

A Computer That Grows Hair

The Principle to Learn	In God's Word
Man's computers don't match God's Computer	Psalm 139:14

Preclass



- Review the goals of ComputiVerse
- Review the Class Tips
- Review the Gospel Message

You may want to use some pictures that depict American life in the early industrial age, before electricity and steam power were in use.

Process

Include the steps of the gospel throughout the lesson; so while student attention is fresh, the real lesson is being planted.

Pray first.



A working computer smaller than a paper clip!

In fact, it's down inside the black dot in the picture at the left. This computer plays a little tune when you open the greeting card in which it is concealed. The whole thing costs only fifty cents. It seems that computers are being used in almost everything anymore.

Scientists are constantly improving computers at a very rapid rate; it's as if the Wright brothers invented the airplane one day, and the next year, designed jet aircraft.

In the box below, list a few ways our lives would be different without computers.

Scientific discoveries continually amaze us with the new ways computers help us to see far out into the gigantic universe, and deep down into miniature worlds with electron microscopes. You can actually see a friend on the other side of the world who is talking to you on the Internet.

The human brain with a roof of hair has two main parts that complement each other, just like the Old and New Testaments.

The left side of the brain is the source of logic, and would probably have a favorite verse like I Corinthians 14:40: *“Let all things be done decently and in order.”*

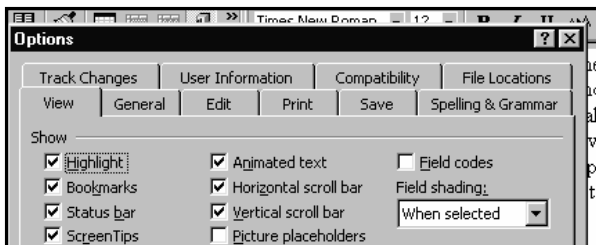
The right side has more to do with feelings, fellowship, and sensitivity.

Its favorite verse might be in John 14: 27: *“Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.”*

The electronic computer has much of the logical “this plus this equals that” kind of working that the left side of the brain does. The logical left side says, “It doesn’t make sense that an all-powerful God would be interested in a sinful person like me who turns my back on His desires.” But the right side of the brain far surpasses the electronic one by sending tears to the eyes and an ache to the heart and these words to the lips, *“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends.”*(John 15:13)

Do you have a favorite color, number, sound, person, game, place, and Bible verse? We all have do, and we don’t always have a good reason for all of them... these are just our favorites. At first this might seem a little silly, but further consideration will reveal one of the very special characteristics of the brain between our ears.

Computers and their software programs have no favorites. They have no favorite program, picture, paragraph... not one. There is no computer here or on the space station that does. It is no more possible than for a typewriter to think of itself as having a favorite key. The typewriter is a machine. Every part in a computer, large or small, is a machine. The favorites we humans choose and store in our “computer that grows hair” is what part of what makes our personality. We have to tell the desktop computer what favorites we want it to remember. Most computer programs have an options section through which we tell the program OUR favorite file location, colors, extra markings, cursor shape etc.



Here’s the point: **We have to be very careful when working with electronic computers to always remember that God has given them to us as a tool to bring honor to Him.** But too often we become a slave to them because of all the glitter and sparkle they can produce.

We humans alone have the God-given ability to make choices and to choose our own favorites. We have the ability to choose between doing right and wrong. We even have the ability to learn and to understand what is right and what is wrong... what is sin, based upon God's Word. It would be fun to pick up a book or video about all the kinds of animals and insects in the earth. Just think of it; there are over thirty thousand kinds of spiders alone. They live in the ground, behind walls, on the water, and down in the water. Yet not one of them possesses a brain that can even begin to compare to the one God gave to us to praise Him.

It helps us to know about all the animals that were on the Ark and escaped the flood, both big and small, though not one of them knew what it was all about. God gave Noah, along with all mankind, the opportunity to have the joy of knowing Him, and of learning about himself.

(end)

Headhunters and Rafts!

[Theme: Our God-designed brains and abilities are far superior to any computer or animal.]

Troubled statements on the marker board said: 1.African Qwabee Tribe Project #817, 2.Headhunters (very, very dangerous), 3.How do we get the gospel to them?, 4.No written language, 5.Dave Chase knows a bit of their language, 6.Forest too dense to airdrop radios and broadcast to them, and 7.Closest landing strip is 130 miles away.

Dr. Bob began the planning session with prayer as he always did, voicing the deep desire of all to reach the natives with the good news that Jesus Christ is salvation in a Person and that trusting in Him means to be saved forever.

Mark had quietly entered the meeting room several times to deliver urgent messages. But he had heard enough of the problem to be able to respond when he heard one of the missionaries ask again, “What are we going to do?” He just blurted out, “Why not make a tree raft?” and left the room.



**Tree
Raft**

But Mark was immediately sent for and invited to have a seat in the meeting room. With all eyes on him, he described a contraption he’d seen on a science program. A “tree raft” best describes its function. Mark’s audience quickly understood that the device works better in densely forested areas.

He was motioned to the board and handed a marker. With crude lines, Mark drew what looked like a oversize child’s swimming pool; the kind that’s pumped up with air.

The bottom of the raft had small areas in the center and around the edge covered with netting so rainwater could pass on through and not “sink the raft”. Dr. Bob hastily scribbled some notes on a piece of paper and dispatched a secretary to make some important phone calls about a tree raft. Using furniture and fixtures often used by campers and climbers, the group soon realized that two missionaries could spend two days at a time in the raft on the tops of the trees.

Tony was the one who always saw only the practical, the real world obstacles. While some of the others were tossing phrases around like, “Pup tent in the heavens,” and, “Tree-top rafting,” Tony’s question stopped them cold: “How are you going get it there? Every two days you’ll have to transfer two people and a lot of supplies. A helicopter is out of the question because the helicopter prop wash would destroy the huge raft and all the equipment it holds.”

Mark was ready for Tony’s concern. “Well, the science program showed that all of the transportation needs were met with an ultra-light blimp,” he said. Getting a lot of suprised looks, Mark continued with, “It’s a very small version of the big ones, using the same airplane engines used by ultra-light airplanes.”

“I think I remember seeing part of that program,” said one of Mark’s audience. The top of the pup tent shelter could hold some solar panels to power a distance microphone (like those used at football games), a laptop computer to record the natives’ dialect for language analysis and radio communication. Broadcasting to the natives would require a good quality speaker system. With great excitement, ideas and solutions began filling in the gaps, becoming a safe, workable project plan.

Now the real lesson here is not in visualizing new uses for rafts, or things like that. Far greater and more important is the truth that surpasses the power of technology, rising above the treetops. Nowhere else in creation is this given—the ability to imagine, to dream of a solution, to desire to help others. Everyone freely receives this ability and each of us has a human computer located between our ears. We just have to use it. But the highest calling of all is the spiritual apprehension of a loving God, and the burden to introduce Him to others. (end)

The Riverboat Lesson Fun with Friends Page

This Fun with Friends page uses visual aids created in the 210 Lesson Fun with Friends page.



Pretend you are a boat captain going down the river.
You have orders to get down the river by dinner time.

1. What things do you see in the scene?
2. What decides what direction the boat goes and how fast?
3. What is the purpose of the candy store?
4. What is the purpose of the lighthouse?
5. What would happen if you decided to stop at the candy store?
6. Does the lighthouse **MAKE** your boat go straight?
7. Is it safe to look at the lighthouse just once and then not any more?

The river is like our life. We are the boat that we choose which course to take and what things to fix our focus on. The candy store and rocks might be things Satan puts in our lives to get us into trouble.

It's fun to think of different places you can tell your visual story. It could be at school, church, backyard, nursing home, or hospital room.

Could you make a slightly different scene with trucks on a highway that must follow the lines painted on the road?

God has given us so many ways to use our computer to share our faith. (end)

God is watching to see what we do.