

**Title of Session:** Preservice Teachers Forum

**Moderator:** Janet Naher-Snowden

**Title of File:** 20051201preservice

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Room: Hot Tub Conference

**Jan\_NS:** Welcome, everyone. We will just wait a few minutes in case we have some other latecomers.

**BJB2:** if you are new to Tapped In, please go to the ACTIONS menu in the top right of your chat window and click on DETACH

**Jan\_NS:** We usually start our discussions with introductions. I teach at the Univ. of Akron (Ohio) in curricular and instructional studies, college of education. Area of specialization is science education and instructional technology. also a doctoral student working on my dissertation.

**Jan\_NS:** I am also the facilitator for this discussion.

**ErinHer:** My name is Erin. I am a first grade teacher in Tustin, CA. I am attending Pepperdine University to get my masters in education now.

**Jan\_NS:** welcome, Erin.

**KendraH:** My name is Kendra Hollern. I am attending Pepperdine as a graduate student in education and I am an alumni from USC. I am currently a second grade teacher.

**ErinHer:** thank you

**Jan\_NS:** Hi, Kendra

**KendraH:** Hello

**Jan\_NS:** Kelly, are you still with us?

**KendraH:** This is my first time on Tapped In

**Jan\_NS:** well, I hope you find this useful and not too much of a problem, computer-wise.

**KendraH:** I am a more recent alumni from USC, I am 23 like your oldest son

**Jan\_NS:** maybe you are my lost daughter.

**KendraH:** maybe?!?

**Jan\_NS** grins

**KendraH:** Erin is having computer difficulty and she will log back on. She is my roommate.

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

**Jan\_NS:** ah, that makes for interesting chatter.

**Jan\_NS:** are you in your living space or in a computer lab?

**KendraH:** living space

**KendraH:** we are old friends from elementary, both USC grads, and teachers

**Jan\_NS:** ah

**ErinHer** joined the room.

**Jan\_NS:** welcome back.

**ErinHer:** thanks, sorry I was having comp issues

**Jan\_NS:** are you here as part of course requirement? and if so, what were your tasks for this experience?

**KendraH:** Yes- Technology in Education at Pepperdine

**Jan\_NS:** no problem, Erin. happens to all of us sometimes

**KendraH:** Assignment is to attend 2 Tapped In sessions and write a summary

**ErinHer:** yes, I am taking a technology class...same as Kendra...we have to attend sessions and explore this site

**Jan\_NS:** ah, so you are pretty much open to whatever we might discuss tonight?

**KendraH:** sure

**ErinHer:** sounds good

**Jan\_NS:** please share with me your thoughts about using technology in your classroom as an integral part of a lesson or activity. You both have young students so that

complicates things a bit. How might you use software, computers, etc. to have your students meet lesson objectives, etc.?

**KendraH:** My students have a computer teacher so I do not use the computer too often,

**ErinHer:** I love to use technology in my classroom the only thing is that my students are 6 and it is hard to find ways to meet their needs with it

**KendraH:** I would like to do powerpoints with the kids

**KendraH:** I have the kids do research for independent study

**Jan\_NS:** Kendra - what does the computer teacher do with your students?

**ErinHer:** I do pull up websites and use games for reading with them...they love to use the computer, its not like "school" for them

**KendraH:** typing skills, internet searches

**KendraH:** software games

**KendraH:** basic skills--cut, copy, paste

**ErinHer:** we do not have a computer teacher so I take them into the lab and I also have 3 computers in my room

**KendraH:** search for pictures in a library

**Jan\_NS:** how do you feel about these experiences? are the students meeting objectives or are they using the computers for learning skills, or reward time?

**KendraH:** meeting objectives

**Jan\_NS:** such as?

**KendraH:** I feel ok about it because they seem knowledgeable

**KendraH:** The computer teacher has the technology standards, writes the objectives, and gives the grades

**KendraH:** I get a list at the beginning of the year with this info.

**ErinHer:** I use the computers for learning experiences...to enhance a lesson, I don't let them just play games...I use computers for center time a lot, since it's more on an individual basis

**KendraH:** But I do not have it off hand now

**ErinHer:** I am doing report cards now and my students do get a grade in technology

**Jan\_NS:** knowledgeable about what? how to use the computer? or are the objectives related to content?

**KendraH:** We are not allowed to download any programs or software on our class computers, the district restricts too many internet sites-- the computers are mainly for publishing

**ErinHer:** I would say on grading...knowledgeable about the computer in other subjects obviously about content, it depends upon the goal of your lesson

**Jan\_NS:** sorry that I am asking so many questions - the younger students are more of a challenge when it comes to using computers.

**KendraH:** the kids need to know some content, but mainly skills

**ErinHer:** it is definitely a challenge because you have to be there to constantly assist them

**KendraH:** names of the parts, how to copy and paste, how to....

**Jan\_NS:** so how do you feel about using the computers so that the computer use is seamless with the lesson?

**ErinHer:** we are working on finding the keys etc.

**Jan\_NS:** Yes, Kendra, building skills to just use the computer is a challenge at this age.

**KendraH:** I just got a power cord to connect my computer to the tv

**Jan\_NS:** Are you familiar with Tom Snyder software?

**KendraH:** This will help with things I find on my computer and can show the kids during a lesson

**ErinHer:** that's a good idea

**KendraH:** no

**ErinHer:** I am not either

**KendraH:** I am not allowed to download anything on the school computers

**ErinHer:** what is this Tom Snyder software

**PatriciaSm** joined the room.

**Jan\_NS:** however, you might be able to if you can justify using the software.

**KendraH:** It is complicated

**KendraH:** I have tried before

**KendraH:** I wish it was easier

**Jan\_NS:** here is the URL to the site. <http://www.teachtsp.com>

**ErinHer:** thanks

**Jan\_NS:** this company has excellent software for the younger grades - you could use it as demonstration.

**KendraH:** thanks

**ErinHer:** oh okay

**Jan\_NS:** check graphclub under the math tab at the top of the page.

**KendraH:** we just did a math chapter on graphing

**KendraH:** that would be fun

**KendraH:** anything about money?

**ErinHer:** the product looks good

**Jan\_NS:** [http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours\\_Math.asp#](http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours_Math.asp#)

**Jan\_NS:** try this link - there is a product overview that you can watch about GraphClub

**Jan\_NS:** Hi, Patricia - welcome.

**Jan\_NS:** we are chatting about using computers and other technology with early childhood students.

**ErinHer:** I can't get it now on my computer

**KendraH:** I can see the product, I can not browse it though

**ErinHer:** we have money to use, I am going to suggest some of this stuff

**KendraH:** Can our school have some?

**Jan\_NS:** try the second link just above.

**KendraH:** the teachtsp.com link?

**Jan\_NS:** you can watch a flash "video"

**Jan\_NS:** [http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours\\_Math.asp#](http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours_Math.asp#)

**Jan\_NS:** this one

**Jan\_NS:** click on the icon for GraphClub

**Jan\_NS:** however, if you do not have the plug-in for your browser, this might not work.

**MariaN** joined the room.

**Jan\_NS:** This company is one that consistently produces excellent software to reinforce concepts that you must introduce in your instruction

**Jan\_NS:** It is difficult enough to manage using the computer as a teacher tool. Finding good software just complicates everything.

**KendraH:** I can watch the flash video

**KendraH:** Our school uses a lot of graphing and data as a part of the Baldrige program

**Jan\_NS:** Tom Snyder Productions has excellent, and thoughtfully designed user friendly software.

**KendraH:** so graphing was easy for the kids

**Jan\_NS:** That is good to hear, Kendra

**ErinHer:** We are just starting graphing concepts

**Jan\_NS:** check Neighborhood Mapmachine on the following link.

**Jan\_NS:** [http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours\\_SocialStudies.asp](http://www.teachtsp.com/tour/tours_SocialStudies.asp)

**KendraH:** that was cool

**KendraH:** we teach maps in second

**ErinHer:** we teach maps too

**Jan\_NS:** so you can see that there are some viable options for your classroom. When you have more time, visit this site again and check out some of the other software.

**Jan\_NS:** it sounds like you do have some restrictions about how you can use computers.

**KendraH:** yeah I have a lot of restrictions on my computers in my district

**ErinHer:** my district isn't that hard to get to sites...

**Jan\_NS:** Have you considered the option of creating a classroom web presence without having to worry about district restrictions?

**ErinHer:** thanks for giving us all of these websites....my team always looks for good software to use

**Jan\_NS:** are you familiar with TeacherWeb?

**KendraH:** what is that?

**ErinHer:** I have heard the name, but no

**Jan\_NS:** this is one way to maintain the home/school connection.

**Jan\_NS:** Unfortunately, it has a yearly fee but the resources that are available to you, the teacher, makes it worth it.

**ErinHer:** my school has a website and we can post things on there, but since my kids are so small they don't open it, but i do email with parents all the time

**KendraH:** that sounds interesting, I'll have to check it out

**Jan\_NS:** I will give you the URL and some further instructions, then you can explore. Hang on.....

**ErinHer:** cool

**Jan\_NS:** I have opened an example of what can be created with TeacherWeb. Explore for about 5 minutes or so and then come back. Think about ways that you might be able to use a resource like this to enhance parent/teacher communication.

**Jan\_NS:** <http://teacherweb.com/AK/Appleton/Applebee/>

**ErinHer:** thanks I'm going to take a look at it now...

**KendraH:** me too

**KellyN** joined the room.

**Jan\_NS:** hi, Kelly - we are checking out an example of TeacherWeb, a resource to enhance school/home communication

**Jan\_NS:** <http://teacherweb.com/AK/Appleton/Applebee/>

**KellyN:** Oh Hi

**KellyN:** I heard about teacherweb

**ErinHer:** I love the icons

**KellyN:** it is very great

**KellyN:** actually I have created one account from there

**ErinHer:** I could see how this would be very useful

**Jan\_NS:** if you create your own teacherweb, you can change many of the features as well as input all your classroom specifics

**KellyN:** I know...it is the way to communicate with other

**Jan\_NS:** all without knowing html

**KendraH:** yeah, I agree I could use this and modify some things too!

**Jan\_NS:** Kelly, would you be willing to share your teacherweb?

**KellyN:** like to create or communicate?

**Jan\_NS:** not sure what you mean Kelly

**KevinK** joined the room.

**Jan\_NS:** Hi, Kevin

**KevinK:** Hello

**KellyN:** you mean how to create the account, etc

**KellyN:** hi Kevin



**Jan\_NS:** we will be winding up our discussion in a few minutes.

**KellyN:** I can show you my website

**Jan\_NS:** Nevermind, Kelly. I just looked at the clock.

**KevinK:** Sorry

**KevinK:** I had the wrong time

**KellyN:** no prob

**Jan\_NS:** that's what I would like.

**Jan\_NS:** Kelly

**KellyN:** but just a draft from my class

**KellyN:** yes Jan

**Jan\_NS:** could you copy the URL and paste it here for a us

**BJB2:** This group will meet again on January 5

**KellyN:** <http://teacherweb.com/TX/PostElementarySchool/MsThien-VanNguyenMammalsWebQuest/index.html>

**Jan\_NS:** wow, long URL.

**KellyN:** yeah.. I know

**Jan\_NS:** Erin and Kendra - take a quick look.

**KendraH:** we are going to be learning about a webquest at our next class

**KendraH:** thanks for yours

**KendraH:** Kelly

**KellyN:** no problem

**KellyN:** hope that help

**KellyN:** not so great

**KellyN:** just a practice

**Jan\_NS:** so Teacherweb provides a template to assist in that process.

**Jan\_NS:** Well, we are about out of time. I hope that I was able to share some ideas for your classroom.

**ErinHer:** very cool...

**Jan\_NS:** Please join us in January 5 for another discussion.

**KellyN:** thx

**KendraH:** thanks

**Jan\_NS:** And thanks for coming this evening.

**KellyN:** hope that helps

**ErinHer:** thank you....

**KendraH:** bye

**Jan\_NS:** yes, thanks, Kelly

**Jan\_NS:** bye everyone.

**BJB2:** thanks, Jan

**BJB2** waves goodnight

**KellyN:** have a great one

**Jan\_NS:** you, too.

**KellyN** waves bye