

Comparison of [chemmybear.com](http://chemmybear.com) and [teacherspayteachers.com](http://teacherspayteachers.com)

## 1. Site Comparison

Both sites are focused on sharing teacher resources. Teachers Pay Teachers has a wide variety of subjects and grade levels to search for resources, where as Chemmybear is focused on just chemistry ( general and AP). Teachers Pay Teachers looks more like a profession designed it with its content tucked away until you select what you are looking for based off of the criteria on the left side of the page.

Chemmybear has less of a professional look to it and all of the categories of resources are listed on the main page, grid like, with descriptions for each link.

## 2. Strengths and Weaknesses

### Design

#### *Teachers Pay Teachers*

The design of this website is pretty easy to figure out. At the top of the website, it gives you choices to login or search for content. What I really like about this site is that there are choices along the left column of the site that gives you choices to narrow your search by subject, grade level, price, and types of resources. As you select these choices, your search narrows to the right of the list giving you your options. As a result, you never really leave the home page (unless you select a resource), so it is easy to start a new search if needed.

#### *Chemmybear*

This website seems to put almost everything right on the main page. It is aimed toward general chemistry and AP chemistry, but the content seems to be mixed. Many of the links that you click on can take you to a whole new page with someone else's resources. Using this page you really need to know what you are looking for.

### Content

#### *Teachers Pay Teachers*

This site has a lot of content. One could return to this page for each unit or subject they are teaching and keep finding new resources. Looking for the content is not difficult to find, because when you use the sidebar to select your content, you are not leaving the

home page. You know that the content is current, because there are up to date ratings on the pages with the resources.

*Chemmybear*

All of the links on this website are spread out on the main page, but they do have a brief description for each so the user knows what they are getting into. All links are function, but it is hard to tell how up to date they are. The AP chemistry test has changed within recent years, and it is hard to tell if this website's resources have been updated. However, there is still a lot of content that is still useful for a chemistry teacher and there are useful links to other external resources.

## Credibility

*Teachers Pay Teachers*

It is very easy to find those responsible for the website using the About Us choice at the top of the webpage. A story about why they exist, all affiliations, and a way to email them can be found here. I believe the website is bias free, because its content has a large variety.

*Chemmybear*

It is hard to tell who is in charge of this website. I believe it is a teacher in Pasadena CA, because a lot of the handouts have that written on them. There is not a link on the page related to an About Us and I have not been able to find how to contact them.

## 3. Likely Use Cases

*Teachers Pay Teachers*

Use Case	Find and use a good lesson
Actor	Teacher who is in need of a lesson to teach.
Basic Flow	Based off of the organization of the different topics, the teachers would be able to search and find lessons to teach.
Use Case	Rating the lesson plans
Actors	All teachers that use the website.

Basic Flow As different teachers use different lesson plans, they can give feedback on their experience of using the lesson plan, and they can also rate the lesson plan. When teachers are searching for new lesson plans, they can use the ratings and comments to help them select the best lesson plan for their situation.

### *Chemmybear*

Use Case Find and use a good lesson

Actor Teacher who is in need of a lesson to teach.

Basic Flow Based off of the organization of the different topics, the teachers would be able to search and find lessons to teach.

Use Case Find external links of similar resources

Actor Teacher who is in need of other sites with other types of resources.

Basic Flow Teachers would go to the bottom of the site to find other resources that the author has used.

### *Comment By Calli Larson*

Phillip,

Obviously I have heard of Teachers Pay Teachers and look frequently for good resources to bring into my classroom. I agree with your thought on how you never really leave the main page so it is easier to start a new search if you need. Chemmybear is not one that I have heard of before but I also don't teach any science related classes. It just isn't as appealing to me as other sites, like Teachers Pay Teachers. I'm someone that wants good information from a site but it also has to look appealing in order for me to stick around and weed through files. I should probably mention that, for me, a website is appealing when it looks organized. I need to know that the people running the site have put some thought into the usability of the website.

### *Comment By Ashley Horton*

Phillip,

I visit Teachers Pay Teachers often for lessons for my classroom and have always enjoyed the variety and amount of. What has irritated me though, is when I search and I either get a completely opposite grade level, or resources not at all related to my search. With that said, I do really like the amount of filters you can apply to your searches to narrow things down.

Chemmy Bear was interesting. I'll have to pass it along to my husband who teaches high school science. What I did not like about this site was the amount of images and links on the homepage. I would have preferred different drop-down options across the header bar.

*Comment By Malwina Najbar*

Reading your post I was ready for MissouriGirlsState page to be outdated, but oof, I wasn't thinking it would be that bad. In the simplest way to say it, I hate the way it looks. The girl holding the quote is kind of funny but very tacky! Then, when you click on the quote it only shows only three news stories! Definitely needs a lot work. I'm not the biggest fan of the MissouriBoysState website either... It's a little more informational but still just as tacky. I do however like that in the tab there is an image of Missouri, at least they're trying!

*Comment By Mitchel Bohon*

I can't say that I have really visited a teaching resource website. Based off these two examples, I do see teachers pay teachers being more helpful offering much more content. I find it more professional looking, but still makes it easy to find anything a user would like to find.

*I commented on Calli Larson's discussion:*

Hello Calli,

With the girls state website, I found it somewhat challenging to understand the layout. There are so many different links, and they are spread out all over with different colors and fonts. There are even some parts that I thought were links at first, but found out that they were not. Once I understood the layout, it was easy enough to find things. I would not say that the website is inviting me to go back though.

The boys site looks a bit cleaner. The links were much easier to find, the majority of them were found on the top of the page. I assume that the point of both websites is for counselors and teachers to get information about the next summer session and to help students apply. I appreciate that on the boys state website there is large link at the top that says "APPLY NOW!". Can't miss that. But I could not find on the girls state were to apply.

*I commented on Amanda Davis's discussion:*

Hello Amanda,

Looking at The Art of Education, I agree there is a lot there and it does look a bit overwhelming. With all of the examples towards the bottom of the page, I can see how one would get lost. However, I do like the colors and layout, it is very pleasing to look at. It's almost like a bunch of art teachers created it! This website does seem to be very credible. They do not hide who they are, with the "About" at the top fo the page, easy to access.

Looking at the Artsonia page, I found it a bit harder to use. In a way this page is the opposite of The Art of Education. The main page does not offer much for the new user except a video about the website. I wish that they did not make you have to sign up before getting to experience it. Also, I did find their "about" at the bottom of the page. They seem credible, but you have to make a slight effort to find it.