In the first part of the paper the main differences between Rich Internet Applications (RIA) and classical hypertext pages are explained. The features of RIA are illustrated with some typical examples from worldwide recognized content providers. In particular the quality of visual presentation and user interaction in such applications are highlighted. Different technologies that enable such internet applications will be given and compared, in particular SilverLight and Flex. In the second part of the paper some typical sample applications which have potential educational value and meaning are presented. In the last part of the paper the possibility of simulation of natural phenomena, mostly in physics is demonstrated. As a practical example the already known xyZET authoring tool which enables creation and simulation of physical experiments will be considered. The current java version of this program was converted to ActionScript 3 and the results of such conversion will be analysed and explained.