

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### **Educational Needs**

#### Administrative:

- Must Meet & Fulfill Federal "Common Core Standards"
- Ensure CCSSI compliance

#### Teachers:

- Must engage and challenge students, simultaneously meeting the new CCSSI
- Design lessons/classes which go beyond the classroom texts

#### Students:

- Demonstrate competence meeting new standards
- Pass standardized examinations
- Must be interested & engaged



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Huge Challenge

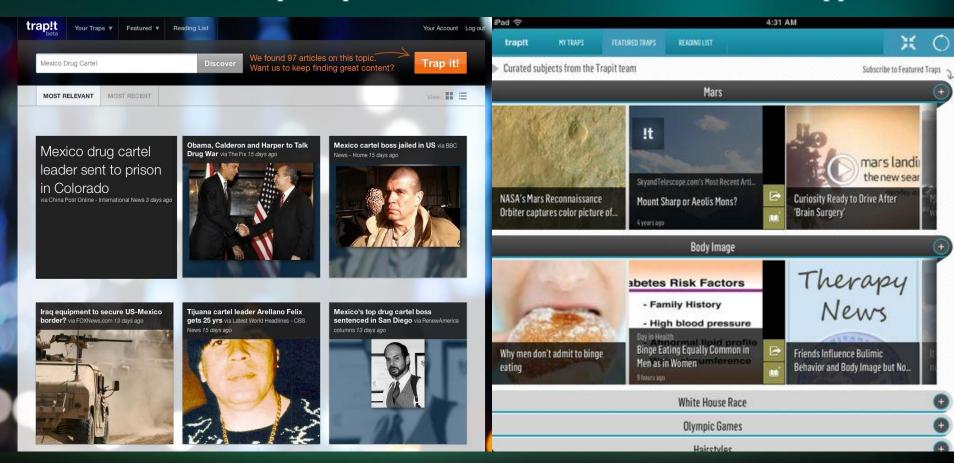
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### Trap!t:

### A Unique Product

On the Web at http://trap.it/

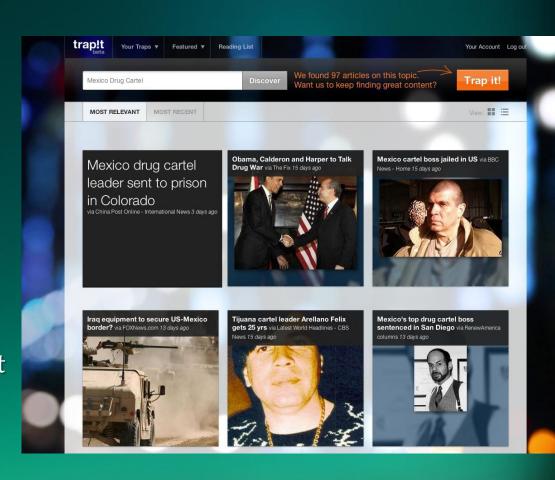
On the iPad, free from the App Store



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### Trap!t's Strengths:

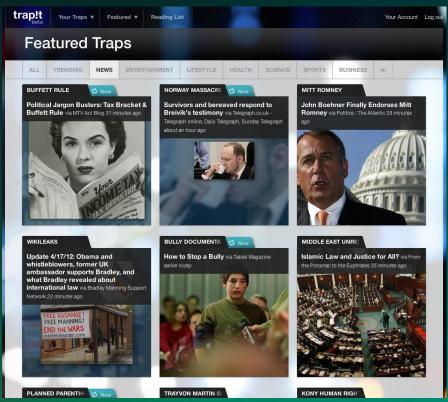
- Strong Visual Interface
- Quick & Easy Summaries
- Real-time, Quality News Aggregation
- Varied Perspectives
- 100,000+ Quality Sources
- Extremely Organized Layout



Just put in your keywords for discovery and start liking & disliking articles to personalize your results!

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### Trap!t's Capabilities:



- Outstanding & Timely
   Collection of 300 Featured Traps
- Curated by Experts
- Covers News, Science, Health, Technology, and more

**Penguins: Gingrich** 

PERSONALIZING Keep rating articles to improve your trap's quality!



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### Trap!t + New CCSSI Needs

### Ideal tool for addressing many of the new CCSSI standards (See enclosed Broad Content Outline document)

ELA, History/Social Studies, Science/Tech Skills (Synopsis)				
Reading Skills	Writing Skills	Speaking/Listening*	Language Skills*	
1.) Cite textual evidence to support analysis of what the text says explicitly and draw inferences; identify gaps/errors.	Write arguments to support claims in an analysis of substantive topics, using valid reasoning & relevant, sufficient evidence.	Initiate and participate in a range of collaborative discussions with diverse partners, building on others' ideas and expressing their own.	Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English grammar & usage when writing/speaking.	
Determine a central idea of a text and its conclusions; analyze developments over the course of the text; provide an accurate, objective summary.	explanatory texts to examine and convey	<ol> <li>Integrate multiple sources of information presented in diverse media or formats, evaluating the credibility and accuracy of each.</li> </ol>	Z.) Demonstrate command of the conventions of standard English (capitalization, punctuation, spelling, etc.) when writing.	
3.) Analyze how an analysis or series of ideas, events or experiments unfolds, including order, how they are introduced and developed, and the connections between them.	3.) Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, well-chosen details, and well-structured event sequences and/or arguments.	<ol> <li>Evaluate a speaker's point of view, reasoning, and use of evidence and rhetoric, identifying any fallacious reasoning or exaggerated or distorted evidence.</li> </ol>	3.] Apply knowledge of language to understand its function in different contexts, make effective choices for meaning & style, and comprehend more fully when listening & reading.	
4.) Determine the meaning and tone of words, symbols and phrases as used in a text, including figurative, connotative, and technical meanings; analyze the cumulative impact of specific word choices.	Produce clear and coherent writing in which the development, organization, and style are appropriate to task, purpose, and audience.	Present information, findings, and supporting evidence clearly, concisely, and logically, appropriate for the purpose, audience & task.	Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple- meaning words and phrases, using a range of strategies: context, dictionary/thesaurus, root/prefix/suffix analysis, etc.	
S.) Analyze in detail how ideas or informational claims are developed and refined by particular sentences, paragraphs, or larger portions of a text, demonstrating understanding.	5.) Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, etc., addressing what is most significant for a specific purpose and a particular audience.	5.) Make strategic use of digital media in presentations to enhance understanding of findings, reasoning, and evidence and to add interest.	S.) Demonstrate understanding of figurative language, word relationships, and nuances in word meanings, interpret figures of speech.	

6.) Determine an author's point of view or purpose in a text and analyze how an author uses rhetoric to advance that point of view or purpose. Identify issues that remain unresolved.	6.) Use technology, including the Internet, to produce, publish, and update individual or shared writing products; link to other information / sources & display information flexibly & dynamically.	6.) Adapt speech to a variety of contexts and tasks, demonstrating command of formal English when indicated or appropriate.	Acquire and use accurately general and domain-specific academic words and phrases; demonstrate independence in gathering vocabulary knowledge; express oneself appropriately.
7.) Analyze various accounts of a subject told in different mediums and from different sources, determining which details are emphasized in each account.	7.) Conduct both short & sastained research projects to answer a question or solve a problem; narrow or broaden the inquiry when appropriate; synthesize multiple sources, demonstrate understanding of the subject being investigated.	* - Speaking/Listening skills technically fall under English Language Arts only, but the skills are important to students in all subjects, & in life.	*- Language skills technically fall under English Language Arts only, but the skills are important to students in all subjects, & in life.
8) Delineate and evaluate the argument and specific claims in a text, assessing whether the reasoning is valid and the evidence is relevant and sufficient; identify false statements and fallactious reasoning.	sources; assess the usefulness of each		
9.) Analyze selected documents of literary, historical and scientific significance, including how they address coherent themes and concepts.	9.) Draw evidence from informational or literary texts (as appropriate) to support analysis, reflection, and research.		
10.) Read and comprehend all chosen and/or selected texts at the appropriate complexity band independently and proficiently.	10.) Write routinely over extended time frames and shorter time frames for a range of parposes, tasks, and audiences.		

reen Highlighted Point: Trap!t is exceptionally strong as a tool for these standards.

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### Fulfilling Those Needs



Trap!t can provide **personalized**, **individual educational/research experiences** to students

With content targeted to students' interests & customizable to individual assignments

Makes the student responsible for **developing standards of evidence** for credibility

Both in terms of sources and content

Already chosen as one of the "top 10 indispensable Apps" for the 2012-3 school year: <a href="http://www.xconomy.com/national/2012/08/24/back-to-school-apps/9/">http://www.xconomy.com/national/2012/08/24/back-to-school-apps/9/</a>

Provides **current**, **breaking**, **relevant news** in a way that no textbook, <u>even a brand new one</u>, can

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### Vision for Classroom Success

- Get students invested in doing their own research:
  - Evaluating content
  - Citing and comparing sources
  - Making their own critical arguments
- Facilitates Teachers and
   Students personalizing and individualizing education



Each student will have a <u>unique experience</u> using Trap!t as part of their education!

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## Applicable Across Many Potential Content Areas

### ◆ History

- ◆ U.S. Government & Politics, economics, public policy, SCOTUS
- World History, international affairs, elections, wars and conflicts

#### ◆ Science

- ♦ Biology, evolution, genetics, psychology, environmental issues
- ◆ Health, vaccination, fluoridation, sex education, HIV/AIDS
- ◆ Physical science, climate science, astronomy, Higgs boson, neutrinos

#### Humanities

- English, current books/literature, creative writing, journalism
- Theatre, dance, performing arts, drama
- ◆ Traditional art, digital art, music: classical and modern

### Education

◆ Lesson plans, education research, professional development

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### Resources for Educators

- ◆ Trap!t Education comes with four customizable Lesson documents
  - ◆ Created and evaluated by educators for educators
  - ◆ Includes scaffolding, classroom suggestions and assignments
  - ◆ Fully CCSSI-compliant; includes individual and group projects
  - ◆ Designed for grades 9-12 classrooms
- ◆ Suggested Lesson #1: Researcher Lesson Plan + Assignment
  - ◆ Includes introducing students to Trap!t, lots of scaffolding
- ◆ Advanced Lessons: **Newsbreakers** and/or **Confirmation Bias** 
  - <u>Newsbreakers</u> incorporates teamwork, debate, and active participation from the entire class
  - ◆ <u>Confirmation Bias</u> incorporates extensive research, writing & rewriting on individually chosen topics
- ◆ Also included is a **General Lesson Plan** + **Handout** 
  - ◆ For empowering educators to create their own, specialized lessons

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### Supplemental Resources

- <u>Package Introduction</u>: An introductory document to the contents of all materials designed for teachers using Trap!t Education
- ♦ Presentation for Educators: This slideshow presentation
- ◆ Broad Content Outline: Summary of CCSSI and Trap!t's relevance
- ◆ <u>Lesson Plans and Assignments</u>: The four lessons for educators
  - ◆ **Researcher** where students are mock researchers for the NY Times
  - ♦ Newsbreakers students create a mock news/debate TV program
  - ◆ **Confirmation Bias** students engage in individual research and work to address and overcome their own inherent biases
  - ◆ **General** highly customizable, for teachers to create their own
- ◆ <u>Feedback Form</u>: for providing essential feedback to Trap!t
  - ◆ For instructors to provide vital information to improve education

### Contact Trap!t Education:

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- Questions, comments or suggestions?
- ◆ Want an in-service presentation/demonstration for your school?
- Contact Trap!t Education via email: <a href="mailto:ethan@trapit.com">ethan@trapit.com</a>
- ◆ Or via USPS mail at: Trap!t Education
   1001 SE Water Avenue, Ste. 285
   Portland, OR 97214