

The Experts Behind



Jerry Chaffin, Ed.D., creator. Jerry is a professor of education at the University of Kansas and has spent more than 50 year as a classroom teacher, teacher educator, and pioneer in the development and implementation of technology in the classroom. Jerry has been actively engaged in school reform efforts for most of his professional career, especially those involving the integration of technology into curriculum. He is the author of numerous articles and books in the field of education and special education and is the author or co-author of more than 30 educational software titles.

Marilyn Ault, Ph.D., consulting advisor. Marilyn has been involved with the use of technology in education since 1990 and with www.4Kids.org since its inception in 1996. She is director of Advanced Learning Technologies in Education Consortia (ALTEC) and an adjunct professor in the Institute for Educational Research and Public Service at the University of Kansas. Her most critical readers of www.4Kids.org are her three children, all avid Web users.

Melanie Bacon, MPH, CHES, project manager. Melanie is a Senior Project Leader for Advanced Learning Technologies in Education Consortium (ALTEC) at the University of Kansas, where she is also seeking a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction. Melanie manages the 4Kids team, an after-school research and development program called Matrix Learning, and Hawk Health, an interactive web-based resource for college health students. Melanie has four years of secondary education teaching experience in business technology and health education. She has served as an education liaison and curriculum developer for NetWellness, a health consumer Web site developed by a partnership of medical institutions in the state of Ohio.

Leslie Blood, Ph.D., feature writer and copy editor. Leslie received her B.S. degree in Journalism from the University of Kansas in 2000. After working for the government, Leslie went back to school and received her MAT from Park University in 2004 while teaching at Immaculata High School. Once accepted into the Ph.D. program at the University of Kansas, Leslie took a graduate assistantship at ALTEC for www.4Kids.org and worked through her degree, which she obtained in 2007. Leslie authors the feature articles and co-edits the www.4Kids.org column. She continues her 4Kids ventures and now holds an Assistant Professorship in the Communications Department at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

Kristin Lynch, online producer and feature writer. Kristin is an undergraduate student at the University of Kansas, seeking a B.S. degree in Computer Science. She began working for Advanced Learning Technologies in Education Consortia (ALTEC) in July 2006, and has worked on the www.4Kids.org team since August 2006. Kristin grew up as a tech-savvy kid and enjoys helping others learn about technology as the current "Amy" of www.4Kids.org. She selects the featured Web sites, writes the Ask Amy column, and helps maintain the www.4Kids.org Web site.