



Explore Your Free & Open Source Options

These are *some* applications that are available for free. Some come with the computer depending upon the operating system, and others can be downloaded and installed on any system that supports the application. When you can have the source code, too, then it's an Open Source application.

Children's Applications

Tux Paint	Painting program	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Tux Typing	Keyboarding, letter recognition, letter differentiation, small motor skills, spelling, typing, more	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Tux Math	Keyboarding, number recognition, number differentiation, small motor skills, adding, subtracting, more	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
ChildsPlay	Memory, small motor skills, puzzles, sound memory, flashcards, letter recognition, letter differentiation, small motor skills, more	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Seterra	Geography game for school-agers	Windows
Sebran's ABC	Letter recognition, letter differentiation, simple math, counting, early reading skills	Windows
Minisebran	Letter recognition, letter differentiation, number recognition, counting, early reading skills for younger children	Windows
Selingua	Language tutor for German, Spanish, French, and Swedish	Windows

Schoolforge.net is an Internet repository for open source software for children. Some items registered with SchoolForge have not been finished, and some are old, but they are very wide in scope and are worth browsing. Most programs listed are available for Windows, Mac OS, and Linux, and it is probably the best source of freely available children's software for an Ubuntu computer.

Creativity

There are many audio and video open source programs.

Audacity	Audio production software	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
CamStudio	Streaming Video Software	Windows
eDraw Mindmap	Drawing program (mind maps, floorplans, flow charts)	Windows
FLV Crunch	Multifunctional media converter (changes video files from one format to another – can be useful when making a movie)	Mac OS
FormatFactory	Multifunctional media converter (changes video files from one format to another – can be useful when making a movie)	Windows
GIMP	Drawing, picture manipulation (GNU Image Manipulation Program)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
iMovie	Assemble a movie from your pictures and videos	Mac OS
Inkscape	Similar to Illustrator	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
iPhoto	Photo editing and management	Mac OS

Kate's Video Converter	Converts video between all popular video formats	Windows
MWSnap	Screen capture	Windows
Paintbrush	A painting program	Mac OS
Photo Story	Create digital slideshows that can be watched on TV, a computer, or even on a Windows-portable device	Windows XP
Seashore	Image Editor	Mac OS
Songbird	Supports many formats of music files, but doesn't yet include device support (working on it)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Windows Movie Maker	Assemble a movie from your pictures and videos	Windows XP & Vista
Windows Photo Gallery	Photo editing and management	Windows Vista
Windows Picture Manager	Photo editing and management	Windows XP

Financial Applications

GnuCash	Accounting (can import Quicken QIF files)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Intuit QuickBooks Simple Start Free Edition	Small business bookkeeping	Windows
Microsoft Office Accounting Express 2009	Small business bookkeeping	Windows
NCH Software Express Accounts	Small business bookkeeping and accounting	Windows, Mac OS

There are also spreadsheets already designed to help people stay on budget, many of which are Excel files that can be obtained from numerous sites, and imported into OpenOffice. Be aware that most accountants are used to working with mainstream retail products.

Office Productivity

Apple Mail	Email client	Mac OS
Chrome	Browser	Windows XP & Vista, in the works for Mac OS and Linux
Firefox	Browser	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
iCal	Calendar & Task List	Mac OS
Internet Explorer	Browser	Windows
Juice	Podcast receiver – listen and learn while you work	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Mozilla Lightning	Calendar & Task List, Integrates with Mozilla Thunderbird for an integrated package	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Mozilla Sunbird	Calendar	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
Mozilla Thunderbird	Email, RSS feed, and newsgroup client	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
MWSnap	Screen capture program useful in creating lesson materials	Windows
OpenOffice.org	Writer (like Microsoft® Word), Impress (like PowerPoint), Calc (like Excel), Draw, Base (like Access)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux
OpenProj	Project Management (similar to Microsoft Project)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux, Unix
Outlook Express	Email and newsgroup client	Windows XP and earlier
Safari	Browser	Mac OS, Windows XP, Windows Vista
Scribus	Desktop Publishing (similar to Microsoft Publisher)	Windows, Mac OS, Linux, Unix

Windows Calendar	Calendar & Task List	Windows Vista
Windows Mail	Email and newsgroup client	Windows Vista

For Teachers

These are sites to visit to get free things you can use in the classroom. There are MANY sites like these – just visit and be cautious about what you use. Many of these are more suitable for school-age students in an after-school program:

Google Sketchup	Computer aided design (CAD) software	Windows XP & Vista, Mac OS http://sketchup.google.com/
MonkeyJam	Stop-action animation software (can take a while to make a movie: most stop-action films are 25 frames per second)	Windows http://www.giantscreamingrobotmonkeys.com/monkeyjam/download.html
TimezAttack	Multiplication tables video game	Windows, Mac http://www.bigbrainz.com/Download.html
Eclipse-Crossword	Allows you to make your own crossword puzzles.	Windows
Klik n Play	Beginner video game creation program	Windows

There are numerous web pages you can visit to create puzzles and print them out:

- 🔗 <http://puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com/>
- 🔗 <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch/>
- 🔗 http://edhelper.com/crossword_free.htm
- 🔗 <http://www.puzzle-maker.com/>

There are also many web sites that can give you ideas for how to integrate technology into your curriculum:

- 🔗 <http://www.adrianbruce.com/index.html>
- 🔗 <http://www.sitesforteachers.com/>
- 🔗 <http://www.superkids.com/> - this site has software reviews and also some free stuff for teachers (mostly for older children)
- 🔗 <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/Home.html> also offers more features for a paid membership