

Title of Session: Middle School Portal - Cycles in Science

Moderator: Kimberly Lightle

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Room: Middle School Portal Group

KimberlySL:

<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/column.php?date=February2009&departmentid=professional&columnid=professional!technology>

KimberlySL: check out my latest article for Beyond Penguins

BJB2: social networking! I thought you changed the topic?

KimberlySL: not for the article

BJB2: oh...I have a site for you on that...just saw it yesterday.

BJB2 thinks

KimberlySL: I try to keep articles and chats and webinars on the same topics but they are starting to get out of sync!

BJB2 nods in understanding

KimberlySL: our MSP Ning site is starting to take shape - <http://msportal-2.ning.com>

BJB2: nings are pretty cool. You can do a lot with them

KimberlySL: I have a new computer and not everything is working - I just got bumped out when I tried to open up a link in the chat - what do I need to do?

BJB2: make sure your pop ups are turned off

BJB2: and hold down the ctrl or shift key when you click on a url

KimberlySL: gotcha

BJB2: check out <http://janeknight.typepad.com/pick/2009/02/a-guide-to-social-learning.html> Kim

AGst3 joined the room.

BJB2: good job, A!

BJB2: I'm going to give you the spiel, A...go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select DETACH to make the chat larger and easier to read

BJB2: and, if Kimberly shows you a url, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard to override pop up blockers

AGst3: Thanks!

BJB2 . o O (and, did you know that when a member logs out, they are automatically emailed a transcript of their discussions?)

BJB2 . o O (membership is free)

BJB2: Kim, shall we start with introductions?

KimberlySL: Hi AG - tell us a little bit about yourself

AGst3: I'm actually an elementary ed teacher-3rd grade and I'm getting my master's in integrating technology

AGst3: I do really like science and math and teach it in my inclusive classroom

AGst3: how about you?

BJB2: I told A that there would be stuff here that would be relevant...especially the idea of cycles

BJB2 . o O (and there is a Special Ed discussion following this one, A)

BJB2: I'm a retired teacher in Pennsylvania

KimberlySL: I'm the project director for the Middle School Portal and though we could work through some of the resources that we have on the site

AGst3: great! How did get involved in this website?

KimberlySL: I'm always looking for ways to connect with teachers and this is one of those places teachers are

BJB2: just go to www.tappedin.org and fill out a membership form, A

KimberlySL: MSP has some pubs called Explore in Depth - and that's what we do - take topics and explore them in depth

KimberlySL: first of all let's go to the science pathways page

KimberlySL: <http://msteacher.org/science.aspx>

KimberlySL: You can see there are three sections - Connecting News blog, Quick Takes (another blog), and Explore in Depth.

BJB2: looks like a lot of the topics could be done on a variety of levels

KimberlySL: on the left side under Explore in Depth - click on See More. This is a link to all of the topics we've spent some time identifying resources around

BJB2: you finding everything ok, A?

KimberlySL: Did we lose A?

BJB2 thinks A is exploring

BJB2: we also might want to show A the Beyond Penguins group at the end if this session, Kim

KimberlySL: Makes sense

AGst3 left the room (signed off).

BJB2: oops...closed the wrong window, probably

BJB2: do you know Pat Viele?

KimberlySL: We have podcasts in Beyond Penguins now - they are really good
<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/podcast/index.php>

KimberlySL: We'll have a podcast for all issues from now on

KimberlySL: I don't know Pat

BJB2: she's at Cornell and mentioned an NSDL Conference

KimberlySL: A bunch of the NSDL projects are at Cornell so I'm not surprised

BJB2: she's planning on introducing TI

KimberlySL: I think a lot of people know about TI already - at least they know MSP and BPPB are using it

BJB2: the people who are comfortable with using online communities is a pretty finite group

BJB2 . o O (you see the same people all the time ;-)

KimberlySL: I wish we had more people participate - which events seem to get the most people

BJB2: it's like reading entrails, Kim. I think the biggest problem is two-fold...teachers are sooo busy, they don't have time

BJB2: and there are so many other sites competing for attention that it draws from the single pool of people who would participate

KimberlySL: good point

BJB2: and, again, that pool of people is finite.

BJB2: not sure about competition from second life

BJB2: that's a different kind of community but they seem to have a growing group of educators using it

BJB2: I think I'm too old to enjoy 2nd life. I don't like the fake names

KimberlySL: that's true too - I have an avatar and spent quite a bit of time in world last year

BJB2: interacting with real people is what I love best about Tapped In

BJB2 . o O (and avatars aren't my thing.)

BJB2: but that's just a personal opinion.

BJB2: something else I like about Tapped In is that you come in, have your discussion, and then leave....not a huge learning curve, no useless time-consuming chit chat or flying around

KimberlySL: all good reasons to join Tapped In

BJB2: seems like that would be more appealing to those time-strapped educators, but what do I know ;-)

BJB2: and the people who are discussion leaders are incredible...like you!

BJB2: you have such a wealth of information to share. I think there should be hundreds of people here!

KimberlySL: thanks - I appreciate the kind words

BJB2 . o O (SINCERE words!)

BJB2: I always learn new things from every discussion I participate in.

BJB2: did you get that social networking site I showed you earlier?

BJB2 . o O (Jane's E-learning pick of the day)

KimberlySL: no - I lost my connection - give it to me again

BJB2: <http://janeknight.typepad.com/pick/2009/02/a-guide-to-social-learning.html>

BJB2: you can go nuts trying to keep up with all the new sites and information! But this one looked interesting

KimberlySL: I'm very interested - I've bookmarked it to spend some time in tomorrow

BJB2: cool. maybe you can tell me how it is ;-)

BJB2: I was just typing that I didn't think A was returning when a guest named A logged in to reception...

BJB2 scopes out the guest

BJB2: doesn't appear to be responding....and your hour is almost up

BJB2: thanks so much for being here.

BJB2 hugs warmly.

BJB2: If you think of anything I can do to help draw in participants, please let me know

KimberlySL: thank you too - see you next month! have a good evening

BJB2: I already post reminders to wwvedu, edtech, ed2, and meetme

BJB2 waves goodnight

KimberlySL: good night!