5 Free Tools for Kids

World is growing faster and so is the technology. Earlier kids used to play indoor and outdoor games but now kids play with gadgets and use interactive software tools. A list of awesome free software and services that help kids develop essential skills-

1. **Scratch**

Scratch is a visual programming language developed by the MIT Media Lab for children, ages eight and above. It teaches kids coding concepts such as conditional statements and loops with the help of 'objects' that can be dragged, dropped, and joined like Lego blocks to create animations and games.

2. **Rapid typing 5**

Learning to type properly is an essential skill. And Rapid Typing is a superb free software that teaches children how to do it right. It starts off with 'Beginner' lessons where students get acquainted with the basic key and finger placements - and then gradually moves onto the usage of special and numeric keys.

3. **Lego Digital Designer 4.3**

Almost everybody has grown up playing with some form of building blocks. This simple activity strengthens hand-eye coordination, motor skills, and gets kids to use their imagination. Lego Digital Designer does the same thing, but in a digital space on your PC or Mac.

4. **Sumo Paint**

Sumo Paint is not a photo-imaging software that's specifically built for children. But this online tool - accessible through your web browser - boasts an extremely intuitive interface that lets kids use some simple tools to draw, and even edit photos and images. This online app requires at least a 512kbps internet connection, but allows kids to save their creations onto a local computer.

5. **OOO4Kids**

Most of us tend to use MS Office, but if you're looking for something simpler for your children, you might want to try out OOo4Kids - a productivity suite that has been built for students between the ages of 7 and 12 by the non-profit EducOOo.

Latest IT News

eBay asks 145 million users to change passwords after cyber attack

eBay Inc said on Wednesday that a cyber attack carried out three months ago has compromised customer data, and the company urged 145 million users of its online commerce platform to change their passwords.

Flipkart buys Myntra as Amazon spurs consolidation

Flipkart, India's largest e-tailer, on Thursday acquired the country's biggest fashion portal Myntra, as Amazon.com Inc's rapid expansion in the country stokes consolidation in the e-commerce industry.
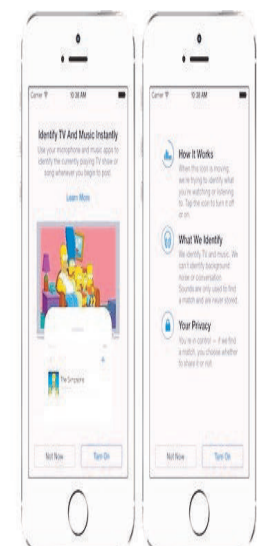
Second SLS Mission Might Not Carry Crew

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Instead of sending astronauts beyond Earth orbit for the first time since the Apollo program, NASA might use a Space Launch System mission slated for 2021 as an unmanned test flight for a new upper stage Boeing would build as part of its pending SLS contract, a company executive said here at the 30th Space Symposium.

Face book adds TV, song and movie tag feature

The feature will be available on your smart phone's Face book app. It makes use of the **Smartphone**'s microphone to listen to what's on in the background. Once it has identified it, it will insert it into your post, no typing required.

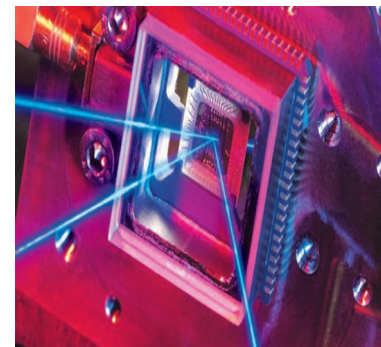# Jagan Institute of Management Studies

<u>Latest IT News</u>

China bans government purchases of Windows 8, surprising Microsoft

China is banning Windows 8 devices from at least some government IT purchases, in a mysterious move that took Microsoft off guard.
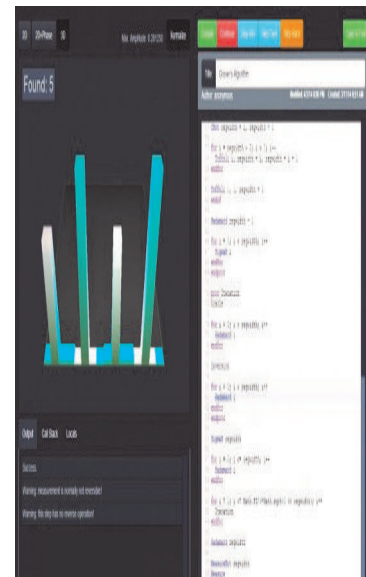
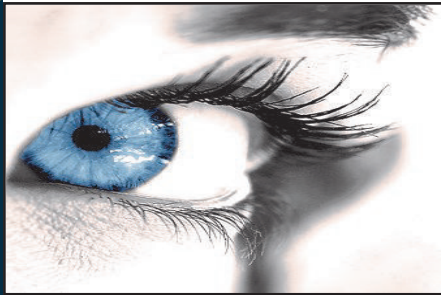## UK military creates quantum compass that could be the successor to GPS

GPS began its life as a military technology in the 1970s, then everything changed in the late 80s when the US government decided to allow civilian use of the satellite network. Virtually every mobile device on the planet has a GPS chip built-in that lets you find your way around, but GPS is getting old and doesn't work well in all situations. The British Ministry of Defence is hard at work developing a so-called "quantum compass" that could become the successor to GPS, and just like GPS, it might land in your pocket one day.

Google's Quantum Computing Playground turns your PC into a quantum computer

Thanks to some ingenious engineers at Google, you can now turn your desktop PC into a quantum computer. Well, OK, not quite: You can simulate a quantum computer on your PC by running the Quantum Computing Playground web app for Chrome. The Playground allows you to run famous quantum algorithms, such as Grover's, or even to write your own quantum script. Short of buying your own quantum computer — which, despite what D-Wave says, you can't — this is the next best thing. If you're looking to get in on the ground floor of the future of computing, this is your chance: If I had kids, I feel like it would be a disservice if I didn't make them sit in front of the Playground for at least six hours a day to teach them the intricacies of quantum computing.
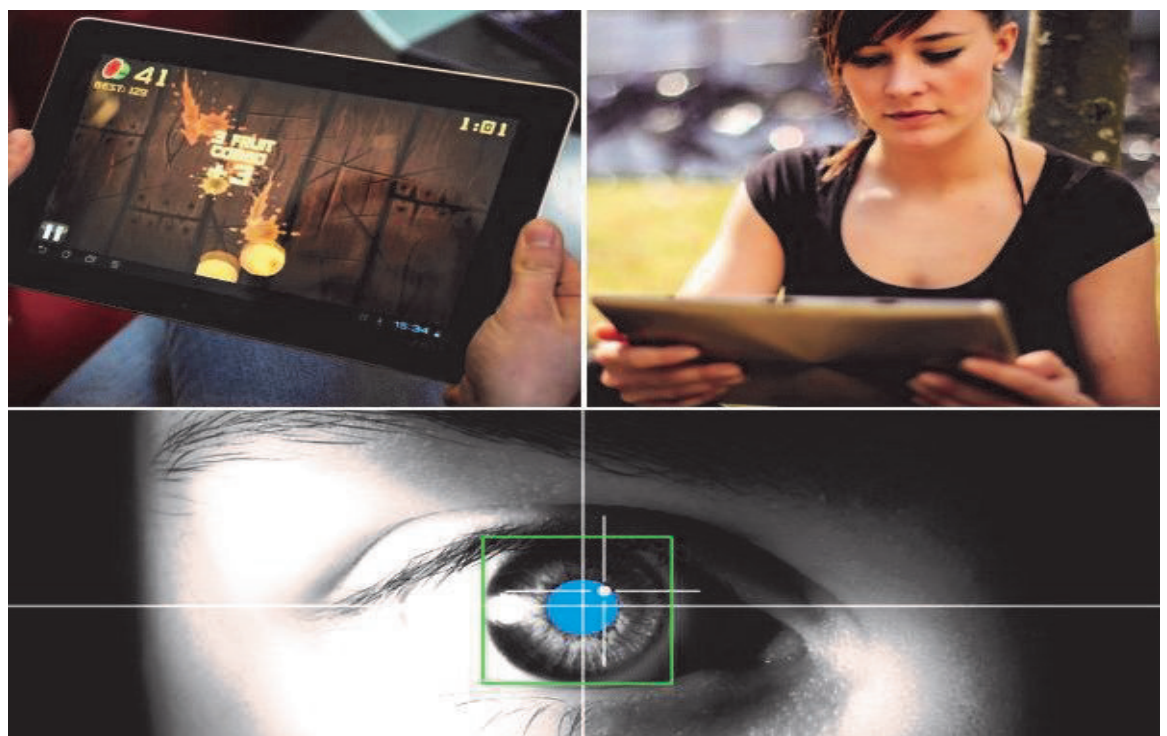
Control Your Gadgets By Your Eye

The Eye Tribe software makes it possible to control a mobile device just by looking at it. By combin-ing eye control with existing means of control, like touch, tilt, and key press, The Eye Tribe will change how mobile devices are controlled. The software is unique, because it relies only on standard low-cost components that are easily integrated into next generation smart phones and tablets.

When Apple introduced touch control for iPhone in 2007 it fundamentally changed the mobile market. Currently voice control is making headlines with Siri, but the next big thing is eye control according to a top-5 mobile manufacturer.

The Eye Tribe vision is to become the leading software provider for eye control to mass market applications.

Control Gadgets Just By Your Hands

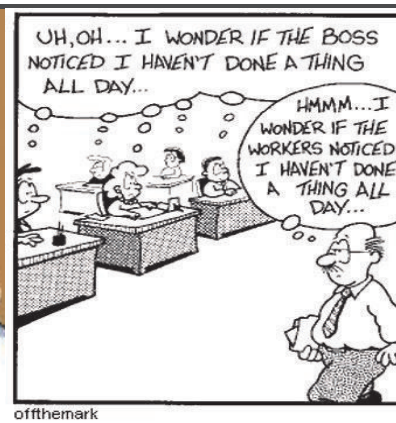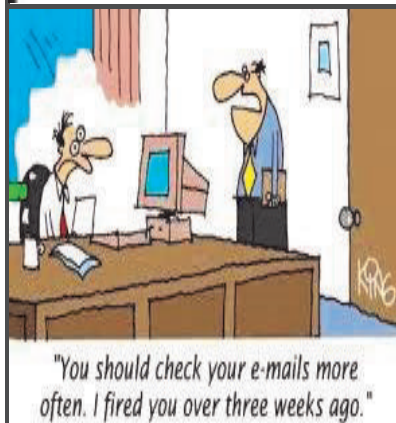The Leap Motion controller is an attempt and an interesting one at that. The company touts the

device as a new paradigm in human input devices, allowing users to wave, swipe and poke their way through a digital world otherwise meant for keyboards, mice and touch screens.

The Leap Motion controller ships in a small, sturdy box with a premium feel about it. Inside you will find the controller base unit and two USB 3.0 cables with varying lengths -- one 6 feet long and the other 2 feet. Leap Motion has done a good job of putting together something that feels high-end in spite of its sub-$80 price tag.

After installing the software, users are presented with a demonstration to get them acquainted with the device. It isn't a tutorial necessarily; rather, it's a tool that serves to "wow" you -- some spacey new age music and a way-cool visualization of what the Leap Motion controller "sees" as you wave your hands about. Although it doesn't do much to show you how to use the device, it's here that you begin realize (or fantasize) the Leap Motion's potential.

Ideally, the Leap Motion base sits in front of your keyboard. Despite this suggestion though, I found placing it in that location produced unwanted input while typing and futzing about at my desk. As a result, I placed the controller behind my keyboard to remedy this issue. Of course, reaching out further is a little more fatiguing during extended periods of gesturing, but the location was not entirely awkward or unpleasant for casual use.

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.   - Robert Louis Stevenson

Thousands of candles can be lighted from a single candle, and the life of the candle will not be shortened. Happiness never decreases by being shared.   - Buddha

I am taken from a mine, and shut up in a wooden case, from which I am never released, and yet I am used by almost everybody.

- Pencil Lead | There are four brothers in this world that were all born together. The first runs and never wearies. The second eats and is never full. The third drinks and is always thirsty. The fourth sings a song that is never good.

-Water, Fire Earth, Wind | Everyone has me but nobody can lose me.

What am I?

- Shadow |