

**Title of Session:** K-3+ Resources - Back to School

**Moderator:** Susan Roseman

**Guest Speaker:** Camille LoParrino

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**SusanR:** The theme tonight is Back to School: challenges, excitement and jitters of being back in the classroom

**SusanR:** to start a fresh new year

**SusanR:** Let's start with brief intros

**BJB2:** I teach communication in Pennsylvania

**SusanR:** where are you from and what brings you here and what you hope to get out of this session

**BJB2:** new year jitters are something even experienced teachers get

**SusanR:** I am a substitute teacher, tutor and wanna be background extra in movies

**CamilleL:** I have a literacy and an ed technology background and I hope to find something in one or both of these areas for the new school year.

**SusanR:** from Ottawa, Ontario Canada where a number of movies have been shot around town

**CamilleL:** I come from the Bronx, New York.

**SonyaAndrV:** Hi, I am from Texas and am studying to be elementary teacher.

**CamilleL:** How wonderful for you Sonya.

**SusanR:** I always get the jitters at the start of a school year.

**CamilleL:** Elementary kiddies are my favorite.

**CamilleL:** Everyone does -- even seasoned teachers, Sue.

**VictoriaNG:** from Texas

**CamilleL:** No matter how many years, or how skilled, you still get nervous/excited that

first day.

**VictoriaNG:** I'm sure

**CamilleL:** it's like the opening of a show -- Action!

**CamilleL:** You're well prepared, but there are so many new things to face.

**CamilleL:** I tell you to me teaching is a career, not just a job. I'm glad I'm in this profession.

**CamilleL:** The kiddies keep me young too!

**SusanR:** Once a teacher; always a teacher. There is something magnetic about teaching

**CamilleL:** I just love working with these little ones, and watching them get things for the first time -- truly awesome those ah ha moments, eh?

**SusanR:** WE ARE SEASONED TEACHERS, VICTORIA!!

**CamilleL:** A little pat on the back for all us, please.

**BJB2:** Pats Camille and Sue on the back :-)

**SusanR** claps

**CamilleL:** aw, thank you so much, BJ

**CamilleL:** and you, Sue.

**BJB2:** so, how are you going to help us get over those jitters, Sue?

**SusanR:** What are your concerns as you enter the teaching profession, Victoria?

**SusanR:** and Sonya

**CamilleL:** Oh, two newbies -- how sweet!

**CamilleL:** what can I do to help?

**SonyaAndrV:** Okay...some of my concerns are--will I be able to keep my student interested? Will I be able to control them?

**SusanR:** If you are really jittery you can consider scripting your first day

**SusanR:** I like Harry Wong's columns on teachers.net

**SonyaAndrV**: Will I be able to explain in a way they can understand the lesson

**CamilleL**: if you are truly passionate about your teaching, that should help keep the students interested as well.

**SusanR**: take a look at this first day script and then give us your comments

**SusanR**: <http://teachers.net/wong/AUG07/>

**CamilleL**: try one way, and then try another, until they get it, or have another kiddie explain it.

**SusanR**: If you are new to teaching you may want to peruse this script for the 1st day

**CamilleL**: I'm not so sure I'm comfortable with the term script. Although for a new teacher, having this to fall back on should help. But, I would advise not to depend on it and to get ready to improvise.

**BJB2** . o O ( plan B is always a good idea )

**SusanR**: exactly, Camille

**CamilleL**: and that goes for the duration of the year, not just the first day.

**CamilleL**: our kiddies come in hungry, angry, confused, etc. and we need to address their personal needs as well.

**SusanR**: I have some key points that I gleaned from the discussion area in the K to 3 Resource Room

**SusanR**: 1. Get everything done in your personal life NOW. Make sure everything is current, extra meals are frozen, that closet you always wanted cleaned-do it now or forget about it. The first months of actually teaching will be exhausting. Be prepared.

**SusanR**: 2. Try to get in your classroom as soon as possible to set things up and to use this as an opportunity to get to know the staff. Once school begins, everyone is so busy. Make the contacts now, it will help you out incredibly later.

**VictoriaNG**: right

**CamilleL**: I think if you can relax more, and try not to be so worried, then you won't be so exhausted.

**SusanR**: I usually spend a week or two setting up

**CamilleL:** you mean, setting up your materials?

**CamilleL:** I think that's what we call our "toolbox"

**SonyaAndrV:** I would imagine the classroom

**SusanR:** decorating, looking at texts, preparing materials,

**SonyaAndrV:** yupp

**CamilleL:** unless of course you're an out of the classroom type teacher -- you do not have a classroom to set up.

**SusanR:** just peruse these responses <http://www.scribd.com/doc/245603/Back-to-School>

**SusanR:** that came into the K to 3 resource Room

**SusanR:** we are a support group for new and seasoned teachers

**SusanR:** and be sure to really enjoy your summer  
<http://www.scribd.com/people/view/5075>

**CamilleL:** I like that word "network" -- we totally need this to support each other at work and at home.

**SusanR:** that's me at a friend's cottage

**SusanR:** separate play and work

**CamilleL:** oh, what a cool outfit -- you look so relaxed. do you also have a "during the year" photo =)

**SusanR:** collaborative group

**SusanR:** thank you Camille

**SusanR:** I am in my play mode right now

**CamilleL:** collaboration is key for us teachers.

**CamilleL:** we need to support each other and compliment each other -- a lot in order to keep going.

**SonyaAndrV:** I agree

**CamilleL:** it is a difficult profession, but we don't have reinvent the wheel. There are

many people, places, ideas, etc. to help us to do our jobs.

**CamilleL:** like right here at Tapped In

**SusanR:** collaborate with your school division; share resources with teachers; team teach and team plan

**CamilleL:** Also, go to various educational websites like My eCoach, TeachersNet, Filamentality.

**CamilleL:** a wealth of resources to utilize out there on the Net.

**SusanR:** Mentoring is popular and supportive to new teachers

**CamilleL:** if you don't have one, hook up with one of your own. Look around see who's sure of her/himself.

**SonyaAndrV:** mmhmm...

**SusanR:** comments

**SusanR:** I know we are bombarding you with tried and true techniques

**SonyaAndrV:** I think they are all very helpful

**SonyaAndrV:** and true, they make a lot of sense

**CamilleL:** did I mention you need to go out at lunchtime, not to stay in your room for a change of environment, and get an ipod with soothing music, like Sade.

**SonyaAndrV:** =]]

**VictoriaNG:** lol

**CamilleL:** guaranteed to get you through =).

**CamilleL:** working on something else, Sue, or are we through here?

**SusanR:** take a look at some basic sites..they deal with timely topics and monthly themes

**SusanR:** ie education world

**SusanR:** <http://educationworld.com/>

**CamilleL:** oh, my goodness, the best! so very informative and up to date!

**SusanR**: or for PD <http://www.marcopolo-education.org/home.aspx>

**SusanR**: formerly MarcoPolo and now taken over by Thinkfinity

**BJB2** likes MarcoPolo

**BJB2** . o O ( especially ReadWriteThink )

**SusanR**: I think I will leave you with those two basic sites

**SusanR**: what do you think< Camille

**BJB2**: Sue will meet again for K-3+ Resources on August 29

**CamilleL**: I just love, and the kiddies adore, [www.ecokids.ca](http://www.ecokids.ca)

**CamilleL**: if you like facts, info, and riddles

**SusanR**: Back to School will be the topic again.

**CamilleL**: I will return!

**SusanR**: Great having you on board, Camille

**BJB2** hopes Sonya and Victoria will be able to join the discussion again, too!

**SonyaAndrV**: thank you for all your help

**CamilleL**: if you need me, call me, no matter where you are, no matter how far =).

**BJB2** waves goodnight

**CamilleL**: nitey nite, BJB, Sonya, Victoria, David (why so quite), and Sue

**SusanR**: Join the K to 3+RESOURCE ROOM AND POST TO THE DISCUSSION AREA AT ANY TIME PLEASE

**DavidW** waves to Camille

**SusanR**: if you have a concern or worry

**DavidW**: Take care, Camille

**SusanR**: or need help with lesson planning