Title of Session: Mr. Collaboration - Erica Schaapveld

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

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JeffC: Bridget... are you familiar with Altec and the tools there?

BridgetM: tiny bit - mostly from Susan R's tracks

JeffC: You're in the right place Erica... I'm wondering though if your last session covered everything... because only Bridget and David are here.

BridgetM: just did last session - discovered I had registered at quiz star before

DavidWe smiles

JeffC: Cool Bridget

BridgetM: totally forgot about it - could have used it this spring

EricaS: It definitely didn't cover everything. There is so much to discuss, I would need days.

BridgetM: Erica - I figured out kid's vid story board is for planning. I could use that

EricaS: Yes, it really helps teach kids that you don't just pick up a camera and start filming. Lots of planning involved.

JeffC: Well... let's continue the discussion here then Erica... because... the transcript will be available for people later.

BridgetM: once again, I find a kid tool meets my needs

JeffC: I'll be posting links to various listservs... so people can read this later.

EricaS: Do you want me to speak about the tools I didn't or delve in more deeply on the ones I did?

BridgetM: I might have wrong name but - what is the track star backpack for?

EricaS: TrackStar TrackPack is a tool that you can use to collect Web sites that you would

EricaS: like to use in a Track. You first install a link to the TrackPack tool on

EricaS: the Links or Favorites on your browser. Then when you are out surfing the

EricaS: Internet and come across a site you like, you click the link and it opens a

EricaS: separate window. TrackPack automatically grabs the url and you can then

EricaS: type in a title and annotations. Later when you login to your TrackStar

EricaS: account to make a Track, all of the sites that you put in your TrackPack

EricaS: will be available. So to make a Track all you have to do is import the

EricaS: links from your TrackPack and you'll already have the titles, urls, and

EricaS: annotations done.

BridgetM: that sounds great!

JeffC: Erica... feel free to talk about *anything you want*. Note that if you talk about new stuff... it can be appended to your previous transcript... so that might be a good idea.

EricaS: Another piece of ALTEC that I would like to talk about is called PRISM.

BridgetM: do you have to use internet explorer for TrackPack?

EricaS: You can use most browsers for TrackPack, though Netscape lags a bit.

EricaS: Scientists and engineers at the University of Kansas are applying their expertise to develop and utilize innovative radar and robotic rovers to measure ice thickness and determine bedrock conditions below the ice sheets in Greenland and Antarctica. They are doing this through the auspices of a grant from the National Science Foundation and NASA. This grant has been named PRISM (Polar Radar for Ice Sheet Measurements).

EricaS: I just attended a Web/audio meeting with my colleagues to listen/see a presentation from two scientists in Greenland.

BridgetM: that sounds neat

EricaS: One scientist was on the ice sheet and the other was staying on the tundra.

EricaS: It was very interesting. I could go for some cold weather. Kansas is baking.

EricaS: One of the neatest features on PRISM is Design Your Own Lessons: Use online utilities provided by PRISM and its ALTEC partner to develop online lessons related to

global issues for your students. Letter of Global Concern allows students to practice their letter-writing skills and describe their concerns about the environment to politicians and CEO's. The Graphic Sleuth application allows teachers to combine online resources into an online lesson for students to use immediately.

EricaS: Graphic Sleuth lets you upload a picture and teach students how to extract information from it.

BridgetM: could you give link?

EricaS: Sorry! http://ku-prism.org

EricaS: There is also k-12 resources including lessons, lesson plans, maps, graphics, or credible information about Antarctica, global warming, animals of the Arctic, snow ice, robotics or radar. This information has already been reviewed and deemed appropriate for classroom use by other teachers.

EricaS: I also love the Bears on Ice feature. Two beanie bears travel with members of the Australian Antarctic Division who are undertaking scientific missions and resupplying Davis Station and Mawson Station. There are hundreds of photographs with descriptions of the ship, the stations, the equipment, and many of the day-to-day activities of Antarctic scientists and support personnel. In addition, data are provided that allow students to chart many crucial aspects of the voyage, such as latitude/longitude, daily air and sea temperatures, and types of ice encountered.

EricaS: Do you all want to go look at the site and meet back in a few minutes?

SusanSi: I am looking at it now

EricaS: Good!

BridgetM: yes! I was there a will go back

BridgetM: I love those little bears!!!

JeffC: Susan... are you doing ok? Haven't heard from you much during this session.

EricaS: Aren't they cute!

BridgetM: plus the text takes A KID'S PERSPECTIVE

SusanSi: fine-a live web cam here--it's dark now! lol

EricaS: There's some wonderful historical pieces that talk about hot air balloon attempts to cross the polar regions.

EricaS: You now the scientist yesterday said they had to raise the buildings up every two years or so because they would get buried in the snow. The snow and ice only melt on the coast, not the summit.

EricaS: Do any of you have questions about any of the other tools that you saw at ALTEC or 4Teachers?

EricaS: I think the 4Teachers site has a lot of collaboration power. Most users post their work online in order to share it with other educators. This is especially true for Web Worksheet Wizard, TrackStar, and RubiStar.

JeffC: Not having to do with Altec, but might relate to Prism Google Earth is another cool program... let's you see a satellite view of any place on earth. Some shots are better than others... http://earth.google.com/ free download... pc only

EricaS: Yes, I love Google

EricaS: Their satellite maps are really innovative.

JeffC: And kids would love it too... just zooming up on their own neighborhood is fun.

EricaS: I'll have to check the earth out on a pc though

SusanSi: there is a great link for pictures in the Graphic Sleuth

BridgetM: the graphic sleuth tool would work for visualizing & verbalizing lessons - plus primary sources

EricaS: Yes, that's a very good point.

BridgetM: google earth is very cool! amazing!

BridgetM: the shot of my house was in winter - great disappointment - no flowers

JeffC: sorry

JeffC: Erica... will Altec be partnering with other software or internet sites?

EricaS: I think it's interesting to see the different states and what season it was when the pictures were taken.

EricaS: We actually have a lot of partnerships. Apple and Intel to name just a few of the bigger ones.

BridgetM: It would be fun for kids to zoom from school to the ice cream shop.

EricaS: Here's a link to our Apple Learning Interchange http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/hpli/index.shtml These are online exhibits complete with movies, resources, and lessons. I made the one on RubiStar and Camp.

BridgetM: Erica about rubistar & the checklists - once I get my case load for next year I'm going to try making individualized rubrics & checklists based on the IEP's

EricaS: That's a wonderful idea. They're very easy to make and easy to customize.

BridgetM: I'm thinking it will help everyone involved - kids, parents, homeroom teachers, AND me

EricaS: Exactly!

EricaS: Did you see Web Worksheet Wizard, too?

BridgetM: I think so but it's all melting together at this point

BridgetM: I had trouble getting the apple link to go & closed a bunch of windows.

EricaS: Yes, if I were in your shoes I'd feel the same way. I was just going to say that it would enable you to make a Web page where you could list all your rubrics and checklist for easy access.

JeffC: What's that URL Erica?

EricaS: http://wizard.hprtec.org

BridgetM: can the rubrics & checklists be exported or just printed?

EricaS: Rubrics can be saved online, downloaded into Excel, or printed. Checklists can just be printed.

BridgetM: if checklist is based on rubric that's not a major problem.

EricaS: I also wanted to mention R*TEC Teacher at http://4teachers.org/intech/lessons/ It's a hierarchical search index that lists reviewed Web sites, ThinkQuest, WebQuests, and TrackStar Tracks. Go and try it out. It's very easy to use. Just choose a subject, theme, and topic. New sites are added monthly.

JeffC: What I don't understand is why *every educator* doesn't use the tools that Altec has to offer. All of them are tremendous timesavers. One question, I haven't used Quizstar (don't have students!)... do Quizzes remain in your account... and can you shuffle questions with one click from year to year?

EricaS: It's a great way to find education sites quickly!

EricaS: You bet'cha, Jeff!

EricaS: There's an option in QuizStar to allows you to show the questions in a different order in case students sit closely together in labs.

SusanSi: OK-I searched for TX history and found Web Quests, etc....cool

JeffC: figured that was the case! you guys think of *everything*

EricaS: Yah, Texas!

SusanR: Hi Erica

EricaS: Hey, Susan. Good to see you.

SusanR: ditto Erica

SusanR: how much of the session have I missed

EricaS: We're just wrapping things up, but you can always check out the transcripts.

EricaS: Does anyone have any final questions?

JeffC: Will you be holding monthly sessions here?

SusanR: any changes to trackstar in the near future

JeffC: Would you consider creating a group room here for Altec?

BridgetM: that search tool is great, Erica!

EricaS: No changes to TrackStar in the near future.

EricaS: I'm hoping to work out a system with some of my colleagues so that we can alternate between monthly sessions and feature one tool each time.

BridgetM: that would be wonderful, Erica

SusanR: excellent idea, Erica

SusanSi: thanks!

EricaS: Back to work! Thank you all for attending!

JeffC: THANK YOU ERICA!

BridgetM: I'm off now. Thanks a ton Erica