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RAM:

RAM is Random Access Memory. RAM is the temporary area where your computer stores programs that you are currently running and data that you are currently working on. RAM can be contrasted with disk storage. Disk storage holds all of your programs and all of your data whether you are working with them or not. When you turn off your computer, the contents of RAM instantly disappear, but the contents of your disk storage remain unharmed. As you add programs and use multiple applications at a time, you may find your computer running slower. This is an indicator that you need to add more RAM. To find out how much you already have click the START button then CONTROL PANEL / PERFORMANCE & MAINTENANCE / SYSTEM. Look for your memory total near the lower right corner of the window. For example, it may say 1GB of RAM. If insufficient RAM is available in your computer, the operating system will copy data from RAM to the hard disk. Your hard drive is much slower than RAM, so your entire computer will slow down. A simple memory upgrade can be one of the least expensive methods of improving your computers performance. Be sure to match it with the same type already in your computer. Contact a retail outlet for purchase and installation.

Google Earth:

Google Earth combines the power of Google Search with satellite imagery, maps, terrain and 3D buildings to put the world's geographic information at your fingertips. Zoom from outer space to street level in seconds. View geographical imagery, 3D buildings, maps, and local business information. If your computer is over four years old it may not be able to run this application. The recommended configuration for the PC is Windows XP and 2GB of free hard disk space. Google Earth is amazing! To download Google Earth visit www.earth.google.com.

WiFi:

Short for WIRELESS FIDELITY. A term for certain types of wireless local area networks (WLAN) that use certain specifications. WiFi has gained acceptance in many environments as an alternative to a wired LAN (local area network). Many airports, hotels, and other services offer public access to WiFi networks so people can log onto the Internet and receive emails on the move. These locations are known as HOTSPOTS. Most areas are for free but many locations like RV parks or private establishments will charge anything from \$3 a day to \$25 a month for access. A wireless network uses radio waves, just like cell phones, televisions and radios do. In fact, communication across a wireless network is a lot like two-way radio communication. It is not as secure as a LAN so be careful online. Visit www.howstuffworks.com to read more on what hardware you will need to use WiFi.