

Title of Session: The Art of Storytelling - Online Storytelling Tool
Moderator: Thomas Hammond and Glen Bull
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Room: The Art of Storytelling Group

BjB: Welcome to today's Storytelling discussion.

BjB: you are in for a major treat. We have two very special guests leading this discussion about an online digital storytelling tool

BjB: Please welcome Tom Hammond and Glen Bull.

ThomasCH waves

LizetH: Hello!

GlenB: Hi everyone!

JeffCoop joined the room.

LeniD joined the room.

GlenB: Hi Leni

ThomasCH waves

LeniD: Hello Glen. Hi, Thomas.

LeniD: Tom

GlenB: In other words, are some folks new to PrimaryAccess?

LizetH: Yes

KimCo: yes

GlenB: And are others experienced users?

LeniD: I'm somewhere in between, Glen.

GlenB: We thought if there was divergence in the group

GlenB: you might want to split up

GlenB: But we could also stay together if you like.

BjB: a reminder to all participants to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on larger text

LeniD: It's a small group - that might work, Glen.

BjB: once we get situated you can detach

RachelJa: I've never used Digital Storytelling

GlenB: OK ... perhaps we should start there

GlenB: Tom & I like to begin by showing a sample movie

BjB sits on her hands and let's Glen and Tom take over

GlenB: I think Leni may have already seen this ..

GlenB: This is a story developed [by] some middle school (7th grade)

LeniD: It's been a while!

GlenB: students in a local history class

GlenB: I'm going to give you a URL that will allow you to access the movie in a web browser

GlenB: You have to have Flash installed (Ver 8), but most will

GlenB: You also need speakers to hear the sound.

BjB . o O (make sure you hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click on the url)

GlenB: Thanks BJ!

GlenB: Here's the URL

GlenB: <http://www.primaryaccess.org/show.php?id=271>

ThomasCH: While we're waiting...what do people see?

LizetH: Japanese camps

ThomasCH: Great -- so the movie's playing

ThomasCH: ...at least for Lizet

LizetH: Yes

KimCo: yes

RachelJa: I've got it

SusanR: yes

ThomasCH: ...So now that everyone has seen the movie...

KimCo: cool, impressive

ThomasCH: ...what was the topic?

RachelJa: This reminds me of a photostory that a teacher I worked with did.

ThomasCH: Great!

ThomasCH: How did she frame the assignment?

LizetH: On the bombing of Pearl Harbor

ThomasCH: Lizet: the overall topic was WW2

ThomasCH: and within this frame, the teacher identified several

ThomasCH: sub-topics

ThomasCH: This particular duo worked on Japanese-American internment

LizetH: Oh, okay

LizetH: thanks

LizetH: for clearing that up for me

ThomasCH: ...did anyone pick up on the photos of Manzanar?

ThomasCH: ..seen them before?

RachelJa: I've not

LizetH: I have not seen them before

GlenB: Where do think the photo might have come from?

RachelJa: The internet

GlenB: Hint -- there's someone in the room associated with this institution

ThomasCH: Rachel: yes

SusanR: primary sources

GlenB: Of course the photo is from the Internet -- but any guesses about what archive?

KimCo: Is it in one of the collections if you are a guest in DigitalStoryteller?

LizetH: NO

GlenB: Good guess -- but actually this is a government archive

KimCo: American History Collection?

GlenB: (in Washington - yes .. but another institution)

BjB . o O (hint: initials are LOC)

ThomasCH: Well, take a look:

ThomasCH: <http://memory.loc.gov/pnp/ppprs/00200/00226r.jpg>

GlenB: Exactly

GlenB: Tom just put up a link to the photo at the Library of Congress

KimCo: Ahh

GlenB: Take a quick look.

LizetH: Okay

RachelJa: I take it they have lots of pictures?

LizetH: can we access pictures from the library congress without asking for permission

GlenB: A couple

GlenB: Many are in the public domain.

GlenB: However, PrimaryAccess does not download these images

GlenB: It only access them via a web link

GlenB: We've discussed this with National Gallery of Art and other institutions

BjB: there are several archived transcripts done with the LOC that you may want to visit.
www.tappedin.org/transcripts

GlenB: They've indicated that they would actually encourage this use.

GlenB: It respects the copyright holder's rights.

ThomasCH: So the concept is this: the image is being read into the movie in real-time, every time you load it.

ThomasCH: The big advantage is that we respect copyright...

ThomasCH: ...but there's also a downside...

ThomasCH: ...can anyone think of that?

KimCo: timing may be off?

RachelJa: If you don't have the picture online you can't access it.

GlenB: Yes but even more

ThomasCH: Good thought, but not much

ThomasCH: Rachel: yes

GlenB: the server at LOC may be down

ThomasCH: So we try to link only to archives and other sources that have stable links

ThomasCH: -- not to mention high-quality historical docs

GlenB: Generally the record at LOC is good

GlenB: Would you like to see how the students made the movie?

LizetH: yes

KimCo: yes

RachelJa: yes

ThomasCH: Great!

LeniD: Yes

ThomasCH: Here comes another URL

FredK: yes

ThomasCH: <http://www.primaryaccess.org/>

GlenB: Leni - when we see you next week, we can give you a demo of the most recent version of PrimaryAccess.

BjB: welcome, Borivoj.

LeniD: Great!

ThomasCH: Someone tell me what you see on your screen, so I can confirm that we're in the right spot

ThomasCH: (please)

BjB: we're looking at www.primaryaccess.org

KimCo: yes

RachelJa: Primary access home

ThomasCH: Great

ThomasCH: So this is the start page

ThomasCH: Note that there is documentation, etc.

ThomasCH: But where do we want to go?

ThomasCH: (Hint: it's the second tab from the left!)

RachelJa: make movies

KimCo: make movies

GlenB: Yes!

LizetH: make movies

ThomasCH: Exactly -- click that, please

ThomasCH: ...and tell me what we get

RachelJa: a login and video screen

KimCo: ditto

LizetH: I get a small screen

LeniD: Yep.

ThomasCH: OK...we were going for a "notebook" idea

ThomasCH: ...but I like what you said better!

ThomasCH: Let's log in with the following info:

ThomasCH: for the Name, enter

ThomasCH: 1internment1

GlenB: That's the number "1" not the letter "l" at the beginning and end.

ThomasCH: For the password, do nothing -- don't do anything with it --

ThomasCH: -- just skip straight to "Log in"

GlenB: I.E. use the default password

ThomasCH: "Log-in"

ThomasCH: Once you've done that, describe what you see

RachelJa: a list of items

LizetH: I see a list of items that can be loaded

ThomasCH: Yup -- click on "Buford - WW2 beta"

KimCo: yes

ThomasCH: The concept is that the student might have more than one activity going at once

LizetH: okay

ThomasCH: In this case we just have the one

ThomasCH: Once the activity loads, you get the instructions

ThomasCH: But we want to see pictures, right?

ThomasCH: So click on "Find"

ThomasCH: -- it's the third tab on the left-hand side of the notebook

ThomasCH: What does the Find screen look like?

LizetH: it has a list of pictures we might want to see

RachelJa: list of photos

KimCo: timeline and some photo choices

ThomasCH: Right. How many photos in the list?

RachelJa: 5

LizetH: 102

KimCo: 102

JeffC joined the room.

ThomasCH: Right -- they're listed five at a time

RachelJa: 102

ThomasCH: Note that 102 is WAY too many for 7th-graders, as we found out...

ThomasCH: But we do have a handy search box

ThomasCH: In the search box, try typing "Manzanar"

ThomasCH: What happens?

RachelJa: went to 22-26

KimCo: now only 7 to choose from

ThomasCH: Correct

ThomasCH: Try the first one on the list (#22)

LizetH: I have a list of pictures that have the title manzanar

GlenB: There are 7 photos of Manzanar

LizetH: okay

KimCo: looks familiar

ThomasCH: Great!

GlenB: This is just a link to the photo at the Library of Congress.

GlenB: In other words, the image is coming from the LOC server.

ThomasCH: Note that you get the image AND some contextual info --

ThomasCH: -- why might that be important?

LeniD: How would users know that, Glen?

ThomasCH: Leni: The "link" will take you there...if it works

ThomasCH: Since the page this came from was temporary, the CGI is now expired

ThomasCH: and it isn't productive

LeniD: Yes, so I see

GlenB: We're still in the process of thinking through what info to display, and how

LeniD: Gotcha.

ThomasCH: But to get back to the question of contextual info -- why is that important?

ThomasCH: ...Bueller?

GlenB: They're not going to get that reference, Tom.

RachelJa: so you know what the picture is of.

ThomasCH hangs his head

ThomasCH: Rachel: correct

LeniD: I got it, Tom

LizetH: to know where it is coming from

ThomasCH: We're trying to improve off of the images.google.com situation

RachelJa: I got it

KimCo: great!

ThomasCH: in which kids get images that aren't appropriate or aren't correct

ThomasCH: or are out of context

ThomasCH: (or pirated!)

GlenB: or worse

ThomasCH: So we're adding things that we think are useful for history instruction

ThomasCH: Now let's see how the students built the movie

ThomasCH: On the left-hand side, hit the "Script" tab

ThomasCH: Now hit the "Load" button and select "Version 1"

ThomasCH: What do you see?

LizetH: story line

KimCo: yes

RachelJa: a story

ThomasCH: So this is where they composed their script

ThomasCH: What's on the left side of the script?

LizetH: pictures

ThomasCH: (The boxes, not the circles)

RachelJa: pictures

KimCo: pics

ThomasCH: Yes -- these are the pics they selected

ThomasCH: On the right-hand side, hit the "My Folder" tab

ThomasCH: These are the images they pulled from the list to use

ThomasCH: And now notice the bar dividing the script from the images

ThomasCH: These are notes left by the teacher as feedback to the students

LizetH: I don't see it

GlenB: (the circles)

LeniD: I see only a blank screen, too.

GlenB: (circles with an "N" for note)

KimCo: cool

GlenB: Ah ha!

LizetH: okay

ThomasCH: These are notes left by the teacher as feedback to the students

GlenB: Try dragging the middle note to the right

GlenB: What happens?

RachelJa: a note popped up

KimCo: the note opens, awesome

LizetH: I see the actual note

GlenB: This is how the script got to be so well done

LizetH: so how would we be able to add notes

GlenB: The teacher, Ms Roche, left notes as prompts for the students

ThomasCH: Again, we're trying to improve on the existing model

ThomasCH: and the existing model is iMovie

ThomasCH: -- it's impossible to give feedback on iMovie w/o sitting down with the students

ThomasCH: We wanted something the teacher could do from home just by logging in

ThomasCH: (like us), reading, and leaving notes

LizetH: but how could we insert notes in the digital story

GlenB: The "Notes" option is under the "Save" button

GlenB: The option that says, "Leave a comment"

GlenB: We found that students working in pairs

GlenB: also used this feature to collaborate with one another.

KimCo: great idea

LeniD: Excellent.

ThomasCH: Thanks

LeniD: It shouldn't be working in this demo, right?

RachelJa: That's wonderful!

ThomasCH: To see the final version of the film, hit "Load" again

ThomasCH: and select "published"

ThomasCH: Notice that once you load the last version, the students have a longer script

ThomasCH: and they have used more images

GlenB: Tom thought the students need to have the option to work through several versions

GlenB: and go back to their earlier work if they wanted

ThomasCH: Work at any stage can be shared over the web

ThomasCH: if you go to the "Start" tab

ThomasCH: and scroll to the bottom

ThomasCH: ...you'll see that original URL we sent you

GlenB: This URL is generated when the students select the "Publish" option

KimCo: how neat!

LizetH: awesome

GlenB: It then allows them to share the movie with any one over the web.

ThomasCH: Shall we play with a movie of our own?

RachelJa: That's wonderful!

KimCo: yes

LizetH: yes

ThomasCH: OK, let's log out ...

RachelJa: sure

ThomasCH: ...this is done by hitting "Refresh" in your browser

ThomasCH: (I know, I know, it's silly)

BjB . o O (of the movie...not the Tapped In window!)

GlenB: good save, BJ!

LizetH: oops

ThomasCH: OK, so assuming that you refreshed the PrimaryAccess window, what do you see?

LizetH: the home page

KimCo: yep

RachelJa: the login page

ThomasCH: Lizet -- do you see the login box?

LeniD: I'm with Rachel.

GlenB: Great!

JeffCoop: url again please?

GlenB: So we're going to log in again

ThomasCH: <http://www.primaryaccess.org/pa.htm>

GlenB: We'll (surprisingly) use "tappedin" as the login

GlenB: and also as the password

GlenB: So enter "tappedin" In the "Name" box

GlenB: and in the "Password" box below it

LizetH: okay

KimCo: i'm there

JeffC is logged in... looks great.

GlenB: Do you see some items to load?

RachelJa: me too

KimCo: yes

RachelJa: yes

LizetH: yes

GlenB: Which one do you think we want?

KimCo: tapped in demo

RachelJa: demo

GlenB: exactly

LizetH: I agree

ThomasCH: OK, now that we're logged and loaded, go to "Find"

ThomasCH: What do you see?

LizetH: a list of pictures again

ThomasCH: **LizetH:** it should be blank

KimCo: no picture choices

RachelJa: no pics

LeniD: no pics

ThomasCH: Lizet: Return to "Start" and hit "Load" and tell me what you see

ThomasCH: Rachel & Leni: Welcome to our blank slate

RachelJa: thanks

ThomasCH: Let's wait a sec to hear back from Lizet

LizetH: I see a list of instructions

ThomasCH: Lizet: Hit "Load Activities" and tell me what you see

LizetH: do you need to click on tapped in demo

ThomasCH: Yes

ThomasCH: ...and then come to "Find"

LizetH: it will not let me

LizetH: got it

GlenB: Great!

GlenB: OK Then in "Options" pull in "Load tagged pix" -- choose "story2"

ThomasCH: What's going on here is that you're searching through our database

ThomasCH: ...you're searching for any picture tagged with "story2"

RachelJa: okay

KimCo: okay

ThomasCH: After you type it, hit "OK" and tell me what you get

RachelJa: a list of pics

KimCo: 5 choices

LizetH: a list of pictures

ThomasCH: Great -- tell me what you think the pics describe

LeniD: 5 choices

ThomasCH: Leni: This is from an activity I do called 5-picture Charades

RachelJa: Charades

KimCo: Charades

LizetH: charades

ThomasCH: The students have to get into groups and within ten minutes pick a story and shoot 5 pictures of it

GlenB: [Note - these pictures are not from the Library of Congress]

ThomasCH: Your challenge is to figure out what is the story

GlenB: <grin>

LeniD: These folks are having too much fun!

ThomasCH: So: click on a picture and scroll through using the green arrows

KimCo: Cinderella!

LizetH: Cinderella

LizetH: I agree

ThomasCH: Ding ding ding@!

GlenB: You got it!

RachelJa: me too

LizetH: the slipper shoes

ThomasCH: So: add the picture to your folder by hitting "Add to Folder"

GlenB: one at a time

ThomasCH: Once you have all five pictures in your Folder, bring up the "Script" panel on the left

LizetH: okay

KimCo: Does the order of the pics matter?

RachelJa: ok

GlenB: You can rearrange them

KimCo: ok

ThomasCH: in your folder

GlenB: by dragging them around

GlenB: Now we need to write a story in the script editor

ThomasCH: Assuming you have the Script panel up

ThomasCH: ...type in a sentence

ThomasCH: And remember that Cinderella attends UVA in this version

LizetH: okay

ThomasCH: Once you have a sentence or two, try dragging a picture from the right

LizetH: for each or just the first one

GlenB: Your choice

ThomasCH: You can drop the picture in the space to the left of the script

GlenB: but we'll need a sentence for each picture eventually.

LeniD: Hmm... can't seem to add the pic.

GlenB: We designed this so that a student can't make a movie without writing ...

KimCo: good idea

GlenB: so it is important to have at least one sentence in the text editor.

GlenB: Students like to make movies, but don't always like to write. <grin>

GlenB: The movie is the reward for writing

KimCo: very motivational

LizetH: I agree

GlenB: We're thinking about metaphors for combining images and words

GlenB: If you have a couple of sentences with pictures beside them

GlenB: you're ready to play your (currently silent) movie

GlenB: If you want, you can press return to move a sentence down the page

GlenB: if you need more room between pictures

LizetH: yes

GlenB: We're just doing a rough and ready job here (rough cut?) so you can get the idea of how it works.

GlenB: Does everyone have a couple of sentences and a couple of pictures on the left-hand panel?

KimCo: yes

GlenB: OK - if you're this far, select the "View" Tab on the right-hand side of the screen.

ThomasCH: Once the View tab is up, hit the big green "Play" button

ThomasCH: (looks like a triangle)

ThomasCH: What do you get?

RachelJa: yes

GlenB: Voila!

KimCo: cool!

ThomasCH: ...you all have movies playing, right?

RachelJa: yes

KimCo: yes

GlenB: You're almost ready for the Sundance film festival

LeniD: Right. How is the text tracking... not sure I said that right...

RachelJa: How do you make more time between pictures or make it slower

LeniD: Is the text associated with each image, and plays only with that image?

ThomasCH: Great questions

ThomasCH: The script IS the timeline

LizetH: sorry how do we play it again

ThomasCH: ...so if you've used iMovie, the words replace the timeline bar

ThomasCH: Lizet: Just hit the triangle again

KimCo: so we should move our pictures if they aren't with the correct words?

GlenB: Yes

ThomasCH: (Intuitive!)

GlenB: Note that as you move a picture

ThomasCH: (Once you get the logic)

LeniD: Thinking about literacy and pre-reading options out loud.

GlenB: the text associated with it is highlighted in red

ThomasCH: When you move an image along the script, the green text shows the entry point

GlenB: When you play the movie, the same text is highlighted in blue.

KimCo: how easy!

GlenB: We wanted to create a link between word & image

RachelJa: kids would love this.

LizetH: okay

ThomasCH: Shall we play with pans and zooms?

LizetH: sure

KimCo: yes!

GlenB: Ready for "advanced" features then.

RachelJa: sure

ThomasCH: On the View tab, hit "Set Motion"

ThomasCH: Note that you get two boxes in the lower half of the tab -- one is

ThomasCH: Start, one is End

ThomasCH: the Start is the framing for the beginning of the pic's time on screen

ThomasCH: and the End box shows the final position

ThomasCH: You can adjust either by selecting it and then re-positioning the yellow box

ThomasCH wonders if he did WAY too much WAY too fast

LeniD: cool!

LizetH: yes

GlenB: For the technically inclined, we're rendering this in real time

ThomasCH: Lizet: yes, too fast, or yes you got it?

KimCo: very cool!

GlenB: In other words, the movie / motion is generated at the moment that you press "Play"

RachelJa: cool

LizetH: yes too fast

ThomasCH: Lizet: I'll work with you in a private chat

LizetH: kool

GlenB: The motion is a vocabulary of its own

GlenB: Until now there hasn't been an easy way for students to explore this vocabulary

GlenB: But now we're moving into the "Age of Participation"

GlenB: Rather than passively watching media produced by others,

GlenB: the eventual goal is for students to work in this medium as well -- and they generally find it fun & motivational if the tool doesn't get in the way. <grin>

GlenB: So, the question is, what kinds of tools might we design specifically for learning?

GlenB: Currently most tools we use in schools are adapted from the business or entertainment worlds

GlenB: Let's stop for comments and discussion before we move on.

GlenB: Thoughts and reactions?

LeniD: So the numbers are orienting on the black screen? You want kids to begin understanding what they are doing by manipulating their movies?

KimCo: I like the fact that the kids have to write FIRST.

LeniD: Rather inarticulate question... hope it made sense.

GlenB: Leni - we would like the program to handle the technical part (and basically drop out of the equation)

RachelJa: You could have them write a story and illustrate it.

RachelJa: And scan the pics and load them in.

RachelJa: To make their own story

LeniD: What are the left, top, numbers etc for, then?

ThomasCH: Leni: Those describe the position of the pan/zoom box on the full image

ThomasCH: They're technical details that make Bill Ferster happy...

ThomasCH: ...and are useful for lining up shot continuity

GlenB: but not part of our pedagogical plan

GlenB: There are also features that we incorporated to help debug the program

GlenB: and haven't yet gotten around to removing

LeniD: Ah

GlenB: Rachel - great idea!

GlenB: We included the capability for students to upload their pics on Flickr

GlenB: Then they can incorporate them into their own stories.

KimCo: We'd select the Flickr pics from the Find tab?

LeniD: I saw that, Glen. I'm curious about how that is done.

ThomasCH: Same as before: Go to "Find"

ThomasCH: and then hit the Options button

ThomasCH: Which option looks good?

KimCo: Pix from Flickr

ThomasCH: Yup

GlenB: you got it!

ThomasCH: Pop open the box and type this --

ThomasCH: T. Hammond/story

GlenB: be sure to leave a space between "T." and "Hammond"

GlenB: or use the pasteboard feature in Tapped in to copy

ThomasCH: Tell me what you get...

LizetH: sorry where are we at

ThomasCH: Lizet: we are on the "Find" tab

KimCo: I got a message "couldn't find user on Flickr"

ThomasCH: Huh

LeniD: Couldn't find this user on Flickr

ThomasCH: Glen has the same thing

ThomasCH: Mine load like a champ

ThomasCH: so *I* have pictures...

RachelJa: couldn't find message

ThomasCH: ...anyone else?

LeniD: Maybe it has to be your own account that you access?

GlenB: This may be because Tom is not a real person?

ThomasCH: Last I checked...

GlenB: No ... but the pictures do have to be public

ThomasCH: ...and they are...

KimCo: Haven't used Flickr at school, will most filters allow it?

LeniD: Public makes sense... otherwise they're behind a password.

ThomasCH: Kim: Depends

GlenB: Yes

ThomasCH: I was presenting at a university and THEY had blocked flickr...

ThomasCH: ...as well as blogspot....

KimCo: ahh yes, sounds familiar!

ThomasCH: So: while this is busy not working,

GlenB: Yes

ThomasCH: anyone else have a flickr account they feel like trying?

RachelJa: don't have one

SusanR: I do

RachelJa: how do we get one

LizetH: I don't have one either

GlenB: It's free

LeniD: Desperately trying to remember my logon.

GlenB: www.flickr.com

ThomasCH: Susan: if you don't mind us trying yours, feed us your username

ThomasCH: and we can pull your pictures into this and make movies

KimCo: at school would you set up a teacher account, or individual kids accounts?

SusanR: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/84584016@N00/>

ThomasCH: Susan: we'd need to know your profile name

GlenB: We're still soliciting feedback from teachers using this feature

GlenB: to get an idea of the best approaches to this, Kim

KimCo: I'll give it a try if it's not blocked!

GlenB: Either is a possibility

SusanR: not sure I thought it was sroseman..but doesn't work

GlenB: Flickr is a "Great!" service

GlenB: and probably worth an exploration on its own merits

GlenB: There are a zillion third-party flickr tools built to leverage its potential.

KimCo: it has certainly filled the blogosphere!

GlenB: Here's a long URL for Great Flickr Tools

GlenB: <http://www.quickonlinetips.com/archives/2005/03/great-flickr-tools-collection/>

ThomasCH: Susan: It (sroseman) works for me

GlenB: For example, try mappr

GlenB: <http://www.mappr.com/>

LizetH: I see it

ThomasCH: ...So...it's approaching Glen's bedtime...

ThomasCH: ...and I have a chapter to finish writing

ThomasCH: So I think we need to sign off in the next couple of minutes

ThomasCH: We've introduced you to the student end of the tool

RachelJa: I'm falling asleep at the computer

LeniD: Sorry to leave all this fun but I have to go, too.

BjB chuckles.

ThomasCH: but there is the whole how-to-set-this-up

LizetH: Okay

ThomasCH: ...but that will have to wait for a different session

LizetH: thanks a lot for the help

BjB: Thanks so much, Glen and Tom...this has been wonderful!

KimCo: and to finish and get a url for the movie?

ThomasCH: If anyone wants to explore on their own

ThomasCH: ...try these URLs

LeniD: Thanks so much. See you soon, gentlemen. Bye!

GlenB: goodnight, Leni

KimCo: Thanks a lot!

ThomasCH: <http://www.primaryaccess.org/teacher>

ThomasCH: Will let you register your own account

ThomasCH: and of course the main docs and everything

ThomasCH: are at

ThomasCH: <http://www.primaryaccess.org>

SusanR: Thanks Thomas and Glen ..fabulous application for students

LeniD: Thanks!

ThomasCH: You're welcome, and have a good night!

LizetH: Good night!

RachelJa: Thanks for everything, this was great. Goodnight to all.

GlenB: We enjoyed it -- and look forward to feedback . <smile>

FredK: Thanks

GlenB: Good night