

Title of Session: Technology in the Classroom - Online Freebies

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DonnaH: tonight's topic is (once again) online freebies.

DonnaH: (YAY!)

DonnaH: Who here has ever read the book "the true confessions of Charlotte Doyle"?

KimberlyH: Yes

DonnaH: (and or used it)

ElizabetCM: No

TomO: no

WillP: No

GregD: not I

JoelGuest5: no

StacyE: no

DanGuest4: no

DonnaH: Right now, the author, Avi, is offering a free audio tape of his reading the first chapter of I believe (3) books.

BJ . o O (a reminder that you can click on the ACTIONS drop down window and scroll down to DETACH to make your text window larger)

DonnaH: He writes books at oh, I'd say 5-7 grade level.

DonnaH: let me share...

JeffC: Hey... that's **my** level!

DonnaH: <http://www.avi-writer.com/teachersgift/index.html>

DonnaH nudges jeff.

DonnaH: (click on the link to follow it.)

DonnaH: Everyone get that?

WillP: yes

DanGuest4: Yes. Thanks

GregD: Yes , it looks interesting

JoelGuest5: Got it

TomO: yes

JoeS: Thanks

CarolC: got it

ElizabetCM: yes, and there are some books for early readers too

DonnaH: Any comments, or would we like to move to the next site?

GregD: Are the books, e-books for pda's and online?

DonnaH: "not that I'm aware of Greg.

DonnaH: I just happened to stumble across this, as my fifth grade class was reading the book I mentioned earlier.

DonnaH: (that could be another session **grin**)

DonnaH: how about science?

WillP: Ok

TomO: looks like a nice site

GregD: Ok

DonnaH: NASA gives away literally tons of space related lessons and manipulatives if you know where to look...

DonnaH: "the closest site (geographically) to me is the Goddard Center. You can look into NASA to see which education center is nearest you.

GregD: I've used images from NASA and video/audio clips

DonnaH:

http://eospsso.gsfc.nasa.gov/eos_homepage/for_educators/educational_publications.php

DonnaH: (they also offer posters, entire units, and occasionally, video tapes if you watch for them.)

WillP: How do you use this in you class/

ElizabetCM: They have tons of free things. We need a list of sites like these

TomO: there are some great color pictures on some of the pdfs

DonnaH: you can also write them (or the edu center closest to you) and get full posters....all for free.

DonnaH: (I've been getting them for years.)

TomO: How can you integrate this into the classroom?

ShereeR: Oh Donna, this is a great site! I can think of lots of ways to use the info on this site in class.

SusanR: Love them for bulletin board or science fair displays.

DonnaH: "I've used them in many different ways when we were teaching space...I've had other teachers borrow the materials when they were teaching different sorts of power and aerodynamics.

GregD: One way to integrate it is to make it a resource for your students as they perform research for constructive learning

DonnaH: (they have a great set of planet placards; set it up as a center and had the students sequence them...worked on many levels)

WillP: Greg, Like a webquest

GregD: exactly

DonnaH: these sorts of things are only free to educators. the sites I'm sharing tonight would not be useful to students, except in how a teacher plans on using them.

WillP: What do you think you could have students look for?

ElizabethJ: Hi! I entered late but is this topic about using tech in a classroom.

StacyE: Under resources I found a lot of less ideas and activities with more links to other sites.

TomO: great

DonnaH: educational freebies at least in my experience are only for teachers.

DonnaH: I'm afraid you've chosen a poor night if you were looking for student resources:) (I cover them as well; but not tonight)

WillP: ok

ShereeR: Yes, my mind goes wild thinking of some of the things offered here. The first thing I noticed was the "Florida Fires" satellite information. Boy, that hits home!

DonnaH: My attitude is, with school budgets being what they are; teachers can use any little bit they can get.

PattiSh: What is the difference between freebies for teachers and things to use in the classroom?

DonnaH: freebies you need to register/send away for; things to use in the classroom can be freebies, but may just be able to be pulled off line.

ElizabethJ: so freebies are things we can get through mail or internet?

DonnaH: things that are delivered through the mail, yes.

DonnaH: I think this started when someone asked me if they could get items you COULDN'T download for free...

DonnaH: so i went on a hunt:)

ElizabethJ: I am grateful that my school site has the opportunity to buy the things we need for the classroom.

DonnaH: Realize too, sometimes, the free items can be just as good or better than the boughten (in the case of NASA...or my next shared item)

RebeccGuest6: I wrote a study guide that is online at <http://www.youthportraits.org>. At nine, I will be talking about how to use the CD and guide, but you can check it out.

ElizabethJ: any type of freebies? posters, school supplies, materials.....

DonnaH: <http://www.tolerance.org/teach/expand/res/index.jsp>

ElizabethJ: cool!

DonnaH: Teaching tolerance is a great magazine...and the other materials they offer are wonderful. It is supported by the southern poverty law center.

DonnaH: Which was very active (and still is) in the civil rights movement.

ElizabethJ: Teaching tolerance I think I heard it.

ElizabethJ: so there is a website?

ElizabethJ: to order that magazine?

JeffC: Unfortunately... I have to run... but I'd like to leave my site for people to take a look at... it's a presentation for this Wednesday's NCCE Workshop on "Collaborative Internet Sites" ...most are free...http://trackstar.hprtec.org/main/track_frames.php3?track_id=124403&nocache=662365513

PattiSh: Either I am in the wrong session or I am totally lost since I was late joining. I thought it is Tech in the Classroom!

GregD: I just looked at the site and the materials they are providing for free are very impressive

WillP: I agree Greg

DonnaH: "technology in the classroom encompasses many different points. Tonight is an exercise in how a teacher can use technology to assist her classroom environment.

ElizabethJ: so right now we are looking at materials that we can use tech in a classroom?

ElizabetCM: I am surprised that this site offers so many large kits for free. This would be helpful for me during black history month.

DonnaH: "early in the year, I've covered safety, one computer classrooms, virtual field trips....

DonnaH: realize, I've been teaching this session for...*counts* nearly 4 years.

ElizabethJ: yes it is important to have the safety rules for students and teachers

ElizabetCM: Do you have any good sites for elementary teachers?

DonnaH: as far as what, elizabeth? reading? math? music?

DonnaH: **smiles**

DonnaH: "the next page I have is rather cool; especially in these times...

WillP: How about math

DonnaH: <http://bandtek.com/free-cds/>

DanGuest4: The math part caught my attention too

ElizabetCM: I would prefer reading or math

ElizabethJ: yes math in middle school

DonnaH: my favorite reading page for elementary....<http://www.storyplace.org>

DonnaH: math...that requires a bit more thought (don't know those off the top of my head!

grin)

SusanR left the room (signed off).

ElizabethJ: especially that all the testing are coming we can prepare the students now and next year.

PattiSh: Math in the middle school would be great for me, too.

ElizabethJ: pre algebra and algebra

GregD: The bandtek site is interesting. I've downloaded music from the service bands, but this is quite a resource

TomO: oh yes, some algebra stuff would be great

ElizabethCM: This site looks great, I am exploring

DonnaH: **shudders** algebra...you really know how to kill me guys **laugh**

ElizabethJ: (smiles)

PattiSh: I'll take algebra, too!!

DonnaH: well, while I'm looking...take a look at this : history and math....

DonnaH: <http://www.westegg.com/inflation/>

GregD: Donna, how did you find these sites? What kind of searches did you do?

SusanR joined the room.

DonnaH: I've been keeping track of sites for the last...6 years.

ElizabethJ: I know there's CD's that deals with pre algebra and algebra and they are pretty good

ElizabethJ: It has games, pre-test and then a test, practices.

DanGuest4: Are you talking about audio CD's? Like music?

DonnaH: then I work through my data base...though, teaching wise...I've taught high school english...but not math...me and algebra don't get along too cozy...so I'm a bit limited to those type of sites...

DonnaH: but i do have some...

ElizabethJ: I've tried them with myself first and I had fun with them.

WillP: The links are a great resource for statistical data

DonnaH: try this one...

DonnaH: <http://archives.math.utk.edu/topics/algebra.html>

DonnaH: quite a few interactive practices.

PaulA joined the room.

JoelGuest5: I like the inflation calculator. It is simple but would fit well into some of my business classes.

ElizabethJ: I'm talking about math games.

TomO: this looks great

DonnaH: <http://math.rice.edu/~lanius/Lessons/calen.html> try this then, Elizabeth.

CarolC: thanks for that algebra site. I'm English too....need the practice

DonnaH: (i love using the inflation calculator when we're reading victorian type literature)

ElizabethJ: I remembered that's how I strengthen my skill by using math games. when I was in middle school

PattiSh: The calendar one is good!!

DonnaH: One of the more recent sessions we held was on sites that suddenly turned to a pay system.

AmyKu: Do you mean that you have to now pay to use the system?

DonnaH: many of the really good learning games were on such sites. it's a shame really, since we can't keep track if we have to pay.

DonnaH: many of them, yes.

ElizabethCM: The last sight has good problems for state testing

DonnaH: lightspan used to be free, Kiko changed their business direction...and a few others became pay site.

AmyKu: I used to use a site that would take terms and make puzzles and wordsearches, it was really nice to use for my LD students, however now I'd have to pay to use it and I haven't found anything quite like it.

DonnaH: i think this could be pretty cool

DonnaH:

<http://www.geocities.com/SiliconValley/Lakes/8620/bubbletroble.html>

PattiSh: Did you try puzzlemaker.com?

DonnaH: Amy, was it funbrain? try using Discovery Classroom...they have great puzzlemakers and word search engines...and they are still free.

DanGuest4: Funbrain is a good site. I think you have to pay for it now.

ElizabethJ: there is a site that you can build your own wordpuzzles, wordsearches for free.

AmyKu: Thanks, yes I think it was Puzzlemaker.com.

ElizabethJ: yeah! puzzlemaker!

DanGuest4: With funbrain you could give online tests and they would email the results to you.

DonnaH: may be useful...<http://www.hotmath.com>

DonnaH: Discovery classroom does the same thing.

DonnaH: i always used discovery...but I think your account can "time out" I didn't use the test for a year, and found it wasn't in my account anymore

AmyKu: Thanks, I'll try that one.

WillP: Great sites

DanGuest4: Do you know the url for Discovery?

PattiSh: I've used puzzlemaker for all grades. With older kids, I let them do the input part.

SusanR puts in a FREE plug for tomorrow's ASO session at TappedIn (K to 3+ Science/Science Fair Resources)

http://trackstar.hprtec.org/main/track_frames.php3?track_id=150858&nocache=840319904

DonnaH: discovery school.com

DanGuest4: Thanks.

DonnaH: I've had one class make the puzzle for the other.

ElizabethJ: oh yes discovery school.com.....I've used those as little warm-ups for my classroom

DonnaH pokes Susan and giggles

DonnaH: Susan, did you want to share that source you were telling me about?

ElizabethJ: those math brain teasers.

SusanR: Sorry Donna. Couldn't help it. Here is the site.

<http://puzzlemaker.school.discovery.com/>

SusanR: Okay Donna, This is for emergent readers.

ElizabethCM: It's good for spelling words too.

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

ElizabethJ: and math vocabulary

SusanR: You can create an account at discovery and save your puzzles or even place them on a web page

DonnaH: love discovery school

DonnaH: "and the last one I'll share really isn't a send away one...but I've found it very useful....its a flashcard center.

ElizabethJ: yes, it's good but sometimes it doesn't have a lot of resources and materials to work with

DonnaH: all sorts...you wouldn't believe ...

DonnaH: <http://flashcardexchange.net/>

ElizabethJ: oh yes flashcards!

BJ: a reminder that the transcript will be archived in a few days at www.tappedin.org/transcripts.

DonnaH: (I lied) I have a list of online services/printables for teachers that can be found on my website here:

<http://www.techforteachers.org/opt.html#Creation%20Sites>

JoeS: Thank you Donna for all the info

ElizabethCM: I did not know that there was a site with such an extensive selection of printable flashcards anywhere.

This is great. My kids could do it themselves.

GregD: Flash cards look great! I can see the cranial nerves on flash cards now!

DonnaH snickers*

WillP: Thank you

JoelGuest5: Thank you.

PattiSh: Thank you!

ElizabethJ: yes thank you Donna for these great resources.

GregD: Thanks Donna!

DonnaH: Thank you for attending:)

ElizabetCM: Thanks for all the helpful info. See you later.
StacyE: Have a good night
SusanR: Thanks Donna! I think I will try the Flashcard
site.
CarolC: Thanks Donna!