

Title of Session: The Art of Storytelling

Moderator: BJ Berquist

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Room: The Art of Storytelling Group

AshleyML joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Ashley

BJB2: here for The Art of Storytelling?

AshleyML: yes, i am.

AshleyML: sorry, i was having a little trouble getting in here

BJB2: great! I was starting to think no one was interested

AshleyML: I am. Very interesting idea actually

BJB2: cool. What grade level, Ashley?

AshleyML: well, I'm actually in the process of getting my teaching license in early childhood

BJB2: how about we start with introductions?

AshleyML: sounds good

BJB2: then I'll have a better idea of what to show you

BJB2: I'm a retired communication and art teacher located in Pennsylvania

AshleyML: communication, was that college level?

BJB2: no, I taught in a male juvenile correctional facility...5-12th grade

BJB2: . o O (actually more like K-12)

AshleyML: yeah, I bet. Sounds like a tough job for sure

BJB2 nods. So where are you located and what do you want to know about storytelling?

AshleyML: we just had a women present in my class earlier this evening about working

with delinquents

BJB2: it is difficult...but rewarding. You just have to learn to measure success in very tiny increments

AshleyML: some people are just meant to do that kind of work, I think.

BJB2: that is so true, Ashley!

AshleyML: throughout my courses in education I'm learning that teachers are very under-appreciated, but very good people

BJB2: I do have some sites to share. Some are very intense and not really appropriate for early childhood.

AshleyML: well, I would still be interested.

BJB2: yes, I agree with that....Teachers have to find intrinsic rewards to teaching

BJB2: let's start with the easier stuff, then

AshleyML: okay

BJB2: this first one is from the Library of Congress on preserving memories

AshleyML: sounds very interesting actually

BJB2: this site has lots of interdisciplinary lessons

AshleyML: oh believe me, I have noticed that and I haven't been on Tapped In very long

BJB2: and can be adapted to family or school or classroom time capsules

AshleyML: but, actually when I was in high school, we did a time capsule project

BJB2: people have been doing time capsules for ages....it's a wonderful language arts project too

AshleyML: I think it's a wonderful idea, especially for those students who are very connected to their cultures

BJB2: you could have the children write about what they would put in their time capsules and why...

AshleyML: that's a good suggestion

BJB2: or you can make a "mystery" time capsule and have them write what they think each item represents

AshleyML: I like that, too -- have them maybe pull the items out themselves and create a story from that

AshleyML: and it involves some science, too, which is good with the whole weather/chemicals

BJB2 grins...or, if you have a bunch of messy students, select one of their desks and write a story about the 'artifacts' in that desk

BJB2 . o O (especially old lunch items)

AshleyML: oh boy

AshleyML: I'm very excited about experiencing all this

BJB2: have you ever read Motel of the Mysteries?

AshleyML: no, I haven't

AshleyML: who is it by?

BJB2: I'm trying to do a search....not having much luck with google tonight

AshleyML: well, that's okay

AshleyML: what's the overall gist

BJB2: David Maccaulay

AshleyML: that actually sounds familiar

BJB2: it's delightful...pretty high reading level

BJB2: the archaeologists find all kinds of artifacts in their 'dig'...including a plunger which they label a scepter

BJB2: and the toilet is a throne where people worship

AshleyML: haha. sounds interesting.

AshleyML: but really though, if you think about it, how did these objects become what they are

BJB2: and how accurate are the conclusions today's archaeologists reach when they find objects?

AshleyML: I mean sure, it's involved some inventors and some physics, and etc

AshleyML: exactly!

BJB2: anyway, that could be a fun unit

AshleyML: maybe using some clay ... making our own artifacts

BJB2 nods.

BJB2: The next site is an interactive storyboarding site....

AshleyML: okay, I'm not really familiar with storyboarding

BJB2: really nice for brainstorming how a story should be constructed

BJB2:

http://www.ltscotland.org.uk/informationliteracy/12to14/tell/Storyboarding/resources/genericcontent_tcm4268053.asp

BJB2 hopes the site works for Ashley

AshleyML: no such luck

BJB2: hmmm...opened for me. Make sure you don't have a window minimized

AshleyML: wow, there it is!

BJB2: storyboarding is a visual way to show a sequence of events

BJB2: also a good way to edit your story and remove events that are not important

AshleyML: I love these creative ideas

BJB2 . o O (that's why it's called the "art" of storytelling ;-)

AshleyML: oh RIGHT, I get it now!

BJB2: some people can do an outline and work from that for their stories...a storyboard is more visual

AshleyML: it's so important to include things like this because many schools don't even have art programs anymore, and the visual really helps keep things interesting

BJB2 agrees

BJB2: have you used wikis?

AshleyML: no

BJB2: http://wikinovel.box-fire.com/wiki/Main_Page

BJB2: let's see if that works

BJB2: a wiki is an interactive web 2.0 tool that allows anyone to edit the content

BJB2 . o O (think Wikipedia)

AshleyML: oh sure.

AshleyML: it's saying the link is broken

BJB2: I'm not getting it either

BJB2: let's try this one <http://fiction.wikia.com/wiki/One-word-at-a-time>

BJB2: the urls will be in your transcript and you can always try later...not sure if the links are broken or there's a problem with some servers

AshleyML: oh yeah!

AshleyML: so this is like the write a sentence, fold the paper, and pass to someone who writes another sentence

AshleyML: only, it's on the computer

BJB2: Another wiki site is <http://complexworld.pbworks.com/Stories-and-storytelling>

BJB2: if you decide to look further into teaching at risk students, make sure you bookmark Create Now www.createnow.org

BJB2: right about the writing and passing on

BJB2: a wiki will keep track of the changes

AshleyML: that's a great thing, I had no idea so many of these things were out there

AshleyML: I've always been kind of hesitant about using the computer for lessons, only because I am not completely sure how to work everything

BJB2: yeesh...create now isn't loading for me either...and it did before this chat

BJB2: half the time the kids will know enough for you to fake it, Ashley ;-)

AshleyML: yeah, you're right about that.

BJB2: but I'd recommend that you do a little research on wikis and practice.

BJB2: there are tutorials and several different wiki sites that are free

AshleyML: okay. I will look into it. There is so much I have to research it. I am still trying to grasp the whole twitter idea

BJB2 smiles. I finally succumbed to twitter only because it's a way for me to let people know what is on Tapped In every day

BJB2: I have no patience for the day in the life of stuff

BJB2: here's a site that may give you some ideas.... <http://www.racebridgesforschools.com/>

BJB2: this one is good for cultural studies

BJB2: write a story from an ancestor's point of view...as an interred Japanese person or an Indian being sent to an Indian school

AshleyML: very important that kid's identify with people from those different viewpoints

BJB2: again, that is really for older kids, but you could rethink to adapt to the lower levels

AshleyML: of course

BJB2: this next one is really for you cause it's fun, but it's also on the cultural theme....are you familiar with TED?

AshleyML: no, I'm so bad! I don't know anything

BJB2: <http://tinyurl.com/cosesh>

BJB2: nah....but you'll like this gem. I find TED absolutely fascinating

BJB2: they have talks on art and science and technology

BJB2: did you get that page? It's not opening for me

AshleyML: yeah, I got it. I was just watching a little bit of Sarah Jones

BJB2: she's a trip ;-)

AshleyML: and I was already hooked on her monologue

AshleyML: that's one thing I miss about college, we had some great speakers, with some great ideas

BJB2: here's one more TED video. The first one is best as an example of telling a story from a different perspective

BJB2:

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

AshleyML: this is pretty close

BJB2: That is the reason I fell in love with Tapped In, Ashley...I wasn't taking classes and was as locked up as my students as far as professional development

BJB2: Tapped In is my window to the world. All the presenters here are so generous

BJB2: did I meet your expectations for some new ideas about storytelling?

AshleyML: really gives you some things to think about

AshleyML: yes, I had no ideas about any of this

AshleyML: I am wholly enlightened

BJB2: you may want to join this group, Ashley...

AshleyML: my expectations were met and surpassed

BJB2: there are many resources in this group room

AshleyML: and the whole inclusion of art is very important

BJB2: Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to participate in my storytelling discussion, Ashley!

BJB2: art and music

AshleyML: absolutely! and things to watch...

AshleyML: well thank you so much!

BJB2: it was my pleasure, Ashley

BJB2 waves goodnight

AshleyML: bye!