

Title of Session: K to 3+ Resources - Student and Teacher Interactives

Moderator: Susan Roseman

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Room: Comfy Conference Room

SusanR: Hi there

BJB2: hi, Dodge. Welcome to Tapped In

DodgeGst10: Hi - I'm one of the SendItHome developers. Thanks for mentioning us tonight

SusanR: Dodge is one of the creators senditHome Bj

CamilleL joined the room.

DodgeGst10: Ah, you already know :)

SusanR: Oh hello Camille

RandyNGst21 joined the room.

CamilleL: Hello there

BJB2 smiles. Hi! It's an honor to meet you!

DodgeGst10: And that's Randy, our second one

BJB2 waves hi to Camille and Randy

DodgeGst10: Thanks! Now, Randy and I are both high school students, so I hope it's okay that we're here tonight.

CamilleL: Hello

BJB2: and an honor to meet you also, Randy

SusanR . o O (and Randy is his partner in crime)

BJB2: we're excited to have you here, Dodge and Randy!

CamilleL: Are these students of yours, Sue?

RandyNGst21: Excited to be here!

DodgeGst10 is also excited

SusanR: No, but I wish

DodgeGst10: Dare County, NC

SusanR: Perhaps we should start with intros

BJB2 . o O (we're not nearly as stuffy as we seem...the age thing is a legal precaution.)

BJB2: good idea, Sue.

RandyNGst21: ok, is there audio?

DodgeGst10: Yep, we can understand that... we had to take a good long look at COPPA before we started SendItHome

SusanR: I am the facilitator for K to 3+ Great Resources

BJB2: Welcome to this month's K to 3 Resource discussion

SusanR: only if we use Skype, Randy..along with the chat

RandyNGst21: ok

DodgeGst10: My mic isn't working right now, so I'll just be chatting along

SusanR: Tapped In is text based

DodgeGst10: I'll let Randy introduce himself before me...

RandyNGst21: ok

SusanR: I am a K to 6 substitute teacher from Ontario Canada and I facilitate the K to 3+ Great resources sessions here

SusanR: Camille??

CamilleL: I have friends in Rock Hill South Carolina, near the western part of the North Carolina border.

RandyNGst21: I am currently a junior in high school and do some web development work at home, the biggest project I work on is sendithome.net

CamilleL: I'm a Reading Teacher in the Bronx New York

BJB2: I'm a retired communication and art teacher in Pennsylvania

SusanR: Randy, Dodge..tell us about sendithome

DodgeGst10: I was the founder of SendItHome, and I'm a freshman in High School this year

SusanR: I featured it on the whiteboard btw

RandyNGst21: Dodge got the idea for SendItHome at school, he was getting really tired of people asking him for a thumb drive to borrow, so he created the site using the Drupal platform

DodgeGst10: I'm known as my class' resident tech guy :)

RandyNGst21: I was chatting with him from time to time and started helping him out over Thanksgiving break this year

BJB2 grins. I wish you were in my class! Want to come live with me?

SusanR . o O (the school hero)

DodgeGst10: And it's thanks to Randy that we have our great logo

DodgeGst10: I'm no artist, haha

SusanR: I like the site ..nice and clean and clear no advertising...and works flawlessly

BJB2: how did you find out about the site, Sue?

CamilleL: could you put up the site, sue?

RandyNGst21: <http://sendithome.net/>

SusanR: at edtechtalk.com

SusanR: I am a web 2.0 tool geek

CamilleL: how does this work?

BJB2: how did you get the idea to use the math problem to authenticate the message, Randy?

BJB2 . o O (or Dodge?)

RandyNGst21: We are planning to be back next Sunday for EdTechWeekly for a follow up interview*

RandyNGst21: that would be Dodge

RandyNGst21: He had all of that stuff done by the time I joined

DodgeGst10: That was mine... I wanted to make sure that there was some CAPTCHA there, and a math problem was academic-related, so I picked that instead of the jumbled words / letters

BJB2: brilliant!

RandyNGst21: I like the math problem better :)

SusanR: blogger uses the jumbled letters and I hate it

DodgeGst10: Drupal's been a really big help so far... everything we need can be done really easily

DodgeGst10: How'd you find out about us, by the way?

RandyNGst21: I think she said EdTechTalk?

SusanR: I twittered and wrote to you

DodgeGst10: Ah, sorry

BJB2: is there a limit to the size files you can accept?

DodgeGst10: Focusing on 15 different things right now... I'm a multi-tasker :)

SusanR: as a result of attending Edtechtalk

DodgeGst10: I think we've got 10 MBs right now

SusanR: Do you have any other projects up your sleeve

RandyNGst21: Actually, we do have one in the planning...

RandyNGst21: stages*

DodgeGst10: Well... right now, we're working on adding file storage onto SendItHome for one thing

DodgeGst10: As a sort of premium feature for districts / schools

SusanR: still FREE

DodgeGst10: Yep. Always free.

BJB2: how do the students get the homework back to school?

RandyNGst21: Never get rid of the free, just add premium features

SusanR: good point

DodgeGst10: That's something we've been working on. We're trying to get a login system set up so people can log in and store files.

DodgeGst10: Probably will be released in spring 09.

DodgeGst10: IF all goes well.

SusanR: Would this be useful as a tool for you, Camille?

BJB2: very cool.

CamilleL: I'm still trying to figure out what it is.

DodgeGst10: Most schools have e-mail access blocked, so SendItHome let's students easily transfer files from school to home.

SusanR: Randy, Dodge, further explanation???

CamilleL: oh, that's good.

LaraH joined the room.

DodgeGst10 passes the mic to Randy

BJB2: good job, Lara!

SusanR: Welcome, Lara

LaraH: Thank you.

SusanR: We are discussing sendithome

BJB2: Lara, our guests are Randy and Dodge. They're developing a website for students

SusanR: Have you ever needed to work on a school project at home, but your e-mail is blocked? No thumb drive in sight? SendItHome is for you.

BJB2: <http://sendithome.net/>

SusanR: You may have to hold down the control key

BJB2: . o O (overrides pop up blockers)

LaraH: ok- it opened. Thanks

RandyNGst21: Are there any other questions or comments on the site? Or suggestions of what would be a useful addition?

SusanR: or allow pop up windows

CamilleL: you're saying a word document done in school could be sent home?

RandyNGst21: Yes

DodgeGst10: Yep

SusanR: great for completing homework projects

DodgeGst10: Randy and I go to separate schools too... both in the district, but two (competing) schools

CamilleL: oh, that's cool, then it's better than porta portal where the document needs to be html, eh?

SusanR: and returning the completed printed version

RandyNGst21: The beauty of the site, compared to other file sharing sites, is that we can strictly regulate the file types that are allowed through the pipes.

CamilleL: what does that mean "regulate the files"?

DodgeGst10: Since people can send viruses through it, we have to strictly monitor what kind of files are sent.

SusanR: unacceptable content

RandyNGst21: Exactly

CamilleL: oh,

DodgeGst10: And our system is (almost) flawless, especially with the amount of human time we spend on it. We don't leave everything up to the computer.

DodgeGst10: THAT'S Randy's job.

SusanR: so it's filtered

CamilleL: good idea.

RandyNGst21: Very much so.

RandyNGst21: Otherwise we would make it onto the blacklist on the school's filters

CamilleL: how do you make it onto the blacklist?

DodgeGst10: I'll let Randy explain that one

JeffC joined the room.

RandyNGst21: By having a security risk being associated with the site, such as the allowance of viruses to easily be transferred. Or having other inappropriate files be transferred.

CamilleL: oh.

RandyNGst21: My favorite file sharing site, drop.io, is blocked at school because you can easily retrieve or upload such files, making it a security risk

CamilleL: why is that one your favorite?

RandyNGst21: ease of use, no login required, easy security/password protection, and time limits on the URL that you host your files on

CamilleL: so delightful to see and hear high school boys are contributing something so constructive. I'll have to advise my junior high school students to visit your site.

SusanR: This is Dropio <http://drop.io/>

DodgeGst10: Thanks - we can use the attention!

CamilleL: then it's done!

SusanR: You certainly have a mission, Randy and Dodge. I do hope this counts as a school assignment or project

BJB2: thanks for taking the time to visit us at Tapped In, Dodge and Randy

CamilleL: goodness, and hopefully an income as well, Sue!

RandyNGst21: Anytime, thanks for having us on!

DodgeGst10: We're glad to have been invited!

CamilleL: kudos!

SusanR: The rest of the session will be devoted to teacher/student interactive sites

CamilleL: o.k.

DodgeGst10: We'll be keeping everyone up to date on our Twitter @ <http://www.twitter.com/sendithome>

SusanR: Please remain, Dodge and Randy

DodgeGst10: Absolutely :)

BJB2: . o O (we do make some exceptions from time to time on the membership age, btw.)

RandyNGst21 smiles

SusanR: Head over to edtechtalk on Sunday. I will be there as well

BJB2: you're both more than welcome to join the Tapped In community. Maybe you can teach your teachers a little about what's available

JeffC hasn't twittered or ninged much lately.

JeffC suggests they login on Saturday as well... set up K-12 classrooms here.

DodgeGst10: Oh, really?

SusanR: Jeff is our resident helpdesk and online support guru here at TI

DodgeGst10: I'll set up my account after this session

JeffC: yup... we do make some exceptions and allow full membership to select under 18 students.

DodgeGst10 smiles

JeffC: but we definitely recommend having your teacher(s) sign up and set up virtual

classrooms here. The major reason we want that is for security (there are other reasons, such as increasing collaboration possibilities between K-12 classes).

SusanR: What grade are you in, Dodge and Randy?

DodgeGst10: I'm a freshman in high school right now

RandyNGst21: I'm a junior in high school.

SusanR: well good luck and I will spread the word

RandyNGst21: Thank you very much.

DodgeGst10: Thanks for helping us like this

SusanR: We have time to look at one or two interactive sites for teachers, Camille and friends.

DodgeGst10: Jeff: is there a student option on the registration form?

JeffC: believe it or not... most educators really *do* want to help students!

JeffC: are you registering now Dodge?

JeffC: bottom line is you'll have to lie... since you'll be checking a box that says you're over 18.

SusanR . o O (or I could leave the sites for next month)

JeffC: put in what is necessary, but also tell your parents what you're doing... indeed, click Actions- Send to Pasteboard and copy/paste this into an email to yourself and them (and your teacher).

BJB2: if you have holiday sites, you might want to share them today, Sue

BJB2 . o O (maybe Jeff and Randy and Dodge can move to another room to talk?)

DodgeS joined the room.

DodgeS: There we go :)

JeffC: I'm pretty much done... but if they want to talk they can send me a private chat (double click my name in the Here tab to the left).

BJB2: welcome to the community, Dodge!

SusanR: Scholastic features some holiday sites and the focus is interactive

DodgeS: Thanks! :)

BJB2 nods to Sue

RandyNGst21: Be right back, registering

SusanR: go ahead and register

SusanR: <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/learn.jsp>

DodgeS: Let me take a look around the dashboard here...

BJB2 checks to see if Camille and Lara got the url

CamilleL: yes, I see it.

SusanR: there are printables and craft activities

SusanR: Lara, are you fine?

RandyN joined the room.

RandyN: There we go!

BJB2: Welcome to the Tapped In community, Randy

RandyN: Thanks

SusanR: Hi Randy

CamilleL: and e cards -- I sent you one, sue.

BJB2: we're looking at <http://www2.scholastic.com/browse/learn.jsp>

SusanR: Thanks Camille

CamilleL: welcome :)

SusanR: Randy, do note the holiday scrapbook activities

JeffC heads out the door... is afk.

DodgeS: Looks good...

SusanR: Thanks Jeff. There are interactives here to last the school year.

SusanR: <http://storyconnection.net/blog/2008/12/08/hannukah-activity-dreidel-dreidel-dreidel/>

SusanR: Hannukah Activity: Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel

DodgeS: I think I remember doing that in kindergarten once

SusanR: I wanted to stress the Language Interactives here for you, Camille, as a Reading Teacher

SusanR: <http://www.learner.org/interactives/>

CamilleL: I signed up already, thanks :)

CamilleL: this is chock full of great stuff, too! (ELA and SS or Humanities materials)

DodgeS: Very nice looking

CamilleL: This is like an updated "MrDonn.org"

SusanR: This last site is a totally fun site. a nice follow up to Where the Wild Things Are by Maurice Sendak

SusanR: <http://www.buildyourwildself.com/>

CamilleL: how cool is that -- I'm sending it to my twin nephews -- they will just love it! Grazia!

LaraH: The sites you are all sharing are amazing! Will these be listed somewhere in order to access them at a later point. I can't stay much longer.

SusanR: It's the Brought to you by the Bronx Zoo, I believe

SusanR: It will be in your transcript

CamilleL: who knew? and I'm a member too!

LaraH: Great! Thanks.

SusanR: NY's Wildlife Conservation Society -- which runs the Bronx Zoo, NYC Aquarium and other zoos in the city, as well as research on animals and land conservation -- just launched its can't-get-enough-of-it Build Your Wild Self Web site.

CamilleL: goodness and you found out faster than I did -- way to go, Suzie, girl!

SusanR: The kids are educated on animal facts as well

CamilleL: we may be visiting the zoo's relatively new Madagascar exhibit this weekend!

SusanR: A smart site with smart marketing.

CamilleL: the zoo is truly new and improved -- gotta get there, Sue!

SusanR: We saw the pandas in China

CamilleL: and the pandas actually visited us here in the Bronx as well!

SusanR: they were a highlight

CamilleL: I believe on Roots and Shoots Jane Goodall fights to save the eucalyptus trees.

RandyN: Been fun talking with you, but I must go now.

RandyN: Night!

RandyN left the room (signed off).

CamilleL: nighty night boys.

DodgeS: Actually, I probably should go too. Night, and thanks for having us!

SusanR: I guess we are at the top of the hour.

CamilleL: sleep well. hope you get some great reimbursement for your wonderful contributions!

DodgeS left the room (signed off).

SusanR: Thanks all. Happy holidays

CamilleL: Ditto!

BJB2: Thanks, Sue

BJB2: Lara, make sure you press the logout button in the top right next to the SEARCH tab....that sends your transcript

SusanR: goodnight

SusanR: sleep tight

BJB2 waves goodnight

SusanR: goodnight folks