

Title of Session: K-3+ Resources: Infusing Technology into a Balanced Literacy Program

Moderator: Susan Roseman

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BJ: Welcome to the K-3 Resources discussion, everyone

BJ: the topic for this discussion is Infusing Technology into a Balanced Literacy Program.

BJ: we usually start all the discussions in Tapped In with introductions

BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

SusanR: Thank you for the introduction, Bj..just tidying up some lose ends here

ClaytonK: I teach art in southern Texas

ShirleyHe: I'm a reading specialist in Texas

TeresaMT: I teach first grade in San Antonio, Texas.

AnneMarieE: I'm a third grade teacher in San Antonio, Tx.

JeffC: I'm a career educator and education technology specialist living in Oregon.

SusanR: An interesting crowd! I am a K to 8 occasional teacher from Ontario. Today I was in a grade 3 classroom.

RhondaRH joined the room.

SusanR: Rhonda, would you care to introduce yourself?

RhondaRH: Yes!

RhondaRH: I am a teacher at a private Christian school in Oklahoma.

RhondaRH: I am currently working on my Masters with certification as a Reading Specialist.

SusanR: Tonight's session is Balanced Literacy ..infusing technology into both your teacher planning and students' learning

RhondaRH: I realize that . . . I am the computer teacher at school and I thought this would be an interesting topic.

SusanR: anyone care to define Balanced Literacy

JeffC: Is that when you have two books that weigh the same?

AnneMarieE: smiles

SusanR: love that definition, Jeff

AnneMarieE: A program with equal amounts of reading and writing?

SusanR: right..

TeresaMT: When you use a variety of approaches to meet students' needs in reading, writing listening, speaking

ClaytonK: nice definition Teresa

RhondaRH: Doesn't it also infuse phonics and whole language approach?

ShirleyHe: My definition is to make sure you teach reading, writing, phonics and other strategies in equal portion.

JeffC: <http://snipurl.com/balancedliteracy>

SusanR: so Balanced literacy is an umbrella term.

SusanR: The idea is to balance your literacy instruction between phonics and whole language, between embedded and direct, between whole class and small group.

SusanR: A balance of reading writing, listening, speaking, and viewing is important too.

SusanR: Thanks Jeff!

ShirleyHe: Susan, what do you mean by viewing?

AnneMarieE: good question

SusanR: Here is a slide show which can answer that question..it can be used for a Parent's Evening ..introducing Balanced Literacy

SusanR: <http://208.183.128.8/read/>

SusanR: let's zero in on the slide show http://208.183.128.8/read/Working-with-Words_files/v3_document.htm

RhondaRH: Wonderful site!

TeresaMT: This is a cute site. I will use this.

SusanR: This site could be used in your planning for the upcoming year..loads of resources

AnneMarieE: Good site, I bookmarked it. Thanks

SusanR: for all 4 blocks

TeresaMT: We use 4 Blocks as the framework for our Reading Program, so this will go right along with what we are doing.

ClaytonK: This would make a great piece to give to preservice teachers

SusanR: for seasoned and novice teachers

TeresaMT: I was thinking the same thing. My daughter is an Early Childhood major and I just called her in to take a look at this.

AnneMarieE: This fits in perfectly with what my school district wants to see happening in our classrooms.

RhondaRH: I plan to share it with classmates. It has a lot of great information.

SusanR: a personal favourite is readwritethink...

SusanR: Created by the National Council of Teachers of English and the International Reading Association

SusanR: the site offers activities and online resources associated with events in literacy and literature as well as student materials and interactive lessons.

ShirleyHe: Readwritethink is one of my favorites also

ClaytonK: What is Readwritethink?

SusanR: I am impressed with the ease of use..notably their interactive student materials

AnneMarieE: What is the URL for Readwritethink?

RhondaRH: Okay -- I am looking at it . . .

ShirleyHe: I used it a lot this year with my students

RhondaRH: www.readwritethink.org

SusanR: <http://www.readwritethink.org/>

ClaytonK: thank you Rhonda

TeresaMT: I haven't seen it, but I'd like to. Thanks

AnneMarieE: Thanks

RhondaRH: You're welcome

SusanR: The literacy area of the site ...

<http://www.readwritethink.org/literacy/index.html>

ShirleyHe: I like the fact that it covers all grade levels. A high school teacher friend used it for after school class.

AnneMarieE: I already see useful info. the Artistic Elements is something I can always add to my curriculum. Our campus does not have an art teacher. So, I need to beef up my art instruction.

RhondaRH: Susan, I can't wait to really look at this site! Thanks for sharing it!

SusanR: If you click on Student Materials..if you have resources to encompass the entire school year.

SusanR: save time..includes a preview of the student resource ..

SusanR: http://www.readwritethink.org/student_mat/index.asp

JeffC: AnneMarie, yesterday there was a presentation on integrating art with curriculum... the Art21 project... BJB can point you to the archive (when it's up). The link to the homepage is: <http://www.pbs.org/art21/education/technology/index.html>

AnneMarieE: Thanks Jeff!

ClaytonK: The Art:21 site is a fantastic resource for art education...and they provide you with most everything

ClaytonK: They also focus on cross curricular thematic lessons

SusanR: Thanks Jeff and Clayton..I will peruse the site at the end of the session.

SusanR: are we ready for the next resource...

TeresaMT: Are there other good sites that give ideas for infusing technology into Balanced Literacy programs. This is something I am working on in my class and can use all the sources I can get.

AnneMarieE: yes!

SusanR: ..an interactive site for students to learn about the steps of researching from planning to reporting. Amazing!

RhondaRH: interactive?!

SusanR: The KYVL for Kids Research Portal

SusanR: <http://www.kyvl.org/html/kids/homebase.html>

RhondaRH: Love it! Love it!!

RhondaRH: Our 5th & 6th graders do science fair projects and this will be incredible to use with them!

ClaytonK: That is excellent!

JeffC: Susan... do you have your sites all bookmarked somewhere handy? Like at mybookmarks or backflip?

TeresaMT: I really like this site. What a great way to practice research skills.

SusanR: all these sites are on Trackstar...give it to you at the end of the session..don't want to lose my audience

AnneMarieE: This is a great visual for those students who struggle with the abstract idea of research.

JeffC: . o O (cool)

SusanR: Thanks to Jeff for introducing me to the wonders of the online track at trackstar

ClaytonK: and a great way to present the information too about any grade level...little ones will love it and the big ones would get it and get a laugh too

EmmaPa joined the room.

EmmaPa: hi

EmmaPa: I am a student teacher in Australia and we are learning about 'tapped in' at uni

EmmaPa: how are you all?

AnneMarieE: Welcome to the group.

EmmaPa: thank you

SusanR: speaking of art and other interactive web adventures..I recommend eduweb.

Emma..and welcome to TI..we are a friendly group

EmmaPa: I can see

SusanR: exciting learning experiences at eduweb

SusanR: includes adventures that seem to hit "the sweet spot where learning theory, Web technology and fun meet."

SusanR: ..includes

ClaytonK: eduweb.com or net or org?

SusanR: <http://www.eduweb.com/portfolio/gradeskto3.php>

EmmaPa: thank you

ClaytonK: how about anything using brain-based learning theories?

SusanR: topical topics and an artist toolkit

BJ . o O (don't forget about artsconnected.org, Sue)

SusanR: <http://www.artsconnected.org/>

SusanR: Kevan, offers sessions here at TI on artsconnected..be sure to check the archived transcripts

ClaytonK: And the search wizard is a flying eyeball.....deeply cool

RhondaRH: That makes it all the more worthwhile

ClaytonK: What can I say, I LOVE EYEBALLS...LOL

SusanR: Not all the links work here, but be sure to bookmark 101 Ways to Integrate Technology into Literacy Activities..the ideas are easy to implement

SusanR: a great starting point for tech infusion ..

<http://www.edzone.net/~mwestern/101Ways.html>

RhondaRH: Okay

ClaytonK: very cool ... just looked at that ... [what do you think SHIRLEY, good for RTLA?]

ShirleyHe: Looks good - I think you could use it.

ClaytonK: the 101 list btw

SusanR: RTLA????

RhondaRH: Looks great

TeresaMT: Great resource.

ShirleyHe: Susan, it's for a grant we are part of - Rural Tech. Leadership Academy

ClaytonK: sorry Susan...a grant program that Shirley and I are part of...to teach teachers to integrate more tech

SusanR: some great ideas there, Clayton

RhondaRH: Is there any way to interest co-workers in integrating?

ShirleyHe: I like the way it tells you on the side how to use it.

RhondaRH: Most of my co-workers are hesitant to do it.

RhondaRH: I just wondered if anyone had any ideas in creating more interest.

TeresaMT: Mine, too, but all of these resources and activities might help motivate them.

ClaytonK: I like the "stand over them with a big stick" method...lol

TeresaMT: Does that work?

RhondaRH: Typically, they ask me to find something for them to use in the classroom but they don't actually attempt it themselves.

RhondaRH: I'm fairly short so I would need a really big stick!

SusanR:

http://teachers.net/mentors/primary_elementary/topic43679/6.05.04.22.24.33.html

ShirleyHe: Rhonda, I use it in my class with their students and then send the students back excited about it and then the teachers ask me where I got it.

SusanR: these projects may motivate

ClaytonK: I'm over 6 ft. Ask Shirley..lol

ShirleyHe: And he's tough looking. lol

RhondaRH: Good idea, Shirley!

JeffC . o O (Susan really has to start using snipurl!)

ClaytonK: I do wander about campus to help folks out ... and have been teaching tech to adults for over 15yrs...I can usually get them interested in a non-threatening manner

JeffC: <http://snipurl.com/thirdgradewriting>

TeresaMT: I think that might be the key. Having someone around that knows what they are doing would be very helpful. We don't get a lot of technology assistance. It can be scary at times.

RhondaRH: Perhaps you could wander on over to Oklahoma . . .

JeffC: Hire me Teresa... I'm available... and online all the time!

RhondaRH: I am the technology assistance at school but they simply make their request to me and I do the rest.

TeresaMT: Thanks, Jeff, I will be calling you.

SusanR: have you used excel with your students?

ClaytonK: more like wander up...a lot

RhondaRH: I would just like for them to realize the wealth of information available to them.

RhondaRH: I have used excel -- 3rd - 6th grade.

ShirleyHe: I use excel a lot with my students

ClaytonK: Rhonda....it might be better to show them how to do it themselves....that whole teach the man to fish story

SusanR: ..the abc's of excel ...

SusanR: <http://www.forsyth.k12.ga.us/kadkins/abc.htm>

SusanR: ...neat timeline activity..

TeresaMT: We are having a weeklong Technology Inservice at our school this week and there are teachers there who have literally never sent an e-mail. They are starting at the beginning and there is a lot of excitement and teachers willing to try and help each other. Some good interaction going on.

ShirleyHe: Susan - this is a cool website.

SusanR: Time to wrap up..here is the listing of most sites mentioned here tonight..drumroll

RhondaRH: We need to do that and our administrator thinks about it but we have yet to do it.

SusanR: and Jeff, I am using snipurl here

AnneMarieE: Thanks for the website on Excel. It's full of easy to use lessons that I never thought of.

ShirleyHe: Susan - once again you did an excellent job of hosting us.
TeresaMT: Thanks for all of the great sites and resources. Goodnight.
AnneMarieE: Thanks for the wealth of resources Susan.
ClaytonK: Thank you Susan..great stuff
SusanR: <http://www.snipurl.com/BalLitTI>
RhondaRH: Thanks for making me feel welcome. It was nice chatting with you and learning about the wonderful sites.
ShirleyHe: One last question, what is snipul?
SusanR: An enthusiastic audience
JeffC: <http://www.snipurl.com> is a URL redirect site.
SusanR: It shortens a long url
ShirleyHe: thanks
JeffC: You go there... login (free) ... and there is a way to place it on your favorites bar. When you're at a site you want to "snip" you can do so... then you can edit its name.
SusanR: instead of
http://trackstar.hprtec.org/main/track_frames.php3?track_id=213782&nocache=1006398881
ShirleyHe: that's cool
ShirleyHe: I'll have to try it.
SusanR: <http://www.snipurl.com/BalLitTI>
JeffC: *very* useful for teachers! (and everyone else for that matter)
RhondaRH: Hey, that's neat!
SusanR: . o O (keeps a record of all your shortened urls as well.)
AnneMarieE: good night and thanks to all
ClaytonK: good trick...glad to be getting a transcript of this..lol
ShirleyHe: Thanks again Susan, I'm going to the Treehouse now.
JeffC: Great Trackstar track Susan. Any idea about what 5 other sites you might add to it?
RhondaRH: Thanks again! And I hope everyone has a great night!
SusanR: still under construction
ClaytonK: G'night all, have a good week
SusanR: Thanks all. See you at the end of the month
SusanR: Thanks Jeff. I will add your sites to the TRACK
JeffC: And I just added yours to my mybookmarks site in Language Arts!
JeffC: Great resources from you (as usual).
SusanR: Thanks, Jeff