

Title of Session: The Art of Storytelling

Moderator: BJ Berquist

Title of File: 20090311storytelling

Date: March 11, 2009

Room: The Art of Storytelling Group

BJB : Welcome to this special meeting of the Art of Storytelling group!

AmyN joined the room.

BJB : welcome, Amy

KamyraH : hi Amy, we meet again!

AmyN : hello, how is everyone?

DevinP : I am doing good

AshleyRC : Great!

BJB : a reminder if you are new to Tapped In, go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH

JoMc : busy! The week before the week before Spring Break!

BJB : detach will make the chat much larger and easier to follow

AmandaTra joined the room.

BJB : we usually start all Tapped In discussions with introductions

BJB : welcome, Amanda.

AmyN : glad to hear it

AmandaTra : Thank you

AmandaTra : Hello everyone

BJB : please tell me where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

LaurenHa joined the room.

BJB . o O (and if you use storytelling in your classroom)

AmandaTra: I'm located in Houston, TX and hoping to teach grades K-2

BjB: welcome, Lauren. We're just starting intros

JoMc: My name is Jo McDonald, I live in the mountains outside Boulder and hope to teach k-5

AshleyRC: I am located in Houston, TX and hoping to teach 1 or 2

LaurenHa: wonderful! I'm afraid I've been trying to figure out how to make the chat work.

DevinP: I am located in Houston and I teach Social Studies in 6th grade and I hope to teach the same as a career

AmandaTra: I love storytelling in my classroom

KamyraH: I am a student teacher at the University of Houston-Main Campus and I hope to teach kinder. We use storytelling all the time in the class

AmyN: I am a student teacher from the University of Houston. I hope to teach grade prek -1

LaurenHa: My name is Lauren, I work in Reston, VA and teach 3rd grade

ElenaC: I live in Humble Texas and I am teaching 1st grade. I hope to teach: Pre-K, K, or 1st grade.

BjB: I'm a retired communication and art teacher. I had the wonderful good fortune to participate in a storytelling workshop at the National Gallery of Art

LaurenHa: Read Aloud is my favorite part of the day :)

JoMc: outside Boulder, Colorado...shouldn't assume you all know Boulder

AmandaTra: yes, read aloud is my fav too!

BjB: this group was created by a teacher at the NGA'

AmyN: I love storytelling

JoMc: I don't work in a classroom (yet) but I do have a 17 month old son who loves storytime

KamyraH: Me too

BjB smiles...I just read how important read aloud is to all children...even those who can read [<http://www.choiceliteracy.com/>]

LaurenHa: I think I saw an article about that as well, my reading specialist sent t along

KamyraH: I love when my 1st grade students read to me. It impresses me to see how much they have learned over the year

BjB: what I've done for this discussion is prepare a few sites for you to see...

BjB: and we can discuss how you might use the sites in your classroom

ElenaC: wonderful!

AmandaTra: Awesome!

KamyraH: great

AmyN: yeah, some people start reading to their children as early as in the womb

AmandaTra: I love resources!

AshleyRC: me too

AshleyRC: Can never have too many!

DevinP: Yup

AmandaTra: exactly!

AmyN: oh yeah

BjB: what I try to do is show you resources you may not normally think about for storytelling

BjB: there are many resources in this group room on that topic...

BjB: I suggest you join the group and return later to take a look at a few of them

AmyN: ok

DevinP: cool

LaurenHa: sure

BjB : how do you think you can use photography to tell a story?

KamyraH: k

AmandaTra: Children can use their imagination and come up with their own interpretations of stories

LaurenHa: Photostory from microsoft is something I've used with the kids before

KamyraH: maybe have the students look at the photo and tell you a story about what the picture is saying

AmandaTra: There's so much that you can do with photographs and various images

AshleyRC: I have used photography in a powerpoint to talk about life cycles

AmandaTra: A picture is worth a million words!

DevinP: You can show a time line and allow students to think about what is going on in the pictures to help develop a story

BjB nods...now look at this site: <http://unphotographable.com/>

BjB . o O (hold down ctrl when you click)

ElenaC: photography can be used to help children come up with their own stories

AmyN: they can use their imagination

LaurenHa: is there supposed to be a picture, or is it a play on words?

BjB : what about creating a photo in the mind through descriptive words?

AmandaTra: I was going to ask the same question..

DevinP: Yeh I dont see a picture

JoMc: are you tricking us BJ?

BjB : right...no picture except the one you envision from the words

AmandaTra: Oh yes, there's so much imagination that can be used through words

AmandaTra: Children illustrate things differently from each other

LaurenHa: we do Tableau in my school, so the kids create a still picture of something

with their bodies

BjB : a wonderful way to use description

AmyN: yeah that's great

AmandaTra : It's also key for the students to be engaged and to be carefully listening

AmyN: unique

KamyraH: interesting

AshleyRC: Children can even take their own pictures to make a story

BjB nods. So the assignment could be, "if you could take a picture of anything you want, what would that picture look like...describe it

DevinP: That assignment could lead to a nice critical thinking activity also

BjB nods to Devin

AmyN: very nice critical thinking

KamyraH: yes, because everyone interprets photos in different ways

LaurenHa: this site is a little heavy for my 9yr olds though

AmandaTra : This reminds me of illustrating a story or scenario in my writing prompts

BjB : Lauren, what about taking a picture of an apple

BjB : ?

DevinP: Pictures are easy to use in my social studies class. It allows kids to think and make predictions about a topic before we discuss it

BjB : what color is the apple?

ElenaC: The picture could look abstract. I would let the students use their imagination.

LaurenHa: photos, yes. I just meant using that particular site as an example

BjB : is it crispy when you bite into it?

BjB : is it juicy?

AmandaTra: I agree, Devin. I love teaching social studies! It's just unfortunate that the subject isn't focused as much

BjB: are you going to make a pie using that apple?

AmyN: good critical thinking

AmyN: the students love it

ElenaC: nice way of thinking!

BjB: I only show the site to get you thinking in a different way about pictures as story prompts

KamyraH: using the senses to describe the picture/photo

AmandaTra: I'm getting hungry just talking about food...

KamyraH: lol

JoMc . o O (I'm hungry)

AmyN: I know lol

AmandaTra: That's a great idea, Kamyra

BjB chuckles...is that my key to move to the next site?

ElenaC: How about using feelings?

BjB: oh, feelings are wonderful, Elena

KamyraH: how does this particular photo make you feel

AmandaTra: Or even adding sounds affects like "Splish, splash..." etc

AshleyRC: great idea for younger and older students

KamyraH: how do you think the people in this photo feel

BjB: you got a box for a present....how do you feel about that box? What's in it?

AmyN: I like it

KamyraH: cool

BjB : did you have to unwrap the present?

AmandaTra : I'm curious...

DevinP : A picture of a conflict between two nations could spark a nice debate about societies

AmandaTra : How much does the box weigh? How big or small is it?

KamyraH : you could start a whole unit

AmandaTra : I always shake my presents!

BjB : yes, Devin...what about taking a word picture of a person from a different culture?

AmyN : Christmas and birthday

BjB winks at Amanda

DevinP : O nice idea

DevinP : What about pictures of some rituals or customs to look at contemporary societies

AmyN : culture... great

LaurenHa is confused: word picture?

ElenaC : very nice ideas guys.

AshleyRC : I actually did this recently with my ESL students

BjB : that is what the unphotograph is, Lauren

AmyN : that would be perfect

LaurenHa : oooh...

AshleyRC : I gave them a picture story about families all around the world

AmyN : you could use this idea to teach so many things

AmandaTra : I did something like this with my first grade ESL students as well... I had them create postcards and illustrate the characteristics of the place or destination

AmandaTra : They were very creative!

BjB nods...and speaking of cultures...

BjB : let's visit the LOC Folklife site next

BjB . o O (LOC = Library of Congress)

BjB : <http://www.loc.gov/wiseguide/mar09/folklife.html>

KamyraH: I did a similar lesson, and I showed my students pictures of immigrants and had them depict what and how each person felt when they have to immigrate to a new country

BjB : after you skim that url....go to <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/index.html>

AmandaTra: I see Educational Resources for teachers... :)

KamyraH: this is great for teaching history

DevinP: That is the first thing I look for ;)

BjB : this would be a wonderful project to collaborate with another class...in a different state or community

AmyN: great history lessons

AmandaTra : Like pen pals?

DevinP: Yay history lessons

BjB : LOC has awesome resources for educators

KamyraH: culture too

AmyN: getting the students interested.... awesome

AshleyRC: nice lesson plan ideas

BjB : yes, that would be one option, Amanda...you could also do that in the K-12 Student Campus

JoMc: so this site is dealing with cultures within the US? Looks great!

AmyN: pen pals are a great idea

ElenaC: the students could guess how life was in the past.

LaurenHa: it would be a good distance learning project too, sharing folklife from different parts of the country or world

KamyraH: I like the resource links

BjB nods to Lauren

AmyN: and what they think is going to happen in the future

AmandaTra: Oh yes, that would be a great idea - incorporating the use of technology.

AmyN: this is great

ElenaC: Yes! The past and the future.

BjB: and finding evidence of the use of technology in the past!

DevinP: The students in my class get so energetic and willing to participate when there is a use of technology in the lesson

AmyN: yeah they love it

AmandaTra: Mine too!

AmandaTra: It's like you're instantly speaking their language

LaurenHa: nothing hooks them like getting to use the computer or smart board

DevinP: They love those smart boards

ElenaC: That is true

KamyraH: yeah I agree

AmandaTra: I think I'm addicted to the SmartBoard and ELMO

LaurenHa: ELMO?

JoMc: I don't know what a smartboard is

BjB: they also like an authentic audience...which the pen pals or Tapped In student campus can provide

LaurenHa: it's an interactive projector screen

KamyraH: this site even incorporate music

AshleyRC: When pictures are involved instead of words language becomes less of an barrier

AmyN: kids are so good at using all technology... its great

AmandaTra: The ELMO is similar to a projector, except you can read a book to the class, place it on the ELMO, and it projects to the class

AmyN: music too..... awesome

KamyraH: the kids could learn about the history of certain instruments

BjB . o O (sounds like Elmo is an opaque projector)

AmandaTra: The ELMO also captures images - you can zoom in and zoom out. Then, you can "play" the images like a slideshow

LaurenHa: oh ok, we have one of those on campus, but we don't use it much

AmandaTra: Very neat!

JoMc: sounds neat. Even though I am "old" I am not afraid of technology and all it has to offer.

ElenaC: I wish I could use an ELMO.

KamyraH: Our school also has document cameras

BjB : you could have the students collect pictures of the history of _____ and then create an animoto slideshow to tell the story

AshleyRC: it's always important to stay current because the kids do

AmandaTra: Document cameras?

AmyN: they're pretty cool

BjB . o O (www.animoto.com)

LaurenHa: document cameras = scanners?

KamyraH: good idea, what about collecting info and using a digital photostory

BjB : yes, Lauren

AmandaTra: Oh wow, I think I like this website already...

ElenaC: I haven't had the opportunity to use a lot of technology in my school.

AshleyRC: class videos would be fun to make

ElenaC: I love technology!

BjB nods...really engages the students

KamyraH: I love the newsletters

LaurenHa: photostory is really user friendly and I can download short vids to my class blackboard site

BjB . o O (just make sure that credit is given to resources)

BjB: ready to move to the next resource I have for us tonight?

LaurenHa: usually, the pictures are of the class while creating projects or tableaus

LaurenHa: k

AmyN: that a good website

ElenaC: This is fun! I like animoto.

AmyN: I enjoyed the video

DevinP: I like this website. *adds to favorites

BjB: I'm going to paste in some text explaining the next resource

BjB . o O (a reminder that all info will be in your transcripts)

BjB: If you could show change and flexibility in a short video, what would it look like? Kim Cofino, a teacher in Japan, wanted a short video on change to share at an elementary staff meeting. She put out a call for educators across the world to recommend their favorite videos available online. She's compiled responses here at her blog - most videos are 2-4 minutes long, the perfect length for kick-starting a conversation with kids or colleagues about how change is embraced, mocked, or missed altogether:

AmandaTra: Makes me want to go skiing and snowboarding again!

KamyraH: I could use this to talk to my students about past traditions and ask them to

tell about some traditions they have in their family

AmandaTra: That's a great idea, Kamyra

AshleyRC: These are great for introducing new subjects

KamyraH: thanks Amanda

DevinP: I like these resources so far. They seem like they would really capture the student's interests

AmyN: I like it

DevinP: Could make a great focus

AmyN: oh yeah... I agree

BjB: here comes the next url....sorry to rush you, but this is another way to focus on a topic

BjB: <http://mscofino.edublogs.org/2009/03/01/worth-watching/>

AmyN: or center time

BjB: these videos are geared more for older students, but all involve change

BjB . o O (I love the escalator one)

KamyraH: could be used to teach the evolution of technology

AmyN: this is wonderful for projects

AmandaTra: I'm still waiting for the videos to load...

BjB nods to Amanda.

ElenaC: I enjoyed the video: the essay! I really like all these websites.

KamyraH: could show how technology has changed learning and teaching in schools

DevinP: I liked the Epic video

BjB: do you think the escalator one could ever happen?

LaurenHa: the escalator video is a funny :)

ElenaC: The videos could help students understand that everyone adapts to the environment and changes through time.

BjB smiles...you all are coming up with lots of great ideas!

AmandaTra: The escalator video is indeed funny

BjB: why is it funny?

LaurenHa: sardonic

JoMc: On my tired days, that escalator incident could happen to me!

BjB . o O (I think it's funny because you can really imagine it happening)

AmandaTra: Reminds me of lazy people....

MikeGst7 joined the room.

BjB . o O (or tired)

LaurenHa: and it reminds me of a stand up comic who had a bit about escalators

AshleyRC: I love the tips about making podcasts

BjB: Hi, Mike. We're discussing storytelling

KamyraH: I don't think it will happen

ElenaC: I think we depend on technology a lot now!

LaurenHa: "escalators don't break down...they just become stairs, they should have a sign that reads 'thank you for the convenience'"

AmandaTra: It also reminds of people taking an escalator or an elevator instead of the stairs (less than 10)

BjB: I agree with you Elena...and I think that is really the point of the video

BjB: Mike, we're looking at <http://mscofino.edublogs.org/2009/03/01/worth-watching/>

BjB . o O (that's what we're looking at, Mike)

AmandaTra: I agree too. Our generation and society has been so accustomed to technology and dependent on it

AmandaTra : and we forget the "old" or "traditional" ways

ElenaC: I cannot remember my mother's phone number because I depend on my cell phone dialing it automatically.

DevinP: That is why as educators we have to stay up to date with technology while incorporating traditional methods

KamyraH: at lest I hop it doesn't happen

ElenaC: and many other phone numbers.

DevinP: Its only going to become more and more work to keep up as time goes on

BjB : ok, ready for the last resource I have for you?

AshleyRC: yes

AmyN: yes.

LaurenHa: yup

JoMc: yes

KamyraH: yes

AmandaTra : Yes

ElenaC: yes!

BjB : this one is different from the others in that it shows you how to tell a story in many different ways

KamyraH: ok

BjB : is anyone familiar with www.ted.com?

LaurenHa: no

KamyraH: no

AmandaTra : nope

AmyN: no

ElenaC: no. never heard of it

AshleyRC: me either

DevinP: nope

BjB: well, you're going to learn! This is the blurb to the video...

BjB: A unique ecosystem of plants, birds and monkeys thrives in the treetops of the rainforest. Nalini Nadkarni explores these canopy worlds -- and shares her findings with the world below, through dance, art and bold partnerships.

BjB:

http://www.ted.com/index.php/talks/nalini_nadkarni_on_conserving_the_canopy.html

AshleyRC: We are starting ecosystems next week

AshleyRC: How perfect!

BjB: . o O (if you like newsletters, TED.com has one)

AmyN: great!!

AmandaTra: interesting!

AmyN: that is great

BjB: I liked the Barbie dolls

DevinP: That is a very interesting site, I will have to look more later on this

ElenaC: I feel smarted and more prepared to teach fun and meaningful lessons.

ElenaC: smarter

JoMc: very cool..and almost commercial free!

BjB: and the idea about music...you could use that with the musicshake software

AmyN: oh yeah I agree

AmyN: more engaged

BjB: TED is absolutely amazing

ElenaC: Yes. thank you for sharing this with us.

BjB : I was playing with a new tool and made a site of the sites used today... <http://www.DrawAnywhere.com/live/23968.jpg>

AmandaTra : It's like YouTube but better!

AmyN: thank you for all the resources

KamyraH: great

LaurenHa: very cool :)

AshleyRC: Thanks!

AshleyRC: Can't wait to look more at these resources

AmyN: great!! I'm so excited

KamyraH: great graphic organizer

AmyN: cant wait to spend more time on them

BjB : draw anywhere is pretty cool....like inspiration

BjB . o O (free)

DevinP: I like free

LaurenHa: free is good

AmyN: free is the best

AmyN: ;)

BjB : you can make organization charts, flow charts, etc

KamyraH: can they add pictures?

AmyN: ;)

AmyN: yeah they would like and enjoy that

BjB : I didn't get that far...but I think you can

DevinP: Good methods of note taking skills for kids to learn

AmyN: they would love the pics, I think

BjB : what about building a storyboard for a story or video?

AshleyRC: anything visual helps students to better grasp the information

AmyN: they could get really creative

DevinP: We did storyboarding for a tech class at the college. They are neat but take a lot of work

JoMc: very neat.

AmyN: I am going to print it off and hang it in the classroom

BjB : this is a web 2.0 tool that makes it pretty easy, Devin

ElenaC: nice!

KamyraH: you could do a giant story board and have the class do it together

DevinP: O cool

AmandaTra : Like an interactive literacy board

AmyN: as a project.

BjB : We have 10 minutes left...I can answer questions, or show you how to join this group, or you can go play with the sites ;-)

BjB . o O (you could use your smartboard for the storyboard ;-)

AmyN: then they could share it with the class on what they thought and came up with

LaurenHa: I think I may go play with the sites :) Thanks for everything!

AmandaTra : Me too!

AmandaTra : Thank you so much for your time and great resources!

KamyraH: how could I use the smart board to do story board?

AmandaTra : A teacher can never have enough

BjB : thank you all for taking time from your busy schedules to participate in this discussion!

ElenaC: I am still confused with the drawanywhere website. I do not see any links to help me draw.

AshleyRC: thank you

AmyN: I'm going to go play with the sites. thank you so much

JoMc: thanks **BjB**...off to explore Ted.com

DevinP: thanks so much for the resources, they will come in handy this semester and later on in my career

BjB: <http://www.drawanywhere.com/>

BjB: try that...they have a demo video

BjB: great, Devin...come back and share how you used the resources

ElenaC: yes, thank you!

BjB: . o O (join the group and post to the discussion board)

DevinP: I will try whenever I have free time.

KamyraH: Thanks this was a very informational chat. I will try to use some of these ideas next week!

BjB: wonderful, Kamyra...the same invitation goes out to you also!

ElenaC: I can use this to start writing a story with 1st graders.

BjB: . o O (the discussion board is asynch and a much underused feature of Tapped in)

ElenaC: thank you very much for all the information and your help.

BjB: great, Elena...please join the group and let us know how it goes

ElenaC: I enjoyed this chat.

BjB: smiles happily...you all contributed as much as I did!

BjB: thank you!

BjB: any questions, Mike?

KamyraH: okay thanks, see you next time

BjB waves goodnight