

Understanding and Using RSS Feeds with Google Reader



What is RSS?

- Real Simple Syndication
- Brings web news to you
- Many professional uses
- Many classroom uses



Glossary

- Feed – the “broadcast” from a website
- Aggregator – software that compiles feeds
- To consume – the act of reading a feed



Demonstration

Google Reader



“It forces us to be **much more involved with the information we consume**. I’m no longer just a reader; I’m an editor who is constantly at work in the process of finding feeds to read, determining what’s relevant, trying to connect ideas and patterns, **making decisions** as to what to do with all of the information I come across.”



Using RSS in the Classroom

Three major trends:

- Collect information
- Monitor activity
- Publish information



Collect Information

- Research materials
- Current events
- Job postings
- Data collection (weather, stocks, etc.)



Monitor Activity

- One central collection point for multiple inputs!
- Use RSS + Web 2.0 Tool with
 - Blogs
 - Wikis
 - Social bookmarking
 - Twitter
 - Flickr
 - VoiceThread
 - . . . and more.



Publish Information

- “Of the day” posts
- Class calendars
- Announcements
- Lecture Notes



Placing Feeds in Tycho

- Links are safe
- Embedding is risky



More Information

- **My RSS Feed**
<http://www.google.com/reader/shared/sharonhuston11>
- **RSS Feeds: Two Birds, One Information-Soaked Stone - Part I**
<http://deoracle.org/online-pedagogy/teaching-tools/rss-feeds.html>
- **Google Reader Tutorial**
<http://deoracle.org/tech-skills-software/google/how-to-set-up-and-use-google-reader.html>

