

**Title of Session:** Arts and Literacy

**Moderator:** BJ Berquist

**Title of File:** 20051003artlit

**Date:** October 3, 2005

Room: ArtsSites Group

**BjB:** we'll wait a minute to see if anyone else will be joining us...

**BjB:** but while we wait, please introduce yourself and tell me what brings you to this discussion

**MagdaG:** I am Spanish teacher in San Diego and this part of my advanced comp. class

**KellyAC:** My name is Kelly. I teach a 3/4 combo in Buena Park, CA.

**BjB:** cool, Magda. Thanks. What grade do you teach?

**BjB:** thanks, Kelly...we'll have to make sure we show you some elementary info

**KellyAC:** that would be great... thanks

**MagdaG:** Actually I am working as substitute teacher for Sweetwater District

**BjB:** so you cover all grades?

**MagdaG:** basically, yes

**BjB:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania...

**BjB:** the purpose of this discussion is to help teachers integrate the arts across the curriculum

**MagdaG:** I remember you. I talked to you last week.

**BjB:** with a special focus on Literacy

**BjB:** let's start with the Postcard Club

**BjB:** <http://www.creativepostcardclub.com/>

**DavidWe** didn't know that there IS a postcard club

**DavidWe** . o O ( I should be a charter member )

**BjB:** hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard as you click on the url

**BjB:** take a couple minutes to explore and then come back to the chat screen

**BjB:** everyone back?

**MagdaG:** yes

**BjB:** suggestions? ideas that you can use in your classroom?

**KellyAC:** yes

**BjB:** can you share, Kelly?

**MagdaG:** In fact, I couldn't explore, there must be something wrong

**BjB:** hmmm...you'll have to try again later when you get your transcript, Magda

**KellyAC:** I like the idea that it is art. We don't seem to have the time to incorporate art into the daily schedule.

**BjB:** you might want to try exchanging postcards with another class

**KellyAC:** What is neat too is that you can meet writing standards too.

**BjB:** or design postcards that have to do with a topic the class is studying

**BjB** nods to Kelly

**KellyAC:** I like that idea. I know that this will be a great project for our GATE (Gifted) students.

**BjB:** next site: Draw and Tell a Story <http://www.drawandtell.com/pictales/dt/hbdt.html>

**BjB:** did you get that site, Magda?

**MagdaG:** There must be something wrong with my computer, I hold the control key and can get it

**BjB:** you have a pop up blocker, Magda. ctrl overrides the pop up blocker

**MagdaG:** that must be the problem

**BjB:** this site should give you some fun ideas. I'll bet the kids can make up their own stories

**KellyAC:** What a great site for the English Learners. They can be involved in making a story and following along with the story too. This kind of reminds me of training I went to where you use drawings to teach lessons (GLAD)

**BjB:** cool, Kelly

**BjB:** can also integrate math (shapes) as well as writing

**BjB:** even the little ones have a life story...the next site is Life Storywriting Network

**BjB:** <http://www.lifestorywriting.net/lswkids.htm>

**BjB:** of course, this would be lovely as an illustrated book that the child makes

**BjB:** o O ( could even be a simple chapter book that gets written over a long period of time )

**KellyAC:** what would be neat is if you were able to post these stories on a class/school website

**BjB:** yes, I agree, Kelly

**BjB:** another idea for the stories is to make shape books

**KellyAC:** you could actually combine the draw and tell story with the lifestory writing

**BjB:** here is a page on making a paper bag book  
[http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt\\_room/sparkers/artist\\_book/make\\_a\\_book.html](http://www.arts.ufl.edu/art/rt_room/sparkers/artist_book/make_a_book.html)

**MagdaG:** I feel that I am missing many good ideas

**BjB:** this site has some very cool ideas <http://www.makingbooks.com/projects.html>

**KellyAC:** I use this type of book in all areas. I love them. They are great for mini dictionaries and stories.

**BjB:** Magda, all the urls will be in your transcript

**MagdaG:** I know, I writing them down too.

**BjB:** if you're really brave you can include pop ups  
<http://robertsabuda.com/popmakesimple.asp>

**KellyAC:** I don't know if I am that brave with 30 students. :smiles

**BjB:** chuckles. Might be a little bit much

**BjB:** although you could make a simple mouth...would be a good story prompt

**KellyAC:** That is true. That could be used in plays (to meet our performing arts standards)

**BjB:** 2/3 might be a bit young for a thesaurus, but this is such a cool site I'm going to share as a way to connect words

**BjB:** <http://www.visualthesaurus.com/index.jsp?vt>

**KellyAC:** what a great site. At my level, we are just starting to introduce the thesaurus. What a cool way to do that.

**BjB:** I see they've gone to pay format, but you can still look at a couple sites. I searched for dog

**BjB:** and got some wonderful connections

**BjB:** it's not that expensive...might be worth it

**BjB:** two more sites to share

**KellyAC:** what a great tool. I wish I had that when I was in school

**BjB:** digital storytelling is a hot topic and this site is about the best

**BjB:** <http://www.storycenter.org/index.html>

**BjB:** it goes well with the life story idea

**KellyAC:** that is neat

**BjB:** two people from the storycenter lead the workshop I attended this summer...pretty awesome

**KellyAC:** have you used this idea with your students?

**BjB:** not yet.

**BjB:** I'm doing a workshop on the project for our local arts council on Monday

**KellyAC:** neat

**BjB:** last site for today....this is for older students, but might give you some ideas on how to use songs

**BjB:** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/radio2/soldonsong/>

**BjB** . o O ( maybe illustrate a favorite song )

**MagdaG:** Bj What would be the best site for a Spanish teachers?

**KellyAC:** are these songs free to download or is there a charge?

**BjB:** looks like you can just download. I haven't tried it, Kelly

**BjB:** Magda, any of the sites could be adapted for foreign language

**KellyAC:** I think that all these sites would work great in a Spanish class.

**MagdaG:** Good. I need to incorporate art projects to make my lessons more attractive.

**BjB:** I'm going to give you my backflip folder on arts and literacy

**BjB:** <http://www.backflip.com/members/bjberquist/8090649>

**BjB:** there is a folder on ESL that might have some stuff you can use, Magda

**BjB** . o O ( probably lots of dead links, but most should be ok )

**MagdaG:** Thank you.

**BjB:** readers theater is another good way to include arts and literacy

**BjB:** any questions?

**BjB:** Did you find the session useful?

**MagdaG:** I work a lot with ELD students. I am sure this will help me.

**MagdaG:** Yes.

**KellyAC:** not at this time. Thank you. I found the session very informative and useful.

**KellyAC:** I have some great resources for my school.

**KellyAC:** and class

**BjB:** Thanks for participating in the discussion, Kelly and Magda!

**KellyAC:** Thank you.

**MagdaG:** Thank you.