

Title of Session: K-3+ Resource Room - Snow and Gingerbread

Moderator: Susan Roseman

Guest Speaker: Midge Frazel

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MidgeF: Sue and I teamed up to bring some resources for winter classrooms tonight

SusanR: If you have not met Midge ..you are in for a treat

BJB2: Do you want to start with introductions?

FredK: I am a literacy tutor in Snow, Oklahoma

SusanR: Midge, I found your youtube eportfolio

MidgeF: I am a technology consultant and author. I live in Bridgewater, MA

MidgeF: Oh, no YouTube. I am such a teen.

MidgeF: Now you must watch my Watch Hill video

SusanR: What a wonderful idea, Midge

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm a HelpDesk volunteer and I lead a math education and technology discussion. I'm in northern New Jersey, near NYC

MidgeF: For the rest of you, I just got my Master's degree via distance learning

SusanR: I am the moderator and facilitator of this evening's session.

SusanR: I teach K to 8 on an occasional basis. I reside in Ottawa, Ontario

MidgeF: I think Leslie and Heather are pre-service teachers.

SusanR: Well this calls for a celebration

SusanR brings out the bubbly

MidgeF: I have been celebrating since August. My diploma has arrived and it is hanging up

DavidWe gets the glasses

MidgeF: In the meantime, I am doing some writing, some blogging, and a lot of genealogy

SusanR: I took Project Teach at Lesley College

MidgeF: Cool. Yes, it was a long almost three years but I lived.

MidgeF: Susan was talking about my portfolio which I posted at YouTube.

MidgeF: I love making video type projects

SusanR: would you care to project it, Midge

MidgeF: But, tonight I'd like to talk about creating useful Web 1.0 resources for teachers

SusanR hands the floor to Midge!

MidgeF: Sure let me find the URL at YouTube. Busy yourself with the gingerbread people

FredK sips the bubbly

MidgeF: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juckzpNQ8lc>

MidgeF: That's the portfolio. It's public.

MidgeF: The prof said I was the only one to get brave and try posting it. It's kind weird to see how many people have viewed it.

MidgeF: But, it was a culminating product for a class called Emerging Technologies

SusanR: Did you use Photostory or imovie?

HeatherHo: sorry guys....I've missed out on the first few min...I'm finishing up a term paper

MidgeF: I used PhotoStory

SusanR: Welcome Heather, We are taking a look at Midge's Youtube eportfolio

HeatherHo: I'm Heather from KY and am a senior at Morehead State University. I start my student teaching in January

MidgeF: Hi Heather. Pass her the gingerbread and champagne

SusanR: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=juckzpNQ8lc>

DavidWe: good luck with your student teaching, Heather

HeatherHo: thanks!

MidgeF: This is my first movie (made with Movie Maker) about the seaside resort area of Watch Hill, RI (near CT)

MidgeF: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KEFuFxRvFIM>

SusanR: I happened to encounter two classes this week using the Gingerbread theme, Midge as part of their literacy program

MidgeF: Yes, that's why I made this page for my daughter's classroom. She teaches K

MidgeF: <http://www.midgefrazel.net/gingerbread.html>

SusanR: In fact I was in a 4 and 5 year old kindergarten with the Gingerbread theme

SusanR: They are so enthused

MidgeF: Just to give you some idea of how much teachers need this type of resource. My page during last week got 2,354 visits

DavidWe: Congratulations, Midge

SusanR: Wow! I sent the link out to our school district!

MidgeF: A lot has happened in schools in the past few years. It's not like the movie A Christmas Story anymore

FredK: My dialup seems to hangup on the download of YouTube. Starts good music though.

SusanR listens

MidgeF: Teachers are turning their curriculum into many ways and finding ways to celebrate winter without using Christmas

MidgeF: (YouTube is pretty intense on the bandwidth)

DavidWe: video always is

SusanR: The Festival of Lights is the theme in our school

MidgeF: It is interesting to note that although I am deep into Web 2.0 ideas, I believe that teachers need some resources that are easy to use and still fit into the standards

MidgeF: Yes, on the Snow page I have a link to Winter light.

MidgeF: <http://www.midgefrazel.net/snow.html>

MidgeF: Snow is a great theme that covers all of the grade levels.

HeatherHo: I am lovin all this stuff

HeatherHo smiles

SusanR: I notice most teachers are web 1.0 ..using it extensively for lesson plans and resources

MidgeF: I can hardly believe I made this page 6 years ago and it is still useful

MidgeF: To be honest, it takes years for teachers to embrace new technologies. So much stress in teaching now

DavidWe agrees

SusanR: I made my kinder page in 1999.. and it is still accessed

MidgeF: My school years look like the Christmas Story.

SusanR: I am working in a turnaround school

MidgeF: One thing I do love about the Web 2.0 stuff is that it gets teachers to talk to each other (like Tappedin)

SusanR: Tappedin is definitely web 2.0; well ahead of its time

MidgeF: One principal in Florida recently emailed me as she is going to try a "Snow" theme in her entire school this month.

MidgeF: The majority of kids there have never seen snow.

SusanR: What are your top 5 web 2.0 apps for teachers. Midge?

HeatherHo: Snow would be a great theme for kids in FL

DavidWe smiles

MidgeF: It is hard for me to imagine them working with it

DavidWe: yes

HeatherHo: I have friend from there who has never seen it

MidgeF: I think teachers should start by investigating blogs first

SusanR: and then

MidgeF: and then work up to listening to podcasts

MidgeF: I have a friend who LIVES for TuxPaint

SusanR: very similar to Kidpix

MidgeF: It's open source and she's going to have kids make snow pictures with it this month.

MidgeF: Of course, as for math, gingerbread men are symmetry

MidgeF: and snowflake making is a good math and art project.

DavidWe appreciates the symmetry and patterns of snowflakes

MidgeF: Snow science is super interesting and lends to learning about winter animals such as the very popular polar bears and penguins

HeatherHo: I love penguins!

SusanR: <http://snowflakes.lookandfeel.com/> is a lot of fun

DavidWe smiles

MidgeF said that especially since you are an admirer of my frame

MidgeF: My favorite snow idea came from my public librarians who used the snow painting idea

HeatherHo: I made a snowflake! Thanks Susan!

MidgeF: They showed me the link at family crafts where you make snow with Elmer's glue and shaving cream.

HelenK: here are some 'snow activities' from The ChildFun Family
<http://www.childfun.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=165>

MidgeF: One of my favorites is reading Ezra Jack Keats The Snowy Day (a classic)

MidgeF: and my daughter loves the Old Lady Who Swallowed Snow

FredK: Not a fly?

MidgeF: But, so many things can be done with these ideas and work on reading and writing skills.

MidgeF: Yes, swallowed like as Fly

FredK: lol

HelenK: another site that has good activities http://www.fvsd.ab.ca/stm/winter_sites.htm

MidgeF: Many of the classic rhyming (like Catch the Gingerbread man) have new books based on the tale or fable.

MidgeF: Yes, Helen I have admired that one too.

SusanR: our kinder classes will be reading and comparing various versions of The Gingerbread Man

MidgeF: I am especially taken with the Cajun idea

MidgeF: Of course, the famous children's author and illustrator Jan Brett, gives away so many things on her Web site.

MidgeF: She lives about 40 minutes from me. I keep hoping to go to one of her book signings.

MidgeF: I once wanted to be a science teacher so that's why I made the snow page. I'd like to see Middle School science spiced up a bit.

DavidWe smiles

MidgeF: OK. As you can see I have a lot to say (and share).

SusanR: Is your site accessed by middle school and secondary educators as well, Midge

MidgeF: And I'd like to know what kinds of ideas you people think teachers need for resources. I take requests

MidgeF: Yes, I think so. Many teachers of upper grades use my Salem Witch project and my Thanksgiving primary resources.

SusanR: Stone Soup is another popular classic, Midge

MidgeF: I do get emails from teachers about my Ellis Island and my Looking for America pages too

MidgeF: I don't know why but Stone Soup is not in our list for MA anymore.

SusanR: hmm

MidgeF: I think the pressure of our state mandated test leaves little room for all the literature.

SusanR: what about nursery rhymes? Are they being neglected?

MidgeF: I did learn in my Master's classes that other states are more technologically advanced than the ones in the East.

MidgeF: Yes, I think the fables and fairy tales have taken over for nursery rhymes.

MidgeF: After all, there is so much children's literature around now that better relates to today's child.

SusanR: true

MidgeF: My first library had a potbelly stove and a very strict "no talking" policy.

HeatherHo: I haven't been exposed to anything about nursery rhymes in my undergraduate studies, so I don't think it plays a big role like it used to

MidgeF: I was just reading about the history of it yesterday.

MidgeF: Nursery rhymes are very "British" in origin. They don't all make much sense.

FredK . o O (politics)

MidgeF: OK we have a few more minutes and my fingers are tired...

SusanR: There is so much you can do with nursery rhymes in terms of writing and literacy etc

SusanR: Is there much of a request for resources on bullying or does that figure into Character Ed

MidgeF: I think we all are affected by what our parents and grandparents read to us. We tend to want to read those over and over.

MidgeF: I put bullying into my Character ed page

MidgeF: But, it is a very problematic topic.

SusanR: Shakespeare is the popular theme of the moment

MidgeF: I get requests to put links to companies selling their curriculum to schools.

FredK: William Bennett; Virtues

MidgeF: Yes. That's one resource that is popular. But, parents are not happy about the schools doing "their" job. It's a big topic.

MidgeF: OK Sue, it's up to you. See, I told you I could type for an hour. <grin>

SusanR: Well thanks Midge!

BJB2 cheers for Midge

MidgeF: And thanks to all of you for sharing and discussing.

SusanR: Perhaps we can collaborate later on in the new year.

FredK claps

HeatherHo: Thank you so much for all the great links and ideas

DavidWe: Thanks, Midge. Great discussion

MidgeF: December is such a hard month. I am in my PJs and slippers

SusanR: Web 2.0 and the K to 3+ Teacher

DavidWe . o O (and in California, right?)

SusanR: Web 2.0 and the K to 3+ Teacher/Student

MidgeF: Visit my pages and tell me what you think. Eat gingerbread and make snow angels.

FredK happily waves

SusanR: I will do that over the holidays

MidgeF: I am going to FETC next month and will look for that very thing

SusanR: I will..over the holiday

HeatherHo: well, I must get back to work on my term paper...I'm sure I will see u all around in another discussion soon!

MidgeF: Goodnight all and sweet dreams

HeatherHo: Thanks for everything!

HeatherHo: Goodnight

DavidWe waves bye to Midge

SusanR: Thanks you for attending and sharing. Happy holidays

FredK: Happy Holidays from Snow

KathySc joined the room.

MidgeF: You're welcome. Thanks David for the admiration

DavidWe is happy to help

SusanR: Hi Kathy. We are wrapping up.

DavidWe: Hi, Kathy. Welcome

BJB2 waves hi to Kathy. You missed an excellent discussion

KathySc: Hi, just stopping by...anything by Midge is ALWAYS great!

MidgeF: Hmmmmmmmmm

BJB2 waves goodnight

SusanR: We looked at Midge's super sites and resources for Gingerbread and Snow

MidgeF: Pass the Web Queen the last gingerbread man.

KathySc: AH, just the thing to help us get through this pre-holiday week!

SusanR: However, we were unable to catch the gingerbread man

FredK checks

HelenK: thanks everyone - another great session but I have to go. Have a great holiday season