



In a Nutshell....



RSS? Why you should care...

What is RSS? RSS = Really Simple Syndication

RSS allows you to select the information you want to track and brings it directly to one centralized location.

Why should you care? By bringing the information updates to you – you save valuable TIME!

Kevin Morooney (Vice Provost for IT at PSU) writes about the value of RSS on his [blog](#)

Many of us have known about and sung the praises of [RSS](#) for what feels like a long time. But for every person I know who can't live without it, I estimate that I know 20-50 who don't know anything about it.

*Leveraging the power of RSS has long since changed my personal habits in information gathering and digestion. **I am able to scan and take in much more information that I believe to be relevant to work** ...than I could, say, 5 years ago.*

Get Started with RSS

1) Watch a succinct 5 minute video about RSS and how to do it. Don't skip this!!

<http://blip.tv/file/205570/>

Full-screen

Play video in alternate format:

Email Share Comment

★★★★★ Report as Inappropriate

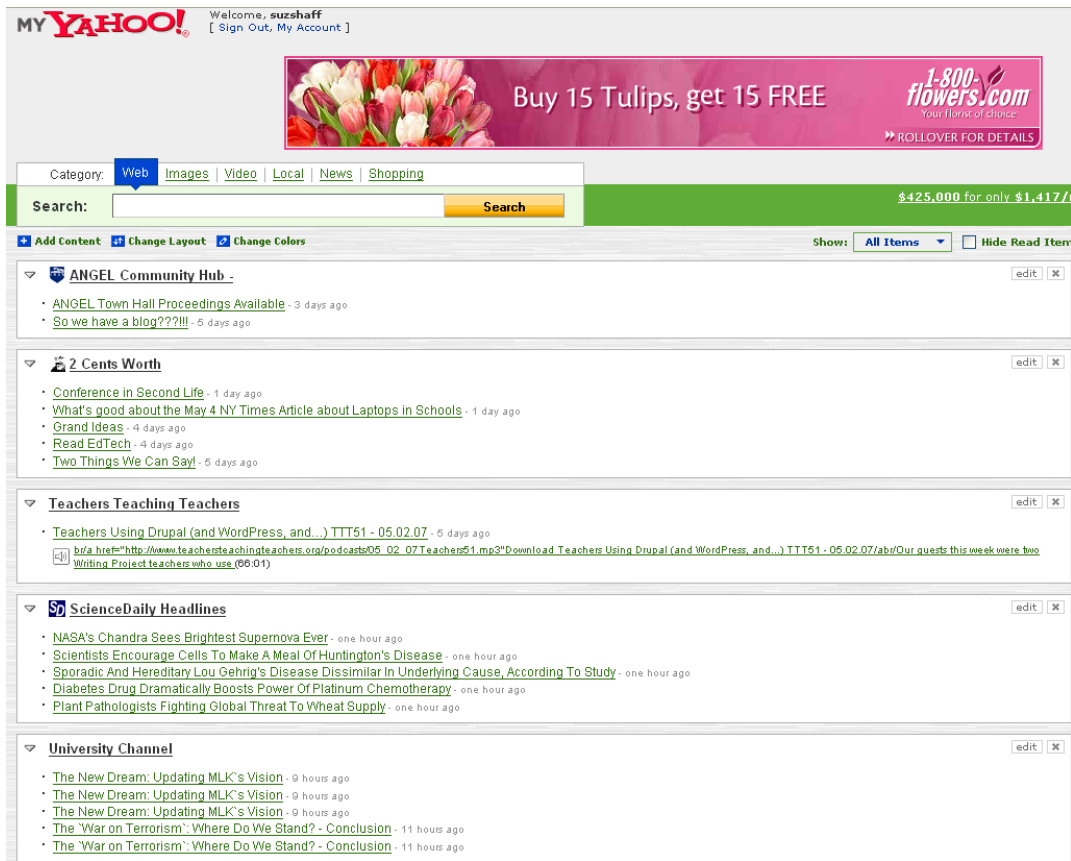
TV G There are two types of Internet users, those that use RSS and those that don't. This video is for the people who could save time using RSS, but don't know where to start.

2) Read a 4-page EDUCAUSE summary of the 7 things you need to know about RSS at <http://www.educause.edu/ir/library/pdf/ELI7024.pdf>

3) Set up your RSS Reader at <http://my.yahoo.com> or <http://google.com/reader>

4) Visit your favorite websites and subscribe to them – look for the icon 

5) Check your reader periodically for updates (instead of checking individual websites)



The screenshot shows a Yahoo! RSS feed page. At the top, there's a "MY YAHOO!" logo and a welcome message for "suzshaff". Below that is a banner for "1-800-flowers.com" with the text "Buy 15 Tulips, get 15 FREE". The page has a search bar and navigation tabs for "Web", "Images", "Video", "Local", "News", and "Shopping". The main content area displays several RSS feeds:

- ANGEL Community Hub**: Includes items like "ANGEL Town Hall Proceedings Available" (3 days ago) and "So we have a blog???!?" (5 days ago).
- 2 Cents Worth**: Includes items like "Conference in Second Life" (1 day ago) and "What's good about the May 4 NY Times Article about Laptops in Schools" (1 day ago).
- Teachers Teaching Teachers**: Includes items like "Teachers Using Drupal (and WordPress, and...)" (5 days ago) and a link to a podcast.
- ScienceDaily Headlines**: Includes items like "NASA's Chandra Sees Brightest Supernova Ever" (one hour ago) and "Scientists Encourage Cells To Make A Meal Of Huntington's Disease" (one hour ago).
- University Channel**: Includes items like "The New Dream: Updating MLK's Vision" (9 hours ago) and "The 'War on Terrorism': Where Do We Stand? - Conclusion" (11 hours ago).

Examples of RSS usefulness?



A: ANGEL (and ITS) has alerts set up with RSS so that I know exactly when an ANGEL alert is issued and can pass that information onto you.

B: Keeping up with professional interests: educational blogs, for example
<http://eduspaces.net/csessums/weblog/165296.html>

Christopher D. Sessums :: Weblog

Thoughts on learning, teaching, and computing

Christopher D. Sessums :: Weblog :: The Value of Making Teacher Thinking Visible: A Brief Reflection on Weblogs, Social Media, and Vulnerability

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April 17, 2007



Christopher D. Sessums

The Value of Making Teacher Thinking Visible: A Brief Reflection on Weblogs, Social Media, and Vulnerability

In teacher colleges, the issue of finding exemplary mentor educators to work with student teachers is, unfortunately, a real challenge. More specifically, finding good mentor educators who make their thinking explicit and openly confront the difficulties associated with teaching, warts and all, is even more of a challenge.

It is worth noting that while exemplary environments may be good for the student teacher and mentor, the learning success of the student teacher within this environment is by no means guaranteed. Margolis (2007) argues, "what is also needed is **access to** and **participation in** the teacher



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<http://www.libraryjournal.com/article/CA296443.html>