



It's the final countdown to 2024!

1. **The fifty best innovations via Popular Science:** [The 50 greatest innovations of 2023 | Popular Science \(popsci.com\)](#) Be sure to check out the Health category—these would be fantastic things for your students to review as a bell-ringer or as part of classroom discussion.
2. The number of **homeless people** in America grew **12%** in 2023 to 653,104 people, the highest level since the federal government began [keeping records in 2007](#)
3. **Technology Integration** in the Classroom [What Is Technology Integration in The Classroom? - Educators Technology](#)
4. **Engineered immune cells** relieve symptoms in 15 patients suffering from different types of autoimmune diseases, including lupus and certain types of sclerosis and myositis ([More](#)) | **How CAR-T therapy works** ([More](#))
5. **The number of U.S. children and teens killed by gunfire rose 50% in just two years**, according to [a 2023 analysis](#) of data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 2019, there were 1,732 gun deaths among U.S. children and teens under 18. By 2021, that figure had increased to 2,590. The gun death *rate* among children and teens – a measure that adjusts for changes in the nation's population – rose 46% during that span.
6. Google [launched](#) today (12.12.23) a new feature for Classroom that allows teachers to **turn any YouTube video into an interactive assignment by inserting questions for their students** to answer throughout the viewing experience. With the interactive questions feature, teachers can create open-ended or multiple-choice questions, provide

feedback on answers and access a dashboard of key insights to keep track of their students' progress. Meanwhile, students get to view which responses were incorrect and rewatch the video to learn from their mistakes

7. Researchers discover **new method Ebola uses to spread inside the body**; the deadly virus creates tunnels between cells, evading treatments that may be outside the cell wall ([More](#))
8. The holiday break is a great time to work on your **OKACTE Awards Nomination** form as sent out a few weeks ago in care of Debra Button!
9. Calling all high school teachers, register for the **National Anatomage Tournament** Virtual Qualifier by January 13, 2024. Your students may have a chance to become the next national anatomy champion at the National Anatomage Tournament. Every year, more than 7,000 students participate in Anatomage Tournaments across the nation. In 2024, only the top 5% will be invited to the National Anatomage Tournament to earn the privilege of competing against the nation's leading students in medical knowledge. The **National Anatomage Tournament 2024** will take place at the **University of Nevada, Las Vegas, on June 1st, 2024**. Let your students be a part of the nation's brightest minds by applying to the qualifier rounds today. Click on the link below to apply for the virtual qualifiers. *Your school can also compete at an official Anatomage Tournament & place 1st-3rd place to qualify for the 2024 National Anatomage Tournament.* Last year Durant High School (Oklahoma) received 2nd place in this national tournament! [For More Information](#)
10. **Tools for Educators** from Goodhart-Wilcox's Laura Adamson (ladamson@g-w.com) Our [Tools for Educators](#) page is filled with activities, posters, and professional development videos that are free for you to use.
11. **Quizizz** is an exciting and comprehensive edtech tool that makes answering questions fun! Quizizz does more than just ask students quiz questions online, incorporating myriad multimedia dimensions in a gamified manner. **Full Story: [Tech & Learning Quizizz Lesson Plan | Tech & Learning \(techlearning.com\)](#)**
12. Do your students need more help in **Critical Thinking**? [This article](#) shares classroom management techniques that might work for your students!

Have a wonderful break and we will see you all back in the new year!

Sincerely,
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