



FRESHLY BREWED

BY TEKANNA | WHERE TEACHING MEETS TECHNOLOGY

March 2026

March has stepped in with longer light, fresh momentum, and the quiet promise of new growth. As we move into the heart of the semester, this month's Freshly Brewed is all about clarity, intention, and choosing what truly supports learning. Think of this issue as your mid-year reset; a warm refill that helps you clear the clutter, refocus your energy, and lean into tools that nourish rather than distract. No overwhelm. No extra noise. Just thoughtful strategies, meaningful tech, and ideas that help you teach smarter, not louder. So pour yourself something warm, take a steady breath, and let's spill some TEA on what's blooming this March.

THIS MONTH'S TECH TO TRY: AI TOOLS THAT ACTUALLY HELP

WATCH FOR MINI TUTORIALS ON [TEKANNA'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#) ALL MONTH LONG!



READTHEORY

WEEK 1

An adaptive online reading comprehension platform that uses personalized quizzes and passages to help learners of all ages improve their reading skills, automatically adjusting difficulty based on performance while providing instant feedback and progress tracking.

READ THEORY



WEEK 2

An AI-powered educational platform that helps teachers personalize learning by creating customized lessons, activities, and real-time insights into student progress while reducing planning and administrative workload

SCHOOLAI



WEEK 3

A digital instructional tool that lets teachers build and deliver interactive, media-rich lessons and formative assessments, engaging students with polls, quizzes, and collaborative activities while providing real-time feedback and participation data.

NEARPOD



WEEK 4

A no-code authoring platform that lets teachers create interactive lessons, animated presentations, and gamified learning experiences with 50+ built-in elements, making content more engaging and memorable for students.

GENIALLY

SPOTLIGHT: EDUCATOR INNOVATION IN ACTION



Ms. Madison Johnson

Years in Education: 4 years

2 in middle school English, 2 in high school ESL

Cozy Drink of Choice: Diet Coke or Dutch Bros.

Teaching Philosophy

Ms. Johnson says, "My strongest opinion, when it comes to teaching, is that your classroom environment and relationship with students matters more than anything else. If students do not feel comfortable in your classroom or feel that they have no relationship with you, they are less likely to learn from you."

What Brings Her Joy

My relationship with students brings me the most joy. I may not feel like coming to work every day, but as soon as I get here and interact with my kids, it's all worth it. Sometimes you are the best part of their day. Whether that is saying good morning to them, teaching them something exciting, or giving them a hug when they really need one. On a personal note, reading has been a lifelong hobby for me. I challenge myself to read more books each year than the one before. This year, my goal is 150 books!

Relationship with Technology

I love using technology to further my teaching and lessons! There are so many great teaching tools out there that really take learning to the next level.

Favorite EdTech Tool

My favorite edtech tool I am using in my classroom is Read Theory! I absolutely love this online program as an ESL teacher. The program determines each student's reading level, then gives them short quizzes based on their individual level to build their strength and stamina in reading. Read Theory then tracks students' levels as they use the program. You can track students' reading level, Lexile level, and their proficiency in different areas of reading. The program also awards 'knowledge points' to students as they answer questions correctly. I use this as a friendly competition between my class periods. The class period with the most points at the end of the month wins some sort of prize.

How Tech Has Made an Impact

One major positive impact I have noticed is the class engagement level. Students want to participate and enjoy using technology.

A Thoughtful Concern

I do wish that teachers could choose a program or 2 that they could subscribe to for their classroom without using money out of their own pockets. There are some programs I use in my classroom that I miss out on helpful features because they require a subscription.

A Recent Classroom Win

I have a student who has grown 2 full reading grade levels since he began practicing in the Read Theory program. This student started at a 2nd-grade reading level, and in the span of about 8 months, he is comprehending at a 4th-grade reading level!

What Inspires Her

My mother was my first inspiration to become a teacher. Her love and care for her students has always stood out to me. As a kid, I remember always running into her students while we were out. They were always so genuinely excited to see her, and it made my mom seem famous to me. In reality, she is a really good teacher who goes the extra mile to build relationships with her students and leave lasting impacts.



WANT TO BE FEATURED IN AN UPCOMING SPOTLIGHT? COMPLETE THIS [FORM](#) AND TELL US HOW YOU'RE USING TECH CREATIVELY IN YOUR CLASSROOM OR SCHOOL!

COMING UP THIS MONTH

Here's what's brewing at Tekanna:

New Blog Drops



Is Your EdTech Nourishing Learning... or Just Digital Candy?

We've all used that tool.

The one with the music, the leaderboards, the confetti.

Students are engaged. The room is buzzing.

But here's the harder question:

Are they actually learning?

In this month's *tech in the classroom* blog, I unpack the difference between true learning tools and what I call "EdTech Candy" — fun, sweet, and exciting... but sometimes lacking substance. Backed by cognitive science and instructional design research, this piece challenges us to rethink what engagement really means.

Before you assign that next flashy platform, you may want to read this.



Youtube Premiere

"Tech Tools Under 10 Minutes"

bite-sized tutorials designed for busy educators.

SUBSCRIBE



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Never miss a sip of what's new in education and innovation. Follow Tekanna on YouTube, Instagram, and Facebook for fresh content weekly — and stay tuned for next month's Freshly Brewed, where we'll continue to blend coffee, creativity, and cutting-edge tech.

