Title of Session: The Art of Storytelling - Wikis
Moderator: BJ Berquist
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Room: The Art of Storytelling Group

BJB2: Welcome to today's Art of Storytelling discussion

BJB2: the topic is Storytelling and Wikis

BJB2: let's start with introductions please

BJB2: share your location, what you teach and your interest in storytelling

DeniseRo: I am a student teacher

BJB2: I'm a communications teacher in Pennsylvania

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm one of the HelpDesk volunteers and I lead a discussion about math education and technology. I'm in soggy New Jersey, near soggy New York City

AtifaM: Texas, 4-8 student teacher in social studies which is basically one big story

DeniseRo: I am in TX

FredK: I am a tutor for the Pushmataha County Literacy Council in SE Oklahoma looking for ways to enhance our program

BJB2: what do you hope to teach, Denise?

DeniseRo: I will be EC - 4 and hope for second or below

KellieGst2: I teach 4-7 Social Studies in Virginia

EmilyMH: I'm an Instructional Technology Resource Teacher in VA

SusanR: I reside in Ontario, Canada. I am an OT (Occasional Teacher) and facilitate the K to 3+ Great Resources sessions here at TI

BJB2: The topic for today is Storytelling and Wikis and I thought I'd have the group do some collaboration...

BJB2: and share a really fun search engine that Sue shared with me earlier today

DeniseRo: sounds good

BJB2: take a look at www.msdewey.com

BJB2: when it loads, enter storytelling wikis

EmilyMH: I'm there...enter storytelling wikis as the search term?

AtifaM: when I click on the site it automatically minimizes the conversation is that normal?

BJB2 . o O (she gets a little impatient if you don't ask her a question)

BJB2: yes, Emily

EmilyMH: very chic

SusanR: She can be a tad slow

BJB2: not a problem, Atifa, as long as you know how to get back to the chat

AtifaM: yeah, it just gets a little annoying having to click back and forth, when I'm on the site I have no idea what's being typed in the discussion so I might be slow

DavidWe: Try to overlap the windows, Atifa

BJB2: we're taking a look at Ms. Dewey and searching for storytelling wikis

DavidWe: So, you can see the chat text move in the window...that helps, sometimes

BJB2 agrees with David. Thanks

DavidWe: I usually put the chat window towards the right side of my screen

AtifaM: thanks, I can work with that

PattyMc: I'm on the website now

BJB2 smiles. I usually put the chat on the left side of my screen so I can see if the chat is scrolling.

KellieGst2: The site is still loading on my computer

DavidWe smiles

BJB2: there are a zillion hits...

DeniseRo: I'm on the site but I don't see anything

FredK: My window says we are done, but the lady says loading

SusanR: 80,500 hits

DavidWe: It sometimes takes a bit of time to load Ms. Dewey

BJB2: did anyone look at Jake's wiki?

AtifaM: not yet

BJB2: http://jakes.editme.com/storytelling

DeniseRo: not yet

FredK: not yet

EmilyMH: looking now

PattyMc: I can't get the page to load

BJB2: try the other url I posted, Patty

BJB2: http://jakes.editme.com/storytelling

PattyMc: Sorry I got the i and the t mixed up...I got it now

BJB2: did anyone else find something that catches your eye?

FredK . o O (Ms. Dewey must have bitten a lemon)

BJB2 grins at Fred

PattyMc: I liked the digital storytelling to young readers

AtifaM: I use digital storytelling a lot

BJB2: have you tried using a wiki, Atifa?

AtifaM: nope and to be honest this is the first time I've heard of it

PattyMc: really? How does it work

BJB2: oh...fun! We've created a wiki for this group!

KellieGst2: Don't feel bad. I've not heard of it either.

PattyMc: I read books all the time to my students and I am always looking for better ways to read stories

CindyShe: a wiki

FredK shifted to Jakes wiki

BJB2: if you type your email, I'll add you as members

BJB2: http://tappedin.wikispaces.com/

BJB2: go to that url and you can see our wiki so far...

PattyMc: how do you do a digital story where can I find more information about it

BJB2: Patty, there are many resources in this room. When you get time, come back here and look on the web screen

PattyMc: that sounds perfect!

KellieGst2: This is really neat. I would like to have my students create stories like this to share with others.

AtifaM: I'm looking at a story about a dark and stormy night, am I in the right spot

PattyMc: that's where I am

KellieGst2: that's where I am too

AtifaM: sounds good

DeniseRo: that's where I am I hope it's right

FredK . o O (Good place to be)

BJB2: I've just emailed an invite to you all

CindyShe: thanks

BJB2: Sue's been added

DeniseRo: Thank you

FredK is getting on yahoo

BJB2: once you join the wiki, you or your students can add to our story

EmilyMH: is wikispaces free?

DeniseRo: I work with 3 grade now and getting them to write is hard

BJB2: this one is mostly an experiment in what we can do...and learning how to add features

BJB2: yes, wikispaces is FREE

EmilyMH: excellent

BJB2: someplace, I have an email so you can get a free teachers edition

AtifaM: I see the same story, is there where I'm suppose to be

EmilyMH: I worked on a blog project with an 8th grade remediation English course

EmilyMH: They LOVE to be published

BJB2: sometimes knowing that the writing is going to be published on the web, the students are more motivated

PattyMc: I've gotten the email and it was easy to register

BJB2 agrees with Emily

FredK wonders about the difference between wikis and blogs

BJB2: wikis are collaborative, Fred

PattyMc: I agree that this would be much more motivating than just having students write papers

EmilyMH: all contributing to the same piece of writing in a wiki

AtifaM: I agree

BJB2: blogs are usually just a give and take dialogue. Any member of a wiki can edit

AtifaM: majority of the struggle is getting them motivated to do something, so I agree that they would be more motivated this route

BJB2: Adam Frey, who is one of the creators of WikiSpaces...

DeniseRo: Are there any other ideas of how to get students to write other than publishing?

BJB2: is going to do a repeat discussion on December 6

BJB2: Denise, you should join the WriteTalk discussions and Sue's K-3+ Resources discussions!

DeniseRo: ok

BJB2: many of the events in Tapped In offer ideas for writing

BJB2: one very simple way is to create a student group in Tapped In...

BJB2: and have the students post to the threaded discussion board

SusanR: I am doing a session on Reading Strategies and an upcoming session is on Writing Strategies, Denise

EmilyMH: writing for a purpose helps

EmilyMH: authentic activities that mean something

DeniseRo: When are the sessions?

SusanR . o O (writing for an audience)

SusanR: next Tuesday, Denise

PattyMc: I hear about authentic learning all the time I teach special education

FredK: The Email didn't show up yet

BJB2: and having an authentic audience is important...and nothing is more authentic than having peers edit your work

PattyMc: that is true

PattyMc: how do you create a new story in wikispace

BJB2: Patty, you have to log in and then you can start a new page

PattyMc: gottcha

EmilyMH: a similar feature is available through google docs and spreadsheets...not a wiki but interesting for collaborative pieces with colleagues

EmilyMH: another cool thing about wikis is being able to view edits by author

EmilyMH: which works well when tracking student progress as a teacher

BJB2: there are several Web 2.0 tools to do collaborative editing

BJB2: the main attraction of wikis is the web publication...not just the web access

PattyMc: how do you delete a page if you don't like the one you created?

PattyMc: can anybody in the world access and add to your story?

BJB2: as long as they are members of the wiki

PattyMc: that ties in with what we are talking about in class...how to get the whole world involved in your classroom this seems like an excellent way to do that

AtifaM: Is there anyway to lock it in a sense so only your class can edit and modify a story

BJB2: Yes, I believe you can do that, Atifa. Some wikis are password protected so only specific people can view the wiki

AtifaM: that's really cool

DeniseRo: that's neat. my class is involved in the great mail race and would take the place of snail mail

PattyMc: I like this much better than bloggin. I've always thought blogging wasnt' the best idea in the clasroom

PattyMc: what's the mail reace

AtifaM: yeah I'm not a big fan of blogging

EmilyMH: I actually really enjoy blogging

EmilyMH: The kids start to identify each other's work by their username

BJB2: here's the transcript from Adam Frey's first wiki discussion: http://ti2data.sri.com/transcripts/specialevents/2006/20061011wikispaces.pdf

AtifaM: I have to write and add to my blog for technology and I feel like I'm just talking to myself

PattyMc: I think it's neat for adults but I think this is much better in the classroom....we do blogs for my college class and it's always hard to communicate with others

DeniseRo: students from other states write to schools in other states in hope to learn more about that school and state

EmilyMH: and if they get to the point where they are maintaining their own linked blog to the class blog, they have a publishing forum for posting homework, essays

EmilyMH: That mail race sounds like fun for your kids

EmilyMH: Is it easy to keep them motivated?

DeniseRo: they are interested in doing this but having them actually write is a different story

BJB2: they are using snail mail, Denise?

DeniseRo: yes

AtifaM: what's snail mail and mail race?

BJB2: snail mail is using the postal service to deliver actual letters

AtifaM: oh...hence snail mail :o)

PattyMc: how does it work?

BJB2 nods solemnly. This is the SPEEEEEED generation!

BJB2: who is coordinating the mail race?

DeniseRo: check out www.greatschools.net

DeniseRo: this is about the race

DeniseRo: I don't know the coordinator

BJB2: thanks, Denise.

DeniseRo: my school received a letter and that's how we got involved

PattyMc: where do you guys get information for stories? I always have a hard time coming up with ideas for writing stories

PattyMc: my students write on about a first grade level

EmilyMH: Jake had a list on his page

EmilyMH: but with the itty-bitties...choose visuals

SusanR: If I can jump in for a moment.

BJB2 listens to Sue.

SusanR: There are a number of online collaborative projects you may be interested in

SusanR: Jen Wagner was a guest here last month...you can check out a recent transcript

SusanR: Students LOVE online collaboration!!

SusanR: Jennifer Wagner, creator of TechnospudProjects, has put together some projects which can be as simplistic or involved

SusanR: Let me give you the link

SusanR: http://www.technospudprojects.com/

PattyMc: I'm thinking that maybe I could do a project collaboratively with a first grade classroom thank you for the link. I'm going to check it our

DeniseRo: thank you

SusanR: Do visit the archives of past projects and be sure to check out the calendar for upcoming projects

BJB2: don't forget that you can collaborate with classrooms in the student campus too

SusanR: http://www.technospudprojects.com/calendar.htm

BJB2: even the kinders can enter brief text to post to the discussion board

SusanR: Jen is working on her Charlotte's Web Project at the moment

SusanR: You may wish to get in on the Holiday Exchange project.

DeniseRo: what's that?

KellyLo: Holiday Exchange project??

BJB2: The holiday exchange is listed on the technospud page Sue gave you,

SusanR: http://www.technospudprojects.com/Projects/holidaycards/homepage.htm

PattyMc: I have enjoyed this session...Thank you for allowing me to sit in and learn

PattyMc: I gotta go....

EmilyMH: Have you used flickr very much for your storytelling projects?

SusanR: and the Charlotte's Web project has just opened up for registration.

BJB2: thanks for joining us, Patty

SusanR: http://www.technospudprojects.com/Projects/webproject/cwinfo.htm

BJB2: giving the children an opportunity for reflective writing on these projects is important also

BJB2: that might be a topic for a class wiki

BJB2: our time is almost up. Any last comments, questions, suggestions for next month's discussion?

DeniseRo: I'm glad I had the chance to get the resources and other tips

BJB2: thanks everyone for your contributions to the discussion...very impressive!

AtifaM: No I don't think I have any questions

DeniseRo: Have a good evening

BJB2 loves the collaboration that takes place in tapped In

SusanR: Perhaps we can take a look at this wiki http://pbwiki.com/

BJB2: sounds like a plan, Susan. Thanks for the suggestion.

SusanR: or go about creating one here for holiday recipes or whatever

SusanR: or holiday activities

BJB2: So, wikis for next month also?...on holiday activities?

EmilyMH: pbwiki is supposed to be easy to use

EmilyMH: (easy as peanut butter and jelly)

BJB2: wikispaces is very easy also

EmilyMH: but I like how wikispaces is laid out better

SusanR: watch for those allergies

BJB2 sighs...and thinks we better call it a night!

AtifaM: Thank you for a great discussion, I have definitely learned a lot. Good night

DeniseRo: good bye   to all

BJB2: Next storytelling discussion is Dec. 13

AtifaM: bye

DeniseRo: thank you

BJB2 waves goodnight