

Title of Session: ArtsConnectEd - Interdisciplinary Art Teaching Tool

Moderator: Kevan Nitzberg

Title of File: 20080228artsconnected

Date: February 28, 2008

Room: Kevan Nitzberg's Office

KevanN: Kim are you here as part of Cris Guenter's group?

KimberlyA1: No, I'm on my own

KevanN: Well, welcome aboard!

KimberlyA1: thank you

BjB: how about if we start with introductions?

KevanN: OK

BjB: I teach communication in Pennsylvania

KevanN: I am the Art Dept. Chair of Anoka H.S. in Minnesota and have been an ArtsConnectEd trainer for around 6 years

KimberlyA1: art education major and currently student teaching

KimberlyA1: I begin my hs rotation Monday

KevanN: Well, good luck in your future career!

KimberlyA1: thank you

KevanN: Have you had the chance to use ArtsCeonnectEd before?

KimberlyA1: no

KevanN: Well, I think that you will find it quite useful as a resource and as a teaching tool...

KevanN: I have some files pertaining to its use in my office that you can use in addition to the info that you get tonight

KevanN: Here is some introductory information about the site...

KevanN: It was developed by the Mpls. Institute of Art and the Walker Art Center

KevanN: The web site is an interactive learning environment centered on the visual arts for all groups of people...

KevanN: Among the features that it contains are a series of interactive learning programs, a publishable collection feature that can be used for journaling, and many more additional features that have amazing applications to learning about art

KevanN: Shall we take a trip to the site?

KimberlyA1 : ok, through your office?

KevanN: Click on the following address: <http://artsconnected.org>

KevanN: Don't forget to return to the chat screen for more direction and information

KimberlyA1 : ok, I think I got it

KevanN: You no longer need the www anymore

KevanN: click on the art gallery icon (head and frame)

KimberlyA1 : ok

KevanN: The screen is split into 2 different sides that have a different emphasis for different uses

KevanN: ok

KimberlyA1 : yes

KevanN: On the left is the search screen which will allow you to search the 2 museums' collections...

KevanN: On the right are a series of different programs...

KevanN: Topics in Focus is the icon that takes you to a series of additional pre-made learning environments - press on it now and I will introduce you to the selections

KimberlyA1 : ok

KevanN: Most of the programs' titles are self explanatory but you will find that the programs are very rich with information and interest - try clicking on the Art of Asia

KimberlyA1 : ok, looking at the pics

KevanN: This is a program that is further divided into additional categories for more specific functionality

KimberlyA1: is this good for the art class and other classes?

KevanN: There are even more avenues for you to explore by clicking on the Additional Resources guide up above

KevanN: You will find many, many layers such as this for all of the programs in Topics in Focus, sort of like peeling back an onion without the tears!

KevanN: Let's go back to the Topics in Focus menu to take a look at some of the others that are here...

KevanN: Using your browser's back button may be the easiest way

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Now, try the Artist's Toolkit - a series of animated films based on art at the MIA that teaches the elements of art and the principles of design

KevanN: This site also has different levels of functionality. Make sure that your sound is turned up.

KevanN: Click on the green triangle - Explore the Toolkit

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Here is the menu for the various animations that they have created - try the one titled Line

KevanN: If you are on a dial-up (as I am, these take a little while, but they are well worth the wait).

KevanN: The combination of animation, sound, voice and image is quite impressive

KimberlyA1: that is really cool, I can't wait to tell my sbte

KevanN: The final image is linked to Franz Marc's print, "Tiger"

KevanN: Here is another one suited for a Friday night (tomorrow) - click on Depth (in the Space section)

KimberlyA1: do you use this in your class?

KimberlyA1: how do your students like it?

KevanN: I do. They love the animations!

KevanN: The concepts are clearly illustrated in each clip

KevanN: You can also create your own collection of the film or films that you wish to show and email them to yourself for quick access

KevanN: OK, let's take a look at some more origrams in Topics in Focus

KevanN: Click on the chair icon = Modernism

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Various styles associated with architecture and interior / product design can be found here...

KevanN: They range from the British Arts and Crafts Style to American Art Deco

KevanN: Try one and see what you find (select a style that you are interested in)

KevanN: There are clickable images, video clips vocabulary links and a slide show of images for you to explore and share with your students (or better yet, have them go and take a look for themselves with some directed questions to answer and / or projects to design based on their research).

KevanN: The timeline (at the bottom of the page) helps to provide a context for when each style took place and what styles of items belong to which period

KevanN: Additional historical information is also provided that helps to add a cross-curricular focus to the information presented

KevanN: Ready for some more fun?

KimberlyA1: sure am

KevanN: OK...Click on Surrounded By Beauty in the Topics in Focus menu

KevanN: This site contains a wealth of information about Native American arts and culture

KevanN: By scrolling across the map different images pop up that belong to the peoples represented

KevanN: Scrolling across the map gives you different images connected to the

geographic regions

KevanN: and the Native American populations from those areas

KevanN: Click on the Northeast Woodlands

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Here again are many different levels for you to investigate...click on the Morrison collage above

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: George Morrison was a contemporary Ojibwe artist

KevanN: Click on Listen

KevanN: You will be able to hear him speak about his work by clicking on the audio files

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: You can also print out the audio transcripts by clicking under the last file

KevanN: Pretty neat stuff!

KimberlyA1: very neat

KevanN: OK...there is a ton here and in the other sections that you can explore and you can always come back and visit each month (I am on mostly every month), but there is one more feature that I want to start you on...

KevanN: Go back to the Art Gallery page

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: We are going to explore Art Collector

KevanN: This is where you will be able to learn how to create as well as how to teach your students to create their own publishable collections

KevanN: I am using this function now with students that I have in my online AP Art History class - they have to create a publishable art history journal that helps them review the reading material

BjB: Kevan has a tutorial for that here in his office, Kimberly

BjB . o O (under featured items)

KevanN: Would you like to see one of the student's works as well?

BjB : so you might want to add this room to your favorites

KimberlyA1 : are there lessons?

KimberlyA1 : ok

KevanN: Aw, BJ...(lol!)

KevanN: Not really lessons, but examples and a step by step document

KimberlyA1 : oh ok

KevanN: Here is an example of what one of my students is creating...

KevanN: <http://artsconnected.org/pub/meganlewis38508.cfm>

KevanN: Click on View the Collection on page 1

KimberlyA1 : it won't let me go there

KevanN: The text is created by the student and the images and links that she has included are created by using 2 simple html codes

KevanN: what is it saying?

KimberlyA1 : nothing, it is making a clicking noise and won't even try to go to the page

KevanN: strange...well let's try and get another one to work - go back to my office page

KimberlyA1 : ok

KevanN: Under links, click on Aesthetic Scans

KevanN: Did that work?

KimberlyA1 : ok

KimberlyA1 : yes it is working

KevanN: good! That was an early collection that I made

KevanN: Other examples of collections are also listed as links such as "Landscapes" Minnesota Art and Artists,..." Expansion of Visual Literacy Skills...",

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Let's get you to start one of your own.

KevanN: Go back to the Art Gallery page again

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: yes

KevanN: Great! Click on the box of marbles

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: The next screen that comes up will have another link on it that says New users click here - do that

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: You will now need to create your own log in and password - first type in your name as you want it to appear on all of your collections

KevanN: Then create a user name (or use an email address) - at least 6 characters long

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: You will then need to create a password and type it correctly 2X - NOTE: There is no reminder function in ArtsConnectEd yet so you need to write your information down and keep it in a safe place

KevanN: Once you have done that click on Sign Up

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: Great! The next page that you come to will ask you to title a new collection that you wish to create...it will also have a list of pre-made collections under the open window that the museum has already made for you

KevanN: For the time being, let's start your own and create a title - titles can be changed at any point

KevanN: Once you have a title, click the button

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Good! On the next screen you will see your new title and your name...

KevanN: There are a couple of ways to proceed here...

KevanN: You can either click on the "Add a text page" icon at the top or type in a search word in the open space above and click on 'go'...

KevanN: For now, type in a word that might direct you to a certain type of image that you would find in a museum and press go

KevanN: OK?

KevanN: The sub site is now doing a word search...

KevanN: Whatever pops up does so because it found a word next to the image that it is showing you...

KevanN: Once you have a search completed, click under one of the images where it says add to my collection

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: I'm back to where I stopped, I had just added an image

KevanN: Great! Let's look at the control tools...

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Duplicate will allow the image (page) to occur multiple times in the collection (think of it as several pages linked together by a Next arrow)...

KevanN: Delete allows you to get rid of the page...

KevanN: When you have several pages of images, you can reorder them with the Move tool...

KevanN: Add Closeup allows you to zoom in on an image and save the zoom as a separate page...

KevanN: Add text allows you to do just that as well as to bring in additional images to the page as well as to create links to the internet...

KevanN: Click on the Add text control next to the image

KevanN: You now will see the image and a text box next to it...

KevanN: Under the text box there are 2 boxes with commands in them...

KevanN: Try typing in the text box

KevanN: and then click on "Use this text"

KevanN: You will be brought to what is known as the present mode screen for that page - this info that you typed will appear next to the image. Under the image is another box that says "More info". Do you see it?

KimberlyA1: yes

KevanN: Click on the More info button

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Great - now I want you to highlight any of the text that you find there and copy the text

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Then go back to the editor page by clicking on Go To My Collection

KevanN: Open up the Add Text box again

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Highlight what you had typed and paste the new text over it

KevanN: Then click on Use this text again

KevanN: The new text now appears next to the image

KevanN: OK...?

KimberlyA1: yes

KevanN: Alright, now we are going to experiment with the 2 html codes for bringing in an image and for creating a link - go back to the editor page again

KevanN: Click on Back to List' to do that

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Once there, open up the Add text feature again

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: Now, I want you to open up a new window on your browser - this will act as a search window

KevanN: you will now have 2 internet windows open

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: OK...

KevanN: do a search for some image that relates to the one you have in your collection

KevanN: are you on a PC machine?

KimberlyA1: yes, I found one

KevanN: OK! Right click on the image

KevanN: a menu opens up...scroll down to Properties

KevanN: Open Properties and highlight the address - it should end in a jpg or gif suffix

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Great! Copy the image (Control C) and paste it in your Ad text box in the collection

KevanN: Paste = Control V

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: yes

KevanN: Great! Alright, in front of the image type the less than sign (shift comma) followed by img (space) src=

KevanN: less than = <

KevanN: At the end of the address, type the greater than sign (shift period)

KevanN: It might look something like ``

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: OK?

KevanN: Click on Use this text

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: The image should pop up on the present mode page, yes?

KimberlyA1: yes

KevanN: Terrific! Well done!...Ready to try making a hyperlink?

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: Good - go back to the site that you got the image from and highlight and copy the url

KevanN: Once you have copied it, paste it in the

KevanN: Add text box

KevanN: OK?

KimberlyA1: ok

KevanN: In front of the address, type the less than sign again followed by a (space) href="

KevanN: that should appear as `<a href="`

KevanN: 'a href="

KevanN: there won't be an apostrophe at the beginning - I had to include to make the rest of the command appear...

KevanN: after the address, type ">

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: Then you will need to type what you wish the link to say such as Click Here

KevanN: OK...after the link message, type

KevanN: Then click on use this text...

KevanN: The link will now appear on you present mode page

KimberlyA1: done

KevanN: By clicking it you will go back to the web site

KimberlyA1: it worked! yea

KevanN: Have you done any html coding before?

KimberlyA1: in high school

KevanN: Well, it is paying off!

KevanN: Nicely done!

KevanN: Well, I have to go now. I hope that this was helpful to you.

KimberlyA1: thank you

KimberlyA1: this has been very helpful

KevanN: You are more than welcome! If you ever need to ask questions of me feel free to get a hold of me at my school web site address...

KevanN: <http://www.anoka.k12.mn.us/ahsnitzerg>

KevanN: I have lots of student art work up there as well that might be of interest

KimberlyA1: I will go look at it, thank you again

KevanN: OK, have a good evening!

KimberlyA1: you too!

BjB: thanks, Kevan :-)

KevanN: That went well!

BjB: your session works the best as one on one

KevanN: Yea, I've noticed - I don't get overwhelmed! (chuckle)

BjB smiles

KevanN: Have a good rest of the week, BJ.

BjB waves goodnight