

Macintosh Learning Center

--- Shell Weinberg

Laguna Woods Town Centre

Laguna Woods Village Community Center, 3rd floor

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday

Worth looking at... Dashboard Dictionary

Using OS 10.4.11

If you are using a version of OS X, you are likely to see the **Dashboard** icon on your Dock. It is factory installed and available for your use in new Macs, and older Mac computers that may have been purchased in the early 2000's. It does get upgraded as you install later versions of OS X.

Dashboard is quite versatile and offers you a variety of **widgets** that are convenient time savers, programs, services and helpful utilities. Single click on the Dashboard icon and it presents widgets for your selection.

One of the widgets is **Dictionary...** and I use it almost daily. Simply single click the icon to activate Dictionary. It has some interesting features that offer more than just the regular definition of a particular word.

For example, if I would like to use a word that will convey the basic meaning of a certain word but with a subtle difference than the original I would search the **Thesaurus** side of the window. A single click on the word Thesaurus and it offers you the options. This might be useful when writing a piece and you do not want to repeat the exact same word again and again.

Another nice feature of this dictionary... notice the half circle with a **letter** on the left side of the window. When you single click on this item it will offer you variations of the word you are searching. This often times gives you the correct spelling, or the correct modification, by showing a related list of words that are associated to your word.

