

Title of Session: K to 3+ Resource Room - Literacy Centers

Moderator: Susan Roseman

Title of File: 20091110k3litcenters

Date: November 10, 2009

Room: K to 3+ Resource

BjB waves hi to Molly and Terry

BjB : Sue usually holds these discussions in the Comfy Conference Room, but since you're both here, we can have the discussion here

MollyJ left the room.

BjB . o O (or not)

BjB : Terry, type /join **BJB2** in this chat. Start with the /

BjB : never mind....Molly is coming back

MollyJ joined the room.

BjB : excellent, Molly!

BjB : now look for the green i in the welcome note

BjB : and click on it

BjB : you should then see the group ID page.

BjB : At the top of the ID page is Join this group. Select that

BjB : and when you've successfully joined the group click on Room View at the top of the web window to get back to the welcome screen

MollyJ: I think I have accomplished this

SusanR joined the room.

BjB smiles happily...yeppers!

SusanR : sorry

JeffC joined the room.

BjB : and just in time!

SusanR : lost track of time

BjB : no problem, Sue...we were playing

SusanR : Hi Jeff

SusanR : playing??

BjB : Molly just joined the group

JeffC waves

SusanR : oh cool

BjB : Terry is being mute

SusanR : you will find lots of grrreat resources

MollyJ : I am a grad student in secondary reading

JeffC : they were rearranging the furniture, and putting superglue on the seats.

MollyJ : Resources are definitely what I am looking for

BjB nods solemnly to Jeff...you weren't supposed to tell!

JeffC : lots of resources here, Molly!

MollyJ : Nice to know I am with other warped people

BjB chuckles

BjB : we didn't do anything else, Sue.

SusanR : ok

SusanR : tonight's session is literacy and centres

MollyJ : What level do you normally focus centers on. I have in my head that centers apply to elementary school

MollyJ : I have an assignment to create a literacy center for middle school/high school

SusanR : yes, however we can zero in on your interest areas

BjB : centers can be used at all grade levels, Molly!

BjB . o O (especially if you have a limited number of computers in your classroom)

MollyJ: I am good with whatever chat is on - I was just wondering what thoughts were on this

SusanR : I like to use Free Rice as a centre

MollyJ: I have a science background and am getting my masters in reading - so tonight, I am all ears

MollyJ: I saw Free Rice on your resource page - but I have not checked it out yet

SusanR : FreeRice is a website where users play various educational, multiple-choice games in order to raise money to fight world hunger.

SusanR : The games include English and all subject areas and great for middle schoolers

MollyJ: who is the sponsor?

SusanR : let's check it out and find out

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

MollyJ left the room (signed off).

SusanR : oh no

BjB : oops

BjB crosses her fingers that Molly returns

SusanR : I can wait

SusanR : that leaves you and I

BjB : and the participants dwindle down....

BjB : and Molly's back

SusanR : welcome back, Molly

SusanR left the room.

SusanR joined the room.

MollyJ joined the room.

MollyJ: yeah!

BjB cheers

MollyJ: thanks BJ

MollyJ waves

BjB : now...as for the url...hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click on the url, Molly

BjB : that overrides pop up blockers which is what logged you out

MollyJ: ok

BjB : www.freerice.com

BjB : I do warn you that site is kind of addictive!

MollyJ: ok - so held control key and double clicked - nothing. but it is ok. It was a cool site. How is it used as a learning center. Obviously good vocabulary

MollyJ: very addictive game

BjB : you might check to see if you have a browser window minimized somewhere

BjB hands the floor back over to Sue

MollyJ: no....me with more than one browser window open!

SusanR : it can be used as a free time resource across the curriculum

SusanR : centre management strategies and resources can be found here
<http://www.mspowell.com/centers.html>

MollyJ: cool

MollyJ: best learning center you have used recently?

SusanR . o O (thinks)

SusanR : anything to do with research

MollyJ: research for k-3? what does that look like

SusanR: Laura Candler has lots of neat ideas

SusanR: <http://www.lauracandler.com/filecabinet/centers.php>

MollyJ: I will check that out after I log off. I really do not want to chance getting kicked off again.

MollyJ: Do you use learning centers as a part of daily lesson plan time - or is it strictly when they are done with other class items

SusanR: I recommend anything by Regie Routman

MollyJ: do they have the whole plan lined out? you set up to coordinate with plan

SusanR: not quite sure

SusanR: if you are looking for plans ..hmmm

BjB: the term that is now being used is that the lessons should be infused with tech...not just as an add on

SusanR: <http://www.alranbooks.com/Details.cfm?ProdID=7781&category=5>

SusanR: tech is just one aspect

BjB: so you might want to look at what you want the students to learn from a lesson....and how can this be achieved?

BjB: what is the standard being met?

BjB: can the student do writing on a word processor? Or build vocabulary using sites like freerice?

SusanR: start with a benchmark

MollyJ: yep - I am making sample plans in a technology in education plan - TEKS are a major component.

MollyJ: I like the vocabulary building idea

BjB: what about journaling? And writing across the curriculum....using wikis, blogs, tons of storytelling ideas available

BjB : and you can create a K-12 classroom where your students could also write using the threaded discussion boards

MollyJ: you are beating my drum -

SusanR : you could connect with another classroom as well or bring in an expert using skype

BjB : ask questions that engage the students...not something they can look up on the web and regurgitate

MollyJ: I like the idea of following go north - it follows an expedition of sled dogs

MollyJ: time specific - as to when the website is interactive

BjB : 10 Technology Enhanced Alternatives to Book Reports: <http://tinyurl.com/kwfe4w>

MollyJ: you had a site listed for a tulip test garden

BjB : Reading: "The Electric Educator: Google-Proof Questioning: New Use 4 Bloom's Tax." (<http://bit.ly/1FMahH>)

MollyJ: do you like this

SusanR : and I would recommend Collaborative Projects

BjB . o O (both of those are twitter posts that I re-tweeted)

SusanR : such as

BjB agrees with Sue

SusanR : I highly recommend looking into these collaborative projects

SusanR : <http://www.k12science.org/collabprojs.html>

SusanR : and this one is an easy one to get started with
<http://www.jenuinetech.com/Projects/hce09/hcewelcome.htm>

SusanR : It is a holiday card exchange

SusanR : Registration for this project opened on November 6, 2009

SusanR : Classrooms will be teamed with 24 other classrooms to exchange holiday greeting cards (via regular mail.)

MollyJ: that sounds like fun

SusanR: This project will be open to all classrooms, ?PreK - 6th grade, around the world.

SusanR: Jennifer Wagner has been doing these projects for over ten years.

MollyJ: is she the creator?

SusanR: yes

SusanR: She has hosted over 50 projects since 1999,

MollyJ: thanks for the ideas

SusanR: also take a look at Guess the Wordle

SusanR: <http://guessthewordle.pbworks.com/>

SusanR: Are you familiar with Wordle

BjB looks at the clock on the wall

SusanR: I hope this helps

MollyJ: no - I will visit the site

BjB . o O (you're welcome to continue, Sue, if you and Molly have time)

MollyJ: I need to run! thanks ladies!

BjB: Thanks, Sue, for leading the discussion.

MollyJ: it has been a pleasure

BjB: Come back again, Molly! Sue does this discussion twice a month

MollyJ: I have set the reminder

MollyJ: ta ta

SusanR: Good luck and I do hope to see you online

BjB: There is also an action research group

BjB: ok...me too. Thanks again, Sue

BjB waves goodnight

SusanR: Ta ta