

Grade Level: 9th – 10th**Summary:**

Science plays a fantastic part in the world with novels such as *1984*, *Frankenstein*, and *War of the Worlds*. Students in Mr. Benson's 9th – 10th grade literature class use the AlphaSmart 3000 and the World Wide Web to discover the world of literature, science, history, inventions, writing styles and the use of language. With their AlphaSmart 3000s, students describe ways the scientific discovery impacts society and culture. Then they create a flow chart to describe the governmental, economic and societal influences of the time — which Mr. Benson and his students call the “tone of an era.”

Technology Tools:

AlphaSmart 3000

A note from Mr. Benson: The AlphaSmart 3000 is a wonderful asset for the classroom. It helps students keep track of their work with no more worries about lost notes, notebooks, or misplaced references. Everything is stored in one place.

**AlphaSmart Tip:**

Now, you can select **Neo by AlphaSmart**, the **AlphaSmart 3000**, **Dana by AlphaSmart**, or **Dana Wireless** for this lesson.

Internet sites:

Search Engines
www.google.com
www.yahoo.com

**AlphaSmart Tip:**

Dana Wireless uses **AOL@School** which is a filtered search engine designed for education. When teachers and students enter a search term, they may refine the search to look for instructional or student resources. Returns are filtered for educational appropriateness and sorted by grade level.

Science and Literature Search Engine
http://dmoz.org/Arts/Literature/Genres/Science_Fiction

Discovery School
www.discoveryschool.com

Science and literature connections
<http://sls.press.jhu.edu/>
<http://www.dinosauria.com/jdp/misc/fiction.htm>
<http://www.scilitlinks.org>
<http://www.educ.iastate.edu/ci/treg/tea/scidata>
<http://www.jsasd.k12.pa.us/sciexpo/sciandlit.htm>

Multimedia, art, science and literature
<http://reynet.worldmultimedia.biz>

**AlphaSmart Tip:**



Use the Oregon School Library Citation Maker (see <http://oslis.k12.or.us/elementary/howto/cited/>) to collect and save all references on line. Print the citation list while online or copy and paste and send to the **AlphaSmart 3000** or **Neo by AlphaSmart** to be available to students when they write off line.

Step-by-step tasks:

Introduction

1. Provide examples of science presented in literature with novels such as *War of the Worlds*.
2. Talk about what happened the night that novel was broadcast as a radio play. See <http://members.aol.com/jeff1070/wotw.html> for information.
3. Continue with a guided discussion using questions and statements such as:

Do you think science discoveries change societies? If so, in what ways?

How do you see science represented in literature?

Do you know any writers who use science as a theme?

Do you notice any science themes that dominate literature during particular time periods?

How has scientific discovery changed over time?

Think of ways that society adjusted to new discoveries, such as the electric light bulb, mass communication, laser surgery, atomic power, portable computing devices.



AlphaSmart Tip:

Using **AlphaSmart Manager 2.0**, teachers send the questions and statements for guided discussion to specific AlphaSmart devices. The teacher could send one question to the AlphaSmart devices used with one group of students and send another question or statement to another group.

4. Lead a guided discussion about change in society and diversity with examples, such as culture change during the 'Cold War' period.
5. Show examples of a time line.
6. Explain the phrase "tone of an era."

Create a Science and Literature Connection Flow Chart

1. Group students with 2 – 3 in each group.
2. Each group creates a flow chart for a particular time period. Include:
 - a. At least one author known for his or her work during that time period
 - b. The major scientific discovery of that time period
 - c. Technology during that time period
 - d. Economic base during that time period (agrarian, industrial, etc.)
 - e. The major theme or focus of government during that time period
 - f. The tone of the era



AlphaSmart Tip:

With **Neo by AlphaSmart**, or **AlphaSmart 3000** devices upgraded with System 3, the teacher can create Linked Files that provide a way for students to easily access checklists and rubrics while working in any **Neo** or **AlphaSmart 3000** file space. The criteria for the assigned flow chart—described above—could sent as a Linked File to student's AlphaSmart device.

Develop a written report describing one Literature/Science connection

Students work with their groups to develop a brief narrative that details the work of one author who used science in his or her literature during the selected time period. Explain how the author used science, science fiction, and technology in writing and how his or her literature made an impression.

Create a Story Board to present findings

Students print all work from the AlphaSmart 3000 or send to a computer for additional formatting and to add graphics. Mount on poster board and present to the whole class.

Home-to-school connection:

Students interview family members to gain an appreciation of ways people react to new scientific discoveries and how such discoveries impact our lives and our literature.

