

Title of Session: K-20 Science Resources

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

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Room: After School Online Room

JeffC waves to all.

JeffC: OK... just wanted her to know that it is necessary to become a member to join the Science Resources Group (free and easy to do!).

JeffC waves to Ian and Melinda.

MelindaL: Hi - back for more resources for my first graders!

JeffC: Melinda, you will need to join the Science Resources Group: 1) Click the "Search" tab 2) Click the "Groups" subtab 3) type: Science Resources ...and click the Find It! button 4) Click the link to the group 5) Join the group

MelindaL: ok. done. didn't want to jump ahead!

IanMa: yes

BJB2: Ian and Melinda have both joined the science group, Jeff

JeffC: OK... Ian and Melinda... ready to proceed?

MelindaL: yes

JeffC: Excellent... let's continue in the group room.

IanMa: sure

JeffC left the room.

MelindaL left the room.

BJB2: Ian, you should have a link to the science group room under the actions menu

IanMa: k

BJB2: oops...favorite places menu

IanMa: head there?

BJB2: yes, Jeff and Melinda are there

IanMa left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: Science Resources

BjB joined the room.

SusanR joined the room.

MelindaL joined the room.

IanMa joined the room.

JeffC: OK

JeffC: I've patterned this room exactly as I did with the Math Resources group.

JeffC: The public bookmarks are at the same place:

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

JeffC: I believe I have over 200 science links there.

MelindaL: WOW! I feel like I have hit a virtual goldmine of help! This is great.

JeffC: Thanks

IanMa: one that I didn't see that I love is nasa's astronomy pic of the day

JeffC: There are a few sites I'd like to emphasize... of course <http://www.enc.org> ... which is Gail Hoskins' baby.

IanMa: <http://antwrp.gsfc.nasa.gov/apod/archivepix.html>

SusanR: I never tire looking thro' Jeff's bookmarks

JeffC: I also want to point out whyville at <http://www.whyville.net/> ... Jennifer Sun (the president of whyville) gave a presentation on it a few months ago. It is a must site for middle school (and older/or younger) students.

JeffC: Whyville allows for students to become part of a community of learners... earn "clams" by taking on various science related tasks within whyville.

JeffC: OK... Ian and Melinda... is there anything on your plate that you'd like to see covered today?

IanMa: anything special that you have found recently?

IanMa: not looking for anything in particular myself

MelindaL: I'm looking for "extras" to make science more interesting. Without a lab in my room, and being a general ed teacher, it would be cool to find resources for first grade science lessons.

IanMa: to tell you the truth, a 200 bookmark page of active, thought out links is more than I was expecting

IanMa: any science lesson in particular?

JeffC: Susan is our K-3 specialist Melinda. Perhaps she has lesson ideas for the younger grades.

MelindaL: hmmm...last week we did mass. This week we are doing seasons. The stuff in the book isn't all that great. So any elementary websites, which I can get from thebookmarks, to help enhance learning through a science center at the computers, would be great.

JeffC: If you're looking for upper grade science lessons, the New York Times Learning Network has excellent and highly articulated lessons. You can find a link to it in my Lesson Plans folder at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/coops>

JeffC: I don't have the science bookmarks differentiated by grade level... just added as I found them. That would be a project to undertake... separating them. Any takers?

JeffC: <http://yucky.kids.discovery.com/> yucky is a great site for all ages I think

JeffC: Talks about all sorts of gross stuff (boogers, etc.)... stuff kids love to go "ewwwww!!!" about.

MelindaL: I actually found that one yesterday. We're doing our science project on composting, so I went there for worm stuff! And got lots of eeewwwwws today! Thanks!

JeffC: <http://www.powersoften.com/> Powers of 10 is also fun and enlightening simultaneously.

IanMa: I have recently become very interested in the more prevalent science misconceptions

IanMa: did a rather large project on it...any experiences with those?

JeffC: Hmm... not offhand... let me think about it.

JeffC: Here's another good site for K-4: <http://pals.sri.com/tasks/tasksk-4.html> ... put out by the same people who bring you Tapped In I believe.

JeffC: Seen this Ian? <http://www.amasci.com/miscon/opphys.html>

IanMa: ah

IanMa: thank you

JeffC: Here's another: <http://www.ems.psu.edu/~fraser/BadScience.html>

MelindaL: thanks - I am bookmarking all this stuff to browse over the holidays!

JeffC: Here's another: <http://www.indiana.edu/~w505a/studwork/deborah/>

MelindaL: Cool, thanks!

JeffC: On a different track... <http://www.nasa.gov> is a must see site as well... you could spend weeks there... as well as at <http://www.enc.org>

IanMa: that's what I was finding, that the teacher must attack the experience that bred the misconception...otherwise they will just adapt it to form their own version of truth

JeffC: Teaching the scientific method is one way to approach misconceptions as well... hypothesis... experimentation... etc.

JeffC: There are 116 members of this group. If you post to Discussion here, you will reach all of them via email. Sooooo... please feel free to post now anything that you might like to see covered, or ask for someone to collaborate with on a project etc.

JeffC: Here's another must site to visit: <http://www.jasonproject.org/> Ever hear of The Jason Project?

IanMa: no

IanMa: I'll take a look

JeffC: It's not free... but they're doing a "Wetlands Project" that has students doing field research... joining with others around the globe. Not sure how much it costs to join, but it's probably worth it.

MelindaL: No, but I guess I am missing something big since it is underwritten by Shell! I have bookmarked it for review later.

JeffC: Well... I just checked... it's \$339... not cheap.

MelindaL: Yikes! Not in my "new teacher" budget.

JeffC: I almost exclusively look for free or inexpensive resources... since I know how budgets are in K-12 (not to mention higher ed)>

SusanR: ditto, Jeff..appreciate the great resources

JeffC: Today in Science History <http://www.todayinsci.com/> is a great site for just giving students an idea of what happened in the past.

JeffC: Also be sure to register at Studyit <http://www.studyit.org.nz/> (for the higher grades).

MelindaL: I have lots to introduce science with now! astronomy pic of the day and science history! thanks, all.

JeffC: You're welcome Melinda.

MelindaL left the room (signed off).

JeffC: I have to run (cooking dinner... yet another "experiment"). Glad all could make it today.

IanMa: no problem

IanMa: thanks, jeff

SusanR: Thanks. Jeff..

JeffC: Thanks for coming Susan.

SusanR: no problem..lots to gain from your sessions