

Firefox Rocks!

Improve your productivity online

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Session 4- 2:45 to 3:30
Room 329

Download this presentation at
<http://jessewisnouse.com/micca09/>

Meet the presenter

- Middle school science teacher for Frederick Co. (MD) for four years (2002 - 2006)
- Technology coordinator and technology education teacher for one year (2006 - 2007)
- Technology Resource Teacher (2007 - present)
 - Assists teachers and students working with new instructional hardware and software
 - Researches, reviews, compares and recommends emerging technologies

What is Firefox?

- Open source web browser from the Mozilla Corporation
 - Free to download and use on multiple computers
 - Works on PCs, Macs and Linux OS
 - Source code is available for developers
- Quick stats
 - 22.05% of browser market share, according to Wikipedia
 - Version 1.0 released in 2005 (currently on version 3.0.8)
 - New versions released frequently for security updates
 - PC World (2006) and CNET (2008) name it best browser

What is that significant?

- Better security and performance
 - Constant updates and small patches for security
 - Browser less likely to be attacked
 - Smaller application to save and run
 - Quicker load time and less memory consumption*
- Considered a mainstream program
 - 700 million downloads (11/08); 220+ million users (1/09)
 - **Second most popular browser** behind Internet Explorer
 - Displays Virtually all websites properly or better

*Until you download many add-ons

How to download Firefox

- Go to a download site
 - www.download.com
 - [Mozilla's website](http://www.mozilla.com)
- Download (save and then run) the file (under 10 MB!)
- Program installs with desktop icon
- Portable version (flash drives) [available here](#)

Where to go for help

- **Mozilla Firefox Knowledge Base and Forums**
 - <http://support.mozilla.com/en-US/kb/>
 - <http://www.mozillazine.org/>
- **Groups dedicated to Firefox discussions**
 - <http://groups.google.com.au/group/Firefox-Users?hl=en>
 - <http://www.spreadfirefox.com/node/305>

Customizing your version of Firefox

- Download add-ons to improve performance, security and efficiency when multitasking (.xpi files < 1 MB)
- Search by category, title, popularity or user rating
- What kind of “stuff” can I use to fill my ‘fox’?



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Web-developer add-ons for Firefox

- FireFTP
- Firebug
- Colorzilla
- MeasureIt
- IEView
- Web Developer

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Personal Efficiency add-ons

- ScreenGrab
- FavLoc
- Colorful Tabs
- PDF Download
- Delicious bookmarking tool
- Twitter bar
- FEBE*

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Possible school-based add-ons

- Juice
- Flashblock
- Ad Block
- No Script
- Dictionary.com
- WOT (web of trust)
- Zotero

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Tips for Installing Firefox Add-ons

- Locate possible items you may want to install
 - PCWorld.com
 - SmartComputing.com
 - Lifehacker
 - Blogs and professional journals by trusted authors
- View and review the item's metadata at the download site
- Evaluate and contribute back to the community- how did it work out?

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In Summary... Firefox Rocks!

- More secure and stable than Internet Explorer
- Greater market share than all other browsers combined (Chrome, Safari, etc.)
 - Better support
 - Better peer user assistance
 - Websites with dynamic data are displayed properly
- Add-ons allow you to personalize your experience
- The power tools you add on save system resources
- *So, how can you contribute to the Firefox community?*

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