

Title of Session: K-20 Science Resources

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

Title of File: 20040804scik20

Date: August 4, 2004

Room: After School Online Room

JeffC: OK everyone... let's begin

JeffC: If everyone could start by giving a brief introduction.

DianneA: Dianne Allen, Australia, professional development and preservice teaching interests

AmandaY: Hi. I am a High School Chemistry teacher and U of Houston certification student

JeffC: My name is Jeff Cooper, and I facilitate this group. I have been an Education Technology Specialist and Helpdesk volunteer here for several years.

SharonMM: I am Sharon, I teach 6th grade science, math and reading at Goodlettsville Middle school in Metro Nashville Public Schools.

CandiceGC: I'm a grad student, studying Instructional Systems Design at Indiana University Bloomington, USA. I'm evaluating Tapped in as a learning environment and am anxious to see how everything works :)

JeffC: Sounds great everyone. Candice... after this group... I have several things to share with you that might help you with your evaluation.

ShereeH: I am Sheree, new grad student and preservice Math at University of Houston.

CandiceGC:

JeffC: Oh... sorry Sheree!

DavidWe joined the room.

JeffC: David and Susan, feel free to introduce yourselves as well.

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler, a TappedIn veteran. I work with teachers helping them make greater use of technology in their teaching and learning

JeffC: We're going to move this meeting to the Science Resources K-20+ Group room. For that to happen... everyone needs to join the group. To do that: 1) Click the "Search" tab 2) Click the "Groups" subtab 3) type: Science Resources ...and click: Find It! 4) Click the link to the group 5) Join the group.

SusanR: I am Sue Roseman. K to 8 Occasional Teacher, former Educational Technology Integrator and K to 3 GREAT RESOURCES presenter here at TI

JeffC: I'll go there now... if David and Dianne could help and make sure people all get there... thanks!

DavidWe nods to Jeff

DianneA: will do

Room: Sci._Resources

JeffC: OK... except for Susan and Dianne... looks like the gang's all here.

JeffC: Let me talk briefly about what I want to do with this meeting, and meetings in the future.

JeffC: For starters, I'd like people to take a look at the MathScience bookmarks site... there's a link to it in the top frame, or simply click on:

<http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

DianneA joined the room.

DianneA: we have lost Sharon .. I'll keep my eye out for her

JeffC: These are the public bookmarks for both my Math and Science groups. Everyone here has access to those links. You may *add or edit links as you deem fit*. To add or edit, simply go to <http://www.mybookmarks.com> and login: mathscience password: tappedin

JeffC: My goal with this group is for each of you... subject matter professionals... to bring to this group what you can... and to share resources with each other. Together, we will make this a fantastic and dynamic group. If, however, you leave it to me... it will probably flounder (everyone's least favorite fish!).

JeffC: I'm going to project the math science bookmarks now... so that everyone is looking at them.

DavidWe grins at the flat fish

JeffC: I'd like you to take a look at a few... then come back to this window.

JeffC projects <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

JeffC projects <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

BJ: if you have a pop up blocker, hold your ctrl key down and click on that url

JeffC: Thanks BJ

DianneA: I am beginning to see what I might do with all the bookmarks I collect from Tapped In

JeffC: I've only added a couple of links in Science this month... and everyone is welcome to add their own. I just moved the Physics folder into the Science folder (since I figure it's a subset... please don't shoot me if you disagree... because I know that bullet will fall at 32 feet per second per second... and I think I'm out of range).

BJ chuckles

JeffC: The trouble with people adding sites... is that they might not do it as "prettily" as I would prefer. However, the upshot is that I want people here to collaborate as much as possible. This gives the whole group the ability to support each other.

JeffC: Are there any questions or comments so far?

ShereeH: I clicked on a few and the pages wouldn't display. How often are the links checked?

CandiceGC: I clicked on a couple of them and they look so visually appealing!

JeffC: I check them periodically... but that is one of the things that you will be able to do.... fix any links you can't find displaying properly. If you can find the correct link (through google, etc.), you may edit the link. Otherwise you may email me at jc@JeffCooper.info and I will try and deal with them myself.

AmandaY: the physics site looks very interesting

JeffC: Well... I hope that we find sites that are appealing... because... if you want to get right down to it... within constructivism... if students aren't generally interested in learning... and engaged... they're not going to learn.

JeffC: My hope is that we will share links, and much more here.

JeffC: Candice... this next comment is specifically pointed at you... but all may focus: Tapped In is a global educational collaboratory... a *community* of practice... which

goes way beyond the scope of a mere learning environment (like WebCT). Here... relationships *sustain over time*... as does learning and support.

JeffC: In a community, there is mutual respect, support, and building towards a future.

JeffC: Now... *what* future this community will build towards, I can't specifically say... because... that would make me a dictator... something I really have no interest in becoming.

JeffC: My goal here is to have each and every one of you become actively involved with this community within a community.

DavidWe . o O (benevolent dictator, thought)

JeffC: I can find and supply resources, but it's up to the community to supply direction (if not links, guest speakers, other support, etc.!).

JeffC: Last month, the site of interest was <http://www.studyit.org.nz> ... which I'd like people to take a look at (and register at), since it is quite frankly... amazing! John Cluett (JohnCl here) told me about it... he's working on it himself. If people could all register there... come back here and make a few comments, I'll be right back.

ShereeH: I like how easy it is to navigate in the site. Gives you the TEKS along with the topic.

DianneA: Hi Sharon

SharonMM: Hi, is this the Science Forum. I am afraid I am lost.

DianneA: you are here at the science forum

DavidWe: Welcome, Sharon

DianneA: well done

SharonMM: Thanks.

JeffC: OK... how is everybody doing so far? Sharon... have you looked at the public links?

DianneA: I was supposed to be looking after you

DianneA: but you have managed on your own

JeffC: <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

JeffC: Also go to and register at <http://www.studyit.org.nz/> ... and please download the transcript from last month's group meeting, which discusses that site.

SharonMM: I am there on another screen.

JeffC: I'd like people to come back with a few questions/comments on sites, mybookmarks, studyit, etc. before I move on.

AmandaY: I like the ausetute website related to chemistry

AmandaY: it has a lot of nice features.

JeffC: Please copy/paste the link in here Amanda.

AmandaY: the site is <http://www.usetute.com.au/index.html>

JeffC: Anything in particular you'd like to share, Amanda?

AmandaY: The Ausetute website has a long list of examples on the different topics of chemistry. These one pagers can be helpful for me to refresh my skills and provide examples to use in class.

CandiceGC: So is Studyit for teachers or students? It looks like it is there for the students ... to help them

JeffC: For both Candice

JeffC: Mostly for the students though I think.

SusanR: like the format of the Maths Revision Guide

JeffC: OK... please feel free to type in responses, questions, etc... but I'd like to move on to next year.

CandiceGC: Since the NCEA sets the national standard, it's a great way to incorporate the curriculum without overwhelming the learner. Step by step

JeffC: I've created a thread in Discussion... and I'd like everyone to read it at some point, and commit to making a response *within the next two weeks*. I am willing and able to facilitate this group, but others must really chime in to make it work. That means finding guest speakers, sites to discuss, adding/editing links on the public bookmarks, etc. I'm hoping that everyone in this group can commit to spending 15-30 minutes a month focusing on this group, and working together. The Discussion thread allows us to ask questions, give answers, and support each other asynchronously. I'd like to see us do that.

DavidWe promises to put in time

TerryMa: I'll be teaching my first year

TerryMa: will need the help

TerryMa: don't know if I'll have the time

TerryMa: will try

SusanR: Terry, we are looking at <http://www.studyit.org.nz/>

TerryMa: thank you

JeffC: One thing you might consider doing is bringing a class here to Tapped In Terry. Perhaps find a science project or two online that they can become involved with.

SusanR: It's worth registering, Terry

JeffC: Perhaps get involved with The Jason Project <http://www.jasonproject.org/> (or a myriad of other online project sites).

TerryMa: great ideas

JeffC: Oh... are you talking about the studyit site?

TerryMa: thanks

CandiceGC: These are great, I had no idea instructional sites like these existed .. or rather I hadn't come across many of them ...

DavidWe wonders if Amanda knows about ChemSense (who have a building in TappedIn)

BJ: For anyone interested in bringing in students, I recommend you also join the K-12 Students in TI2 Group. This is a support group that will help you understand how to set up a group room in the Student Campus and get your students engaged.

JeffC: Here's another one Terry:

<http://www.nytimes.com/learning/teachers/lessons/archive.html> that is for the N.Y. Times Learning Network Lesson Plan Archive. They have the most articulated 6-12 lessons on the Internet.

JeffC: If you go there... you can assign your students to research and find and deliver a lesson to their liking. Make your students become teachers!

JeffC: I have quite a few other lesson plan sites on my other public bookmark site at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/coops>

TerryMa: great

TerryMa: can't wait to check these out

JeffC: One other question/comment/suggestion for you Terry. How will you collaborate with your colleagues in your new job? They should be helping/mentoring you... but

chances are your contact will be limited to a few faculty meetings and a staff development day. What will sustain you throughout the year?

TerryMa: my prob is that I will be teaching at a small private school and will be the sole chem teacher. . .

JeffC: My suggestion is that you will have to be proactive, a leader in your own right in regards to getting information and support from your colleagues. Then join with peers online... not only here... but elsewhere.

TerryMa: will definitely use the bio teacher's help

JeffC: Join the Science Mailing at <http://www.teachers.net> ... get involved online with other educators... gain support from them.

TerryMa: I plan to try to get into these chats when possible

JeffC: If you're isolated... you'll be carrying a very heavy burden by yourself.

TerryMa: I hope to make some contacts now so I can use them later

JeffC: OK... I'm guessing here that people are looking at other sites (and hopefully enjoying them), and not just bored to death (or is that merely sleep).

TerryMa: yes,

TerryMa: not bored

TerryMa: thanks for the help

JeffC: I'd like to have everyone click on the Discussion link on the left, and read my thread about looking at the next school year.

CandiceGC: I've found once you get used to the on-line environments, you feel less isolated. I'm getting my masters through a Distance program, I thought I would miss the campus recourses but I have found the on-line education to be very stimulating and fulfilling. I like the idea of an on-line professional network

JeffC: Although I am hoping and planning to get Jennifer Sun here next month, and I will continue to facilitate this group, I would like to get others to really commit to bringing their own resources to the table. Resources also include questions or problems. Simply posting to the Discussion board during the month counts!

JeffC: That's great Candice... and ask yourself this: where will your *online* peers be *next year after graduation*? Will you stay in touch? You have the ability to do so... even more so than if you were in a brick and mortar institution. But unless you and they decide to become part of a community... which will sustain itself after classes are over, you will lose that support network as well.

CandiceGC: Jennifers site looks phenomenal!

JeffC . o O (yeah... whyville is great!)

JeffC: OK... we're winding this down... questions? comments? ideas? hypotheses? bunsen burners?

CandiceGC: I've realized how important and valuable professional associations and communities are ... I hadn't during my undergrad years. Couldn't see that far ahead ...

JeffC doesn't know why he brought up Bunsen burners.

SusanR . o O (being a member and participating in Tapped In sessions has rejuvenated my teaching)

JeffC: Are you planning ahead now Candice? Will you and your peers stay in touch? Where? How?

DavidWe likes Bunsen burners for pulling glass capillaries

JeffC: Sherre, Terry, Amanda... thoughts?

TerryMa: just the few min. I've been here has been worthwhile

JeffC: I'm glad

TerryMa: will have to try to participate

CandiceGC: I am planning ahead, I joined the AECT and plan on meeting some of my peers. I'm really excited about my program studies ... I look forward to the career change and am taking baby steps to get involved in the mean time.

JeffC: Excellent Candice!

ShereeH: Do these groups run on a semester basis? In other words, do you start out with a new group of people every few months or does the same group continue throughout the year? I find the tapped in very useful, and I am just beginning my Master's studies. I have a while before I will be in a classroom!

AmandaY: This looks promising. Time will tell depending on how busy my first year of teaching is...

TerryMa: Ditto me

JeffC: Now... I know I go a bit (way too) fast in these sessions... because they are only for one hour once a month... and I always try to get new resources in the hands of educators. You'll receive a transcript of this when you log off... and it will also be posted back here and to ASO. Digest! Come back and post to Discussion here. There are a lot of ways to make your lives easier by working together. We meet once a month Sheree.

JeffC: When you need resources... post to Discussion here... and it will go out to the whole group.

JeffC: We're all here to help each other, and I hope you will all come back and become part of this virtual collaboratory.

TerryMa: Have already had some great response with that, I encourage others to take advantage

JeffC: Right Terry... I hope you're getting some good ideas on your service learning and chemistry project.

CandiceGC: Thanks Jeff, this was a great experience!

DavidWe wishes Terry good luck with her teaching

TerryMa: thanks all

ShereeH: Does it work like the discussions after the Festival? I was receiving numerous emails with comments, questions, and discussions.

JeffC: Remember... to edit the bookmarks (or add your own):

<http://www.mybookmarks.com> login: mathscience password: tappedin.

DavidWe . o O (PLEASE!)

JeffC: Yes Sheree... Discussion works that way... but you can *unsubscribe* if you really must. Although... I don't think there will be that many posts here.

TerryMa: that site saved me. my house burned down (with computer). Still have bookmarks, thanks to you!

DavidWe: Wow, Terry, glad that you are okay

TerryMa: all is well

JeffC: Really? Wow... so sorry to hear about your house!

SusanR breathes a sigh of relief about Terry

JeffC: Thanks all for coming... I'll stick around to chat... Candice... please give me a minute and I'll continue with a few other sites for you.

DianneA waves bye

CandiceGC: Night all

SusanR: Thanks Jeff

SusanR left the room.

AmandaY: Thanks Jeff. Nice to meet all. Good luck with the new school year!

DavidWe thanks Jeff for another good discussion

DianneA: Thanks Jeff, lots of good resources, I need time to digest them

ShereeH: Thanks Jeff. Also, thanks for the help through the email. Your monthly messages do get read!

JeffC: Thanks all.

JeffC: Candice... I've written a few articles on Tapped In, virtual learning environments and communities.

CandiceGC: Lucky me, I feel like I hit the jackpot! :))

JeffC: If you look at <http://snurl.com/muvearticle> as well as <http://snurl.com/netc1> ... they'll both give you some insights.

JeffC: Here's another one Candice:

<http://bcis.pacificu.edu/journal/2001/12/cooper/muve.php>

DavidWe: Good job, Jeff, especially the appeal for collaboration