

**Title of Session:** K-12 Language Arts

**Moderator:** Karen Lemmons

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**Date:** February 23, 2010

Room: K-12 Language Arts Group

**KarenL:** When I share the websites, you'll see the url and you can look at them. I usually give folks time to check out the website.

**KarenL** hugs BJ in the midst of her announcement.

**KarenL:** Crystal, BJ is a volunteer with Tapped In. She knows everything about Tapped In and can help you with the technical stuff.

**JeffC** joined the room.

**BjB** waves hi to Jeff

**JeffC** waves

**KarenL:** Hi Jeff!

**BjB:** did you say you have a topic for today's discussion, Karen?

**BjB:** Crystal, did you go to Actions in the top right of the chat and select DETACH?

**BjB** . o O ( makes your chat window larger and easier to read )

**KarenL:** Well, kinda sorta. . .March is Reading Month, Dr. Seuss birthday, Read Across America. . .pick one. .

**ViilL** joined the room.

**CrystalP:** no

**BjB:** Hi, Viil. Welcome

**ViilL:** Hi, thanks

**CrystalP:** I don't think so

**KarenL:** Hi Viii!

**BjB:** great topics, Karen!

**ViilL:** sorry to interrupt, I am just looking around and saw the announcement

**BjB:** you're welcome to join us, Viil!

**ViilL:** thank you

**CrystalP:** Thanks Bj, that's much better!!

**BjB:** Karen leads this discussion for Language Arts. Karen is a Librarian

**KarenL** blushing. . .

**BjB:** she mentioned that there are several topics for March...

**BjB:** .March is Reading Month, Dr. Seuss birthday, Read Across America. . .pick one. .

**KarenL:** However, Viii and Crystal, we are flexible. If you have some particular topics/needs you want to address, by all means, let me know. . .

**BjB:** I always read My Many Colored Days for Dr. Seuss' birthday

**CrystalP:** I don't think I've ever heard of that one.

**CrystalP:** any of your topics sound good

**BjB:** there is a delightful movie/video that goes with it

**KarenL:** Green Eggs and Ham is mine. . .One of my colleagues even cooks green eggs to go with the book.

**BjB:** oh, yum!

**KarenL:** Okay, so let's begin with introductions.

**KarenL:** I'm Karen Lemmons, a school librarian in an elementary school in Detroit.

**BjB:** I'm a retired communications teacher located in Pennsylvania

**KarenL:** and an awesome artist and volunteer with Tapped In!

**KarenL:** and a loving grandmother!

**CrystalP:** I'm Crystal Phipps, a high school English teacher in Louisiana

**BjB** blushes. Thanks, Karen

**JeffC** used to teach English and ESL. I'm on Tapped In Helpdesk and in Forest Grove Oregon

**BjB**: even high school students like to do Dr. Seuss!

**CrystalP**: They ask me for it all the time! LOL

**KarenL**: Okay, Crystal. Let's focus on you a bit, since the Dr. Seuss may or may not work with your group. But it would be so cool if you had some high school students read some Dr. Seuss books to some elementary students, complete with a hat. . .

**CrystalP**: I've never thought about using Dr. Seuss

**BjB**: oh, fun idea, Karen!

**CrystalP**: that is a good idea

**KarenL**: Some of those Dr. Seuss books have some very adult topics, like Oh the Places You Go!

**CrystalP**: One of our English teachers thought about reading a different Dr. Seuss book each hour to our students on his birthday

**KarenL**: that talks about decisions and goals, succeeding and failing. . .

**CrystalP**: I've read that one, but it's been a long time. I would like to get a copy

**KarenL**: I forgot the topic on The Butter Battle Book. BJ, do you remember?

**BjB**: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Butter\\_Battle\\_Book](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Butter_Battle_Book)

**CrystalP**: I know my kids would eat it up at school if we actually read Dr. Seuss

**BjB**: It is an anti-war story; specifically, a parable about arms races in general and mutually assured destruction and nuclear weapons in particular.

**JeffC** . o O ( perhaps integrate yurtle the turtle with WWII curricula )

**BjB**: Seuss' topics were not really for little kids....

**KarenL**: Although not really a Dr. Seuss book, the Hooray for Diffendorfer Day is about state testing. . .

**BjB**: some of his work is worth investigating from an adult perspective

**BjB**: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My\\_Many\\_Colored\\_Days](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/My_Many_Colored_Days) Good one to do in collaboration

with your arts specialist...

**BjB:** or brainstorm how colors have entered our vocabulary

**BjB** . o O ( green with envy )

**KarenL:** Crystal, you should try it! Even the Grinch Who Stole Christmas is about love and community beyond gifts. .

**CrystalP:** I think I will investigate this. If I could find 5 good books to use, then I could break them into groups to analyze the stories and make presentations to the class

**KarenL:** Dr. Seuss' birthday is March 2nd and it is often combined with Read Across America. One website that combines Read Across America and Dr. Seuss is <http://www.nea.org/readacross>

**BjB** . o O ( here's the video that goes with Colored Days: <http://www.amazon.com/Seuss-Many-Colored-Notes-Alive/dp/0965381897> )

**BjB:** are you getting the urls ok, Crystal?

**CrystalP:** yes, but my computer froze trying to go to the nea

**BjB:** hold down the ctrl key when you click on a url

**BjB:** all urls will be in your transcript so you can check them out later

**CrystalP:** cool

**KarenL:** Crystal, is there anything else you want to learn about?

**KarenL:** Have you heard of thinkfinity? readwritethink?

**CrystalP:** not really, just looking for new ideas for my classroom

**CrystalP:** I'm not sure, they sound familiar

**KarenL:** Thinkfinity is a FREE teacher resource of some awesome websites. . .check it out! <http://www.thinkfinity.com>

**KarenL:** readwritethink is part of thinkfinity. but you can search it separately from thinkfinity.

**KarenL:** <http://www.readwritethink.org>

**CrystalP:** ok, I will be doing that!!

**CrystalP:** I really like the Dr. Seuss idea

**KarenL:** Try it and let us know how it worked out!

**BjB:** might even work as a research idea, Crystal

**CrystalP:** They could do research on each book and include it in their presentations

**BjB** . o O ( Picture books aren't just for children )

**BjB** agrees

**KarenL:** Ooooh, that sounds great!

**KarenL:** even better, podcast it!

**CrystalP:** I think they will really get into it

**KarenL:** or they could blog/, share it on a wiki. . .

**CrystalP:** I have classchatter account set up, I'm trying out on a few classes

**KarenL:** I see the ideas flowing. . .

**JenniferMa** joined the room.

**JenniferMa:** Hello everyone!

**KarenL:** Hello Jennifer, welcome!

**BjB:** Hi, Jennifer. Welcome

**JenniferMa:** What have you all been talking about

**KarenL:** We were talking about Dr. Seuss and Read Across America

**JenniferMa:** oh okay

**CrystalP:** hi Jennifer

**KarenL:** introduce yourself. . .

**JenniferMa:** Jennifer Maldonado school counselor from San Diego Texas

**BjB:** the topic would work well for counselors too, Jennifer

**KarenL:** elementary, middle, or high school?

**JenniferMa:** middle

**KarenL:** BJ, may need your help with the middle school students. Think they would like Dr. Seuss and someone dressing up like a cat in the hat?

**JenniferMa:** today our students got to get a free book from RIF, Reading is Fun

**KarenL:** or reading to some elementary students one of their favorite Dr. Seuss books?

**KarenL:** Oh, yes! Crystal you may want to check out that website, too.

**JenniferMa:** I think that they would. are you from a small school or big?

**CrystalP:** ok

**KarenL:** I'm in a big district that is quickly becoming smaller. I'm a librarian in an elementary school.

**KarenL:** Crystal, the url is <http://www.rif.org>

**JenniferMa:** oh what fun! Elementary school kids would love if someone dresses like the cat in the hat.

**CrystalP:** thank you! I haven't heard of that

**JenniferMa:** Dr. Suess is a great tool for students of all ages. I gave Oh the places you will go for graduation gifts.

**BjB:** if you look at this page you will see an idea for making a Cat in the Hat hat using newspaper: <http://tappedin.org/archive/projects/hatsoff/>

**KarenL:** oh, now that is cool!!!

**KarenL:** And Jennifer, that book, Oh The Places You will Go is a great graduation gift!

**JenniferMa:** are the links kept up at all times

**JenniferMa:** yes, thanks

**KarenL:** Jennifer, you should get a transcript that will include the links in this session.

**KarenL:** Oops!

**BjB:** The one I just shared is on a Tapped In server

**JenniferMa:** yes okay

**KarenL:** Yes, I kinda figured that out. . .

**CrystalP:** ok guys, thanks for all the ideas. I have to go.

**CrystalP:** I really enjoyed this meeting!

**BjB:** thanks for participating, Crystal

**KarenL:** Thank you, Crystal come again!

**CrystalP:** thanks again

**JenniferMa:** me too, I wish I would of joined earlier. good-bye!

**CrystalP:** I will

**JenniferMa** left the room (signed off).

**BjB:** the next Language Arts discussion...

**BjB:** will be on March 23

**CrystalP:** ok