

# Helpful Hints for Using Kid Pix Deluxe 3

Dear Teachers:

Recently there have been a number of questions regarding the new Kid Pix. Hopefully the following helpful hints will help to clarify some of those questions. In addition, a Kid Pix Menu has been created that will help you to learn the new tools. Please remember that there are lesson plans posted on Angela Miller's web site to help you with some of the problems you may have encountered. The lessons are written for K – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade, but can be adapted for 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum or to introduce your students to Kid Pix. Click here to view those lessons - <http://www.cvs.k12.mi.us/amiller>.

## Opening Kid Pix:

A Technology Tip was sent out during the month of October to let teachers know that we found an easier way to launch Kid Pix. **(The students should not launch Kid Pix from the Start Menu!)** The students should go to the **Program** folder on the desktop and find



the green Kid Pix icon. This will take the students to a log in screen where they can click on guest or student and then they should click GO. **(Do not have the students enter their names!)** Another helpful hint to open the program faster is to have the students click on the icon once (so it turns blue), and then click the **enter** key on their keyboard. This helps avoid potential error messages. (Many students have a great deal of difficulty doing a double click.)

## Opening Kid Pix On Your Teacher Station:

To get to the Kid Pix icon, you will need to open your **Teacher Desktop** folder on your desktop. In this folder, you will find a **Program** folder. From here, you can locate the



Kid Pix Icon. The teacher administration program is no longer needed. This was originally used so kindergarten students could use the program. We cannot remove this without going to each individual machine. When they re-clone the machines the next time, we will ask for this to be removed along with the old Kid Pix icon. If you cannot get to the Teacher Desktop folder, you can get to the icon by clicking on **My Computer/J: drive/Global/Teachers/Programs.**

## Saving to Kid Pix:

Just like with the old Kid Pix, when the students go to save, it does not automatically take them to the **H: drive**. The students will have to navigate to their H: drive. Saving to *My Pictures* in the Kid Pix folder only causes the program to run less efficiently. There is also the chance that the student will permanently lose their file if it saved there. (For example, Shawnee has 115 pictures saved to this file.)

### **Printing in Kid Pix:**

Kid Pix does not allow you to choose a printer when you are ready to print. It will print to the default printer that is set for the computer you are working at. If you want the document to be printed at a color printer, there are a few work-arounds to solve this problem. First, you can have the students save their work and then open and print their document from a computer that is connected to a color printer (or you can open and print them at your teacher computer from the S: drive). Second, you can have students save to the Shared folder in the I: drive. Then as a teacher, you could print the student documents to a color printer. Third, you can change the printer by using the following directions...

### **Setting a Default Printer:**

1. Click Start
2. Click Settings/Printers
3. *Right* click on the Printer you would like to print to
4. Click on **Set as Default Printer**
5. **\*\*If you are in Kid Pix and you need to change the default print, you will need to press the Windows Start Key on your keyboard. (It is located between the Ctrl and Alt keys). This will give you your start menu.**

This sounds difficult but we have had success in several buildings with first graders changing the default printer. (They think it is fun to right click.) If your building does not have locks on the machines, you will have to set the printer back before shutting down the computers.