

**Title of Session:** ISTE Media Specialists SIG - eBooks

**Moderator:** Lesley Farmer

**Title of File:** 20100318ISTEebooks

**Date:** March 18, 2010

Room: Cybrarians Group

**PatriciaCh:** hi, folks! Ready to talk about ebooks?

**BibiA** joined the room.

**RobertK:** Looking forward to it.

**BeverlyA:** yes

**PatriciaCh:** As we wait for a couple of people, let's introduce ourselves.

**LisaPe** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** I'm Lesley Farmer, and I coordinate the librarianship program at California State University Long Beach.

**RobertK:** I'm Bob Kern, I'm a school librarian in Prospect Park School in Pennsylvania.

**LynnW:** high school media specialist in Evans, GA

**BeverlyA:** High school librarian in Richmond, VA

**PatriciaCh:** I've been in Tapped In for years, doing a session on tech and librarians

**PatriciaCh:** I used to teach at VCU, Beverly

**DawnN** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** We're introducing ourselves, Dawn.

**SusanSt** joined the room.

**LisaPe:** Hi, I'm Lisa Perez from Chicago, IL

**PatriciaCh:** Any more introductions?

**BeverlyA:** I took some Archive classes at VCU and my husband taught there for 10 years

**BibiA:** I'm Bibi Alajmi, phd student and I'm conducting my study on Tapped In, I'm an observer

...

**PatriciaCh:** I was at VCU in the early 80s...

**PatriciaCh:** So what do you folks hope to get out of this session today?

**DawnN:** I'm Dawn Nelson from Minnesota.

**CarolynGo** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** My brother in law lives in Minneapolis, Dawn

**RobertK:** I want to find out what everyone is doing with ebooks

**FeliceGst6:** I'm new to tapped in, sounded like an interesting topic. taking a media class now

**BeverlyA:** We have not used ebooks in our Media Center yet.

**DawnN:** I'm an ebooks skeptic so am seeking a reason to embrace them.

**PatriciaCh:** Great, Felice. BTW, you can go to the Actions box, and detach this window (and enlarge the font) for a better experience.

**RobertK:** Especially how to house and control their use and distribution.

**SusanSt:** I want to find out where ebooks can fit into a classroom setting at the elementary level

**PatriciaCh:** Good to have a skeptic in the crowd; keeps us honest.

**PatriciaCh:** I've got a great website for you, Susan.

**LynnW:** we now have e-books of reference materials that are accessible 24/7 on and off campus but nothing as far as fun reading material

**PatriciaCh:** good question, Robert

**LisaPe:** I want to learn about the latest innovations in eBooks.

**FeliceGst6:** Thanks

**PatriciaCh:** That's an interesting point, Lynn, since the majority of ebooks are in the public domain to avoid copyright costs...

**RobertK:** I'm with Susan, how do they fit into the curriculum and the library collection

**RobertK:** I like the idea of reference.

**LisaPe:** Does everyone know you can detach the chat page and enlarge the font?

**LynnW:** no

**PatriciaCh:** There are some libraries that are largely digital for several reasons: space, cost (which can be misleading), currency (especially for reference), access, and student interest

**RobertK:** Lynn, what kinds of Reference materials do you have?

**CarolynGo:** Thanks for that tip, Lisa.

**PatriciaCh:** Increasingly, reference materials are available online as well as in print.

**RobertK:** Reference makes more sense.

**LynnW:** We have Gale "For Students" series and Salem Press Health and History Milestones

**PatriciaCh:** Sometimes the content is exactly the same, but sometimes online versions can be updated more frequently.

**LisaPe:** I'm interested in K-12 teacher materials for our Professional Library.

**RobertK:** Is it by subscription or a one-time purchase?

**PatriciaCh:** Another advantage of online is the mix of sound, video, image.

**PatriciaCh:** That was possible with CDs and DVDs, but it's easier (and less likely to get stolen) if done online.

**RobertK:** Encyclopedias?

**PatriciaCh:** Good question about subscriptions and one-time purchases: usually digital/online reference is by subscription -- you are paying for ACCESS.

**RobertK:** Lynn, what is the Gale for Students?

**PatriciaCh:** that's for both databases and encyclopedias.

**PatriciaCh:** The bad news is that you usually can't download the materials and house them locally, or have a permanent backup.

**BeverlyA:** We have that in Va schools for our school web sites

**PatriciaCh:** So when/if the \$ runs out, you are left with --- nothing.

**LynnW:** Gale Short Story Criticism for Students, Novels for Students. Poetry for Students, etc. They have about 11 different series

**PatriciaCh:** Usually for encyclopedias, you get what you pay for -- same with more online reference.

**BeverlyA:** We write letters like mad to legislators at budget time.

**LisaPe:** We have Gale eBooks as well, but there is a very blurred line when they interface with online databases..

**RobertK:** Follett Destiny allows for ebooks, would that be more permanent?

**PatriciaCh:** Gale used to have almost 30 different "packages" of references, and many of them overlapped.

**PatriciaCh:** Working with Follett on ebooks is a useful solution because they can be easily cataloged then.

**RobertK:** Does anyone use World Book? Is that available as an ebook?

**LynnW:** the gale series we purchase the e-books and do have a local back up copy but we pay ~\$300 per year for them to host the material on their server -- We thought it was a pretty good deal compared to what we were spending on print copies of these series

**LisaPe:** We have several dozen Follett eBooks that interface with our OPAC. You click on the search result and it launches to a persistent URL to the eBook.

**PatriciaCh:** As a last note about subscriptions, it's sort of like cable: you have to have a package, which can include good titles and less useful ones, so look very carefully at the offerings

**BeverlyA:** We have the online subscription in Richmond

**PatriciaCh:** yes, that's the nice-and-easy way to go, Lisa.

**LynnW:** Leslie - Gale still has all those kinds of series - we just have the ones that pertain to literature and drama

**RobertK:** Lisa, what kinds of titles do you have?

**PatriciaCh:** Another factor to consider when buying/licensing ebooks is the license agreement: how many simultaneous users can you have, and what is the circulation procedure?

**PatriciaCh:** In some cases, the borrower has the book and is the only one who can access it until it is checked in again.

**RobertK:** I spend about \$800 every other year on World Book and it rarely gets used, If it was available online it would be far more worth the money.

**PatriciaCh:** So while you think that you can just subscribe to ebooks for a class, it can literally take WEEKS for everyone to be able to read that book -- just as with a print copy.

**RobertK:** Destiny allows for one user at a time. Others are blocked until the first has closed it.

**CarolynGo:** I'm getting confused. Isn't there a difference between an "ebook" and an "online subscription"?

**PatriciaCh:** Part of that may be how you promote the print version with your students and teachers, but there IS a perception that online is easier and more current

**SusanSt** left the room (signed off).

**LisaPe:** @ Robert They were purchased with a Striving Readers grant, so I didn't purchase them myself. I'd have to check, but I believe many are non-fiction aimed at middle grades

**PatriciaCh:** good question, Carolyn. One can subscribe to all kinds of content, including books.

**PatriciaCh:** or ebooks.

**CarolynGo:** So maybe it's a marketing difference?

**PatriciaCh:** Generally, when we talk about ebooks, we're talking about monographs -- and the majority of services such as Net Library tend to focus on those monographs rather than refernece.

**PatriciaCh:** Yes, Marketing is a big part of it.

**SusanSt** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** There are companies that focus on k12 settings and core reading or recreational reading -- they also target public libraries.

**DawnN:** I think of monographs when I think of ebooks. The references and databases play a different role.

**RobertK:** I just read that NetLibray was bought by EBSCO.

**PatriciaCh:** Not surprised, Robert.

**LisaPe:** I think eBooks are on the verge of going more mainstream, but there are still significant issues to hash out in pricing. There is a big war between Amazon.com and Apple right now on who will get the lion's share of the market.

**PatriciaCh:** Let me show you an example or two of public libraries that have ebook download/checkouts,

**PatriciaCh:** <http://califa.lib.overdrive.com/4EE6DFEF-BD47-48E4-918C-416106594156/10/350/en/Default.htm>

**DawnN:** Can ebooks be text or audio format?

**PatriciaCh:** You can click on the URL or hold down the CTRL key and click on it to see it

**SusanSt:** will Apple's iPad have a positive influence on the use of ebooks in the classroom?

**PatriciaCh:** Excellent point, Dawn. YES, ebooks can be text or audio

**PatriciaCh:** And some are multimedia, increasingly

**RobertK:** We're looking at MP3 players in school with audio books.

**PatriciaCh:** Let me show you the International Children's Digital Library, as an example of more interactive texts

**RobertK:** Are they downloadable?

**PatriciaCh:** They aren't downloadable, but they can be experienced online -- for free

**MeinaM** joined the room.

**PatriciaCh:** <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>

**DawnN:** I download audio books onto my iPod all the time and love them. So I get the audio books but the print still seems a little awkward.

**DawnN:** How about the Tumblebooks/Tumblereadables?

**PatriciaCh:** And they can be "read" or experienced on different storage media, Dawn

**RobertK:** Dawn, did you get them from iTunes?

**PatriciaCh:** Tumblebooks is cool. I saw them being used in Rio.

**PatriciaCh:** Want to share about them, Dawn?

**DawnN:** Our public library has a great audio book collection so I check them out.

**NannetteF** joined the room.

**DawnN:** Share about Tumblebooks?

**PatriciaCh:** yes: <http://www.tumblebooks.com/>

**RobertK:** How are they circulated, Dawn?

**DawnN:** Tumblebooks are part of an online subscription.

**PatriciaCh:** In the school where I saw them the students read them in the library

**DawnN:** I purchased the subscription for all of our schools.

**LisaPe:** Chicago Public Library has a lot of eBooks to check out online, too.

**DawnN:** For the elementary students many have an audio component while the pages are turned.

**PatriciaCh:** Highlands regional library system lets their users download the books:  
[http://www.hrlc.org/overdrive/instructional\\_brochure.pdf](http://www.hrlc.org/overdrive/instructional_brochure.pdf)

**DawnN:** For the secondary schools, there are many publishers but not all are audio.

**PatriciaCh:** Here are their instructions

**BeverlyA:** We have both in Richmond

**PatriciaCh:** Yes, kids like the sound of turning pages -- still connected to a physical book experience.

**RobertK:** What I'm still confused about is how they are "circulated" do they expire or what?

**BeverlyA:** Can you terminate access to an overdue user?

**PatriciaCh:** You may have noticed that I use the word "experience" a book rather than "read" a book because of the audiovisuals. Although one can certainly say that one can "read" a picture -- that is, using the word "read" as a synonym for comprehending.

**PatriciaCh:** Good point, Robert.

**LisaPe:** Our Follett eBooks are set up to be checked out to one person at a time - viewable on a computer - and they can be checked out for up to a week.

**DawnN:** The ELL teachers love the Tumblereadables for the secondary students. There are classics in audio form, Shakespeare, etc. I love the concept of 'experience.

**PatriciaCh:** Some systems have an internal clock on them so that the ebook "disappears" at the

expiration date.

**PatriciaCh:** that helps control the issue of duplicating texts.

**CarolynGo:** Again, I think whether they 'expire' or not depends on the nature of the 'purchase' package - some are subscriptions, some you can own - I believe Capstone offers both

**BeverlyA:** That makes sense.

**PatriciaCh:** So you need to read contracts carefully and decide what makes the most sense for your community.

**PatriciaCh:** I think it would be very limiting if the students had to go to the library and sit at the computer in order to read an ebook.

**RobertK:** I agree, we have district -wide wifi, they could use it anywhere in the school with Follett Destiny, right?

**DawnN:** We just ordered some iPads and I'm kind of excited to see how Tumblebooks will work on those.

**PatriciaCh:** One of your options is to provide links to ebook sources -- digital collections -- that are free -- noting that this usually limits you to public domain materials, but that can still encompass quite a lot.

**MeinaM:** I subscribed my capstone library.com and there are 142 books and my students can access them at home too.

**PatriciaCh:** It all depends on the license, Robert, and each company has its own flavors

**RobertK:** I found an interesting site of public domain audio books, <http://librivox.org/>

**PatriciaCh:** yes, that's one of the best.

**CarolynGo:** Meina - how much are those circulating - I'm curious as I am considering some of the titles

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.e-book.com.au/freebooks.htm>

**PatriciaCh:** This Australian site links to free English language e-books, mainly in the public domain

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.audiobooks.org/>

**PatriciaCh:** This audiobooks broker serves as a clearinghouse for free and to-pay titles



**MeinaM:** I paid \$995 for a year.

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.bookshare.org/>

**PatriciaCh:** This site provides free accessible books for readers with special needs

**PatriciaCh:** Remember that when you link to these sites, then it's harder to mesh these into your library catalog.

**FeliceGst6:** Meina- Are the books for students of varied grade levels, elementary, middle school?

**PatriciaCh:** it depends on how you structure your library portal as to how useful this approach will be

**CarolynGo:** Meina - \$995 compared with \$1420 (roughly @ \$10/book which is low) seems like a good deal. Can you tell how often they are borrowed?

**MeinaM:** Felice, they are for Grade k-4.

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.zinio.com/>

**PatriciaCh:** Offering 50,000 e-magazines and e-books commercially, Zinio may be considered the largest newsstand in the world

**BeverlyA:** Zinio?

**PatriciaCh:** So here's an interesting thought. Amazon lets you buy digital books for \$9.99. So can the library put these on their server, and let folks download and read them?

**PatriciaCh:** Zinio is geared for the general public.

**RobertK:** \$9.99 a book would be a bargain!

**PatriciaCh:** that's right, Robert.

**MeinaM:** Carolyn, we can access the mycapstonelibrary any time we want. There are no limit.

**RobertK:** What has anyone found to be the best way to access the books, Kindle or laptop or desktop?

**PatriciaCh:** Think about it. We buy a PRINT book, and let people borrow it. Why not a digital book that we buy?

**LisaPe:** I prefer to use my iPhone for print and audio

**PatriciaCh:** Different books have different formats, and are downloadable on different storage devices.

**CarolynGo:** Certainly saves trees and ink!

**RobertK:** Isn't the iPhone too small for print?

**PatriciaCh:** It's amazing how kids will like to read a book on iPhone with its little screen.

**RobertK:** Maybe it's just my old eyes. :>)

**PatriciaCh:** they think that it's easier to read.

**PatriciaCh:** They don't realize how LONG the book is in that format (that is, 1000s of screens). They see just the one screen that is very easy = short to read.

**FeliceGst6:** attracts many people to read who may not otherwise do so

**PatriciaCh:** exactly, Felice.

**LisaPe:** well, my eyes are getting older but I can still see the words. However, I was thinking more of the audio books since I have a long commute.

**PatriciaCh:** So here's MY promotion for ebooks -- that is, digital texts: customizing...

**RobertK:** The anytime/anywhere aspect should be a great motivator.

**CarolynGo:** Isn't it about choice?!

**PatriciaCh:** You can change font size and style, background color, and spacing between lines according to your reading processing needs.

**PatriciaCh:** yes, Carolyn.

**DawnN:** Lisa, that's when I like the audio books - for the commute.

**PatriciaCh:** And with digitized texts, there are options such as SimpleText and Narrator on computers that can read the texts out loud.

**PatriciaCh:** These options are great for users with special needs.

**PatriciaCh:** It's my #1 reason for ebooks.

**RobertK:** Isn't Google digitizing an amazing amount of books?

**PatriciaCh:** This usually works for .doc / WP books.

**PatriciaCh:** Yes, Google has agreements with several universities to digitize books.

**PatriciaCh:** There's another group working in Europe (they crashed the system the first day they opened...)

**CarolynGo:** For some types of books or topics, I still like having the visual/physical reference of being able to "turn back" and reread something - anyone have experience with ebooks and feel that you can still do that?

**PatriciaCh:** And there's Project Gutenberg

**PatriciaCh:** [http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main\\_Page](http://www.gutenberg.org/wiki/Main_Page)

**PatriciaCh:** The granddaddy of digitization projects enlists the help of volunteers to transcribe public domain books (remember the medieval scribes?)

**PatriciaCh:** Some digitization projects simulate the turning of the book page, such as the intl. children's digital library.

**PatriciaCh:** Scrolling IS a different reading experience.

**PatriciaCh:** I also want to share with you a couple of directories linking to digital books:

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.digitalbookindex.org/about.htm>

**PatriciaCh:** This online index catalogs digital book sources

**PatriciaCh:** and

**PatriciaCh:** <http://www.ditext.com/etexts.html>

**PatriciaCh:** This personal site includes a directory linked to digital books

**FeliceGst6:** I'm now realize what a great resource this is for children with disabilities

**PatriciaCh:** Earlier, you mentioned about the best way to read an ebook -- which led to mentioning of different formats for ebooks.

**PatriciaCh:** Here's an article that compares them:

**LisaPe:** some of the iPhone apps I have use really nice page turning sounds and simulate paper well

**PatriciaCh:** [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison\\_of\\_e-book\\_formats](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Comparison_of_e-book_formats)

**PatriciaCh:** Know that Recordings for the Blind has had alternative formats for books for decades.

**PatriciaCh:** Their audio books require a special cassette player. The tapes don't play on a regular audio cassette. That's by design.

**PatriciaCh:** So when you choose to subscribe to ebooks, think about the equipment too.

**BeverlyA:** good selections, though.

**PatriciaCh:** For instance, can the student download ebooks to their iPod or iPad?

**PatriciaCh:** Does the librarian have to be the one to do downloads?

**RobertK:** I assume the iTouch as well?

**CarolynGo:** But with a print book I have a rough idea of how many pages to go back - or roughly where in the context of text I read something. Can you 'jump out' of context to pull up a table of contents, or jump back to a certain page?

**PatriciaCh:** Yes, iTouch too.

**PatriciaCh:** It depends on how the publisher sets up the ebook.

**RobertK:** yes, Carolyn, is there a search function built in or do you use one on the reader?

**PatriciaCh:** Some of them show the table of contents on a side frame, so you can click on the specific section.

**PatriciaCh:** You'll see this on reference and manuals a lot

**RobertK:** like a pdf?

**PatriciaCh:** yes

**MeinaM:** I was told that if you download the ebook to your Mac, you can sync that to 50 iiTouch.

**PatriciaCh:** another advantage of many ebooks is the searching capability.

**PatriciaCh:** cool, Meina!

**PatriciaCh:** Have any of you used Playaways?

**CarolynGo:** great opportunity for librarians to be able to suggest alternative formats and the best to meet someone's needs - if only we could figure out those formats ourselves - maybe it will just

take a little while since this is all new

**PatriciaCh:** very true, Carolyn.

**RobertK:** I've tried them and the Follett rep has tried to get me to buy one.

**LisaPe:** Remember, reading an eBook is in some ways a different literacy - one of the transliteracy skills

**PatriciaCh:** I listened to Sherman Alexie read his true tales of a part-time Indian -- fabulous!

**MeinaM:** I do not like Playaways. The head phone is a health issue.

**CarolynGo:** Hmmm, transliteracy - is that a new term? Haven't come across it yet

**LisaPe:** I find Playaways too expensive and only played on that one device. We purchase audio CDs for that purpose.

**RobertK:** Neither have I, what is transliteracy?

**PatriciaCh:** In my public library, they don't disseminate the earbud -- the user has to supply them.

**PatriciaCh:** transliteracy as I know it is do handle multiple literacies -- cut across formats

**BeverlyA:** Neat concept

**PatriciaCh:** CDs can be useful for listening in the car or wherever you have a player

**EmilyP:** I'm sorry if this was already stated...is anyone in the room a school librarian?

**PatriciaCh:** I TEACH school librarianship

**MeinaM:** I am.

**BeverlyA:** Yes, I am

**CarolynGo:** yes - K-5

**RobertK:** So,, it's using different formats including print and being able to use them all?

**PatriciaCh:** exactly, Robert

**RobertK:** I'm a school librarian!

**PatriciaCh:** and knowing what works for different users -- at different times -- for different

purposes

**EmilyP:** ok do any of you see other school doing what Cushing academy did - getting rid of their traditional books for a full ebook collection?

**PatriciaCh:** Sort of limits kids' choices, no?

**BeverlyA:** No, not in VA

**CarolynGo:** Emily - I hope not -

**EmilyP:** I think so!

**RobertK:** no way! Print still has a place and will for the foreseeable future.

**LisaPe:** Here is a ning on transliteracy that some of us who are school librarians have been participating in lately: <http://transliteracy.ning.com>

**RobertK:** but it will diminish with time.

**FeliceGst6:** can't imagine totally doing away with print

**CarolynGo:** Thanks, Lisa

**EmilyP:** I was shocked to read of that school and one other that is keeping their print but no longer purchasing them only purchasing ebooks.

**PatriciaCh:** Two things I want to mention about audiobooks -- get unabridged (usually) -- and avoid the fancy sound effects, which can be distracting for some students.

**PatriciaCh:** it's like not buying any print magazines

**LisaPe:** One of my recent iPhone audiobooks purchased from iTunes has two speeds to listen - regular and 2x

**PatriciaCh:** Students need to experience information in different ways -- even the act of reading differs between print and online.

**EmilyP:** I agree I worry bells and whistles well have a negative effect on early literacy.

**CarolynGo:** But most magazines are of passing interest

**PatriciaCh:** Yes, we can listen at 500-750 words per minutes, although we usually speak at 200-300 words/min.

**PatriciaCh:** but that's ok to have a "now" experience...

**RobertK:** I imagine that audio books could be an adaptation for middle schoolers that need to keep up with a class but their reading skills are too slow for that.

**PatriciaCh:** right, Robert. That's why I typed usually. But make sure they are NOT reading an unabridged book while listening to an abridged tape...

**CarolynGo:** But bells and whistles can stimulate other senses - more input channels more something sticks sort of thing

**FeliceGst6:** they are already and are a great resource

**PatriciaCh:** it depends on the student. about sensory experiences

**EmilyP:** true and they are great on an IWB...especially tumblebooks as mentioned earlier.

**CarolynGo:** True, Lesley - again best format for each reader - options!

**MeinaM:** It is great for the 2nd language learners so they can hear the pronunciation.

**RobertK:** I've seen them give up from frustration of trying to keep up.

**PatriciaCh:** An international note: ebooks can be a way to access non US books. It is also a good solution for some libraries in developing countries who have few publishers and books.

**EmilyP:** One more question a tad off topic. This is my first Tapped in event. Thanks for making it so great. Well we have access to this chat after its conclusion?

**BeverlyA:** Good question

**PatriciaCh:** Good point, Emily. Yes, this session is archived so all of you get a transcript.

**PatriciaCh:** it's emailed to you.

**EmilyP:** Thank you...great!

**PatriciaCh:** so I hope you haven't been busily jotting down URLs?

**NannetteF:** hi Dr Farmer

**NannetteF:** I haven't said a word

**EmilyP:** Well, I copied and pasted them all...live and learn.

**RobertK:** Nope, bookmarking!

**PatriciaCh:** Hi, Nan. We're finishing our discussion on ebooks.

**NannetteF:** just taking down good pointers

**PatriciaCh:** good practice, Robert. You must have a good list by now. AND...

**BibiA:** I'm here Lesley

**NannetteF:** I have enjoyed everyone's comments and suggestions...thxs

**RobertK:** ...now I have to organize them!

**PatriciaCh:** know that in the cybrarian space there's a list of options on the left. One of them is FILE, and you can download a list of URLs on audiobooks.

**CarolynGo:** Leslie, do you know if those inexpensive laptops made for international use can access ebooks? The ones that are intended for internet access - can't remember the name they were promoted under right now.

**PatriciaCh:** I created that weblibliography, and have been using it during this session.

**PatriciaCh:** XO

**PatriciaCh:** via Negroponte.

**PatriciaCh:** I have one.

**PatriciaCh:** It comes with ebooks as well.

**CarolynGo:** Right. Hmmm, interesting!

**PatriciaCh:** Bibi is reminding me about her research project that I want to make sure she shares with you.

**PatriciaCh:** Bibi?

**BibiA:** Thanks Lesley

**CarolynGo:** Are they still being sold? Would you recommend trying one out

**BibiA:** Please allow me to introduce me self. My name is Bibi Alajm, a PhD candidate in Rutgers University, NJ. I'm conducting a dissertation research on "knowledge sharing behavior in online communities". I'm taking Tapped In as my research context.

**PatriciaCh:** I think he's finished with that project. He was going to do a second version: the machine looked very cool, but he seems to have abandoned it.



**PatriciaCh:** I would think that someone would pick up the idea though

**CarolynGo:** Lesley - yes, it seemed controversial

**BibiA:** I'm inviting you to participate in a survey I'm conducting for my dissertation. This is the link.

**BibiA:** <http://snurl.com/bibisurvey>

**BibiA:** The survey is short and there are incentives from amazon.com for those who are interested.

**PatriciaCh:** And folks can share that survey, right, Bibi?

**BibiA:** of course within this group or Tapped In

**PatriciaCh:** as long as the person uses Tapped In, of course.

**BibiA:** my focus is only Tapped In

**BibiA:** I also posted the link on the discussion board, for those who want to fill it later

**PatriciaCh:** At this point, I like to ask participants what they want to talk about next month. Any hot topics on your mind? As much as possible, let's try to make sure there's some kind of intl. link...

**LisaPe:** what about sister library programs?

**PatriciaCh:** that would be cool

**FeliceGst6:** survey sounds good, will this site ask for my email or where can I enter it for transcript

**LisaPe:** what date?

**PatriciaCh:** and we can broaden it to helping school libraries how to connect with other sites in other countries

**PatriciaCh:** The date will be April 15 at 5pm PDT

**LisaPe:** sounds good! thanks Lesley

**PatriciaCh:** hopefully, you folks got some ideas or insights today

**CarolynGo:** Great idea, Lisa. I've been trying to start a penpal group with a school in our Sister

City, but it seems a bit hard since I'm working with a teacher who has her own class, and I have a club that only meets occasionally.

**EmilyP:** absolutely

**BeverlyA:** sounds good.

**BibiA:** Thanks Lesley, thanks all, please take a look at the survey when you have time,

**RobertK:** Sounds interesting.

**PatriciaCh:** Have a great evening; good conversation today

**CarolynGo:** Ditto - Thanks, and bye!

**EmilyP:** Yes, thank you

**RobertK:** Thanks for a good discussion all, hope to "see" you all next month.

**BeverlyA:** Thanks, good night

**NannetteF:** good night

**MeinaM:** Try blogging at [www.tweentrabune.com](http://www.tweentrabune.com) . You can definitely do penpal that way.

**LisaPe:** good night all!

**DawnN:** Thank you.