

**Title of Session:** K to 3+ Resources - Ice Breakers, Warm-ups and Energizers

**Moderator:** Susan Roseman

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Room: Comfy Conference

**BarbaraMu:** beautiful fall feeling night in New Jersey...lets you know school is going to start soon

**CamilleL:** cool here too in New York

**SusanR:** here too

**SusanR:** beautiful cycling day

**BarbaraMu:** many on vacation this week before school next week

**DavidW** joined the room.

**DavidW** waves

**CamilleL:** school starts here for teachers on Thursday this week

**CamilleL:** Hello David

**DavidW:** Hi, Camille

**SusanR:** two days from now..what's your assignment this year, Camille

**CamilleL:** would you believe I have no idea as yet?

**SusanR:** we start next Tuesday

**CamilleL:** The kids start next Tuesday here too

**SusanR:** I am sure you will know shortly, Camille

**SusanR:** Barbara, can you tell us a bit about your role as School Counselor

**SusanR:** and David, Jeff and Bj ..what's in store for you in the upcoming year

**BarbaraMu:** Right now, am working in private practice but this week has been filled with either very anxious little ones as school is to start or with my ADD clients trying to get a leg up on organization

**BjB** : I'm taking one day at a time....and enjoying each day as a gift!

**DavidW** smiles

**SusanR** : I love Bj's philosophy!

**SusanR** : Jeff?? David??

**BarbaraMu**: When I was in school, this was when I sent postcards to all new students inviting them to be part of a newcomers group...creating a world and US map showing where all the new staff and students came from for a hallway display...

**DavidW** is hoping to get some more people involved in TI discussions on math and technology

**CamilleL**: sounds just like something they do in an ESL classroom

**CamilleL**: count me out I have no brains for math

**DavidW** notes that Camille used the word "count" so she has SOME brains for math

**CamilleL**: cute, David

**DavidW** bows humbly

**DavidW**: trying to accent the positive - especially at the start of the school year

**CamilleL**: I agree

**BarbaraMu**: absolutely!

**CamilleL**: so what do you do when a child admits they hate math, David

**SusanR** : read MATH CURSE

**DavidW**: yes!

**DavidW** smiles

**DavidW**: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Math\\_Curse](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Math_Curse)

**CamilleL**: yeah, I remember the math coach was plugging that book too.

**DavidW**: may depend a little on the age, Camille

**DavidW:** Have students draw, photograph, document mathematics in the real world (angles, parallel lines, geometric shapes) - all over New York City

**CamilleL:** sounds fabulous! we have so many interesting buildings as you know

**SusanR:** use a digital camera and photograph math concepts in real life

**DavidW:** train tracks, manhole covers...

**CamilleL:** this I could relate too myself

**CamilleL:** especially the manhole covers that don't fit :)

**SusanR:** this was my link of the moment for energizing the school year  
<http://mathwire.com/>

**DavidW:** . o O ( why are they circles? What if they were other shapes? )

**CamilleL:** hmmm, never thought of that one, David

**DavidW:** . o O ( would they fall through the hole? )

**CamilleL:** thanks for the site Sue, I sent it to the math coach

**SusanR:** there are students who have math phobias

**CamilleL:** and teachers who have them too (me)

**SusanR:** nah

**CamilleL:** I worked alongside a math teacher while I taught English, and it was a major celebration when I got something right

**SusanR:** math is not my area of expertise either

**CamilleL:** the kids started to believe I was faking it; and the math teacher said I would soon be teaching it :)

**SusanR:** but being a computer geek has improved my mathematical ability

**DavidW:** smiles

**CamilleL:** how is that

**SusanR:** and of course hanging around the K to 12 Math groups here helped

**SusanR**: they are support groups

**SusanR**: I played with LOGO quite a bit

**CamilleL**: you mean math computer games, Sue?

**SusanR**: Turtle Geometry

**DavidW**: finding math in daily life - often that helps some students who don't feel as confident or haven't had much success previously

**DavidW**: <http://www.learner.org/interactives/dailymath/>

**SusanR**: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/catalog/item/default.asp?ttype=2&tid=7287>

**SusanR**: the early days of computers and all those games I played must have helped

**SusanR**: plus some programming etc

**CamilleL**: there is a fourth grade teacher I admire who does exactly that, David, relating math to real life.

**CamilleL**: thanks for the site Sue, I sent it to my husband, who ironically, is a math teacher :)

**SusanR**: cute

**DavidW**: part of the challenge is to communicate ENTHUSIASM for the topic, Camille - that can be tough if you don't feel confident

**SusanR**: here are some great resources

**SusanR**: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/4787245/MATH-Resources>

**CamilleL**: why do you like this one, Sue?

**SusanR**: which one Camille

**CamilleL**: the scribd one?

**CamilleL**: obviously I'm the artistic one, and the graphics do not appeal to me :)

**SusanR**: I can post and store docs online

**CamilleL**: and how is this math related? I missed something

**SusanR**: and refer to them easily in my Tapped In sessions

**SusanR**: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/4874139/Early-Numeracy-Must-Read-List-of-Books>

**SusanR**: share them with colleagues

**BarbaraMu**: would love to hear about some of the icebreakers you have collected Sue

**CamilleL**: me too!

**SusanR**: o O ( access PDFs online ..Scribd is a way to easily put your documents online. )

**SusanR**: let me grab those links, Barbara

**SusanR**: let's start with <http://teachers.net/gazette/AUG08/sigmon/>

**CamilleL**: this is good encouragement to begin a writers workshop

**SusanR**: These two ice breakers are unique...

**SusanR**: <http://teachers.net/mentors/buildingblocks/topic879/7.17.03.16.33.20.html>

**SusanR**: Is there anything else you might use here?

**BarbaraMu**: Interesting about the survival kits...so different and practical from the emotional survival kits counselors tend to go toward  
[http://www.educationworld.com/a\\_curr/curr358.shtml](http://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/curr358.shtml)

**CamilleL**: what about brainstorming as to whether they've followed the Olympics and you could tie in helps overcoming his ADD adversity

**BarbaraMu**: or if they got 8 gold medals, what would they get them for to get them to identify strengths

**BarbaraMu**: and then do a bulletin board about that

**SusanR**: an excellent idea

**CamilleL**: yes, I agree. Important for students to see how they could be gold and silver winners too.

**BarbaraMu**: plus, from a multiple intelligences standpoint, it might give you some clues about how best to reach them and allow them to demonstrate mastery of concepts

**CamilleL:** how would you find that out Barbara?

**SusanR:** a good way to teach to student's strengths throughout the year

**BarbaraMu:** If kids id their strengths, I am guessing it would relate to physical or natural sciences or writing or one of the other MI s

**BarbaraMu:** or mathematic (as a plug for David.....)

**CamilleL:** sometimes they don't (even adults don't) know how to identify their strengths

**BarbaraMu:** that's why it's important to brainstorm lots of strengths first and get them all on the board so that they have something to choose from when they get stumped

**BjB . o O** ( things they like and things they don't like is sometimes an alternative )

**SusanR:** I used to play on kid's strengths when I was in the classroom

**BarbaraMu:** I had a lesson I did called any way you slice it I'm deluxe...it started with a reproduced sheet of a pizza.

**BarbaraMu:** It had a bunch of toppings- artistic, athletic, smart, etc

**BarbaraMu:** they were on mushroom and pepperoni shapes

**BarbaraMu:** the kids would color the ones they thought fit them, glue them on the pizza, and cut it out

**BarbaraMu:** we would do it just before back to school night and the teachers would make a small board in the room with them for kids and parents to see

**BarbaraMu:** but I would always say, could you stand if you said you are artistic. Could you stand if you said you were good at whatever. It's a new year and a new mix of kids and you want them to see commonalities and differences so they connect

**CamilleL:** it would also be helpful to highlight some of the good qualities of their favorite personalities through biographies

**SusanR:** I am going to end this session with Adrian Bruce, a teacher from down under who has energized his grade 4 students over the years and who is now involved in using tech to energize both students and teachers alike!

**BarbaraMu:** cool

**SusanR:** he has a great blog

**SusanR**: a tool box he has developed for teachers ..and lots of reading resources and printables as well

**SusanR**: <http://adrianbruce.com/teacher-toolbox/>

**SusanR**: here is the literacy material

**SusanR**: <http://www.adrianbruce.com/reading/games.htm>

**CamilleL**: now this is totally up my alley -- graphics and music

**BarbaraMu**: pretty site, isn't it!?

**BarbaraMu**: thank you

**SusanR**: I have used his art lessons as well

**BjB**: Thanks, Sue, for some great discussion

**SusanR**: you might want to use his poetry self esteem poem  
<http://www.adrianbruce.com/poetry/self-esteem-1.htm>

**BarbaraMu**: thanks Sue! G'night