

Title of Session: Middle Level Science

Moderator: Jan Naher-Snowden

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Room: Tree House Conference Room

GailH: you know the weekly online ENC Focus.

Jan_NS: yes,

GailH: Well we are doing a three-part series about Science ideas for classroom.

Jan_NS: awesome

GailH: URL I'll give in a moment for elementary.

GailH: But this Thursday we put up the middle school one, and...

GailH: IMHO, one particular article in that is one of the BEST K-12 math or science we've done.

GailH: It is called HOT Grabbers...

Jan_NS: You must be proud!

GailH: where HOT is higher order thinking

Jan_NS: Yeah!

Jan_NS: My soapbox!

GailH: and grabbers are those things you do first 3-4 minutes to get attention.

GailH: Idea is that there needs to be real stuff in them.

GailH: Great examples.

Jan_NS: I agree!

GailH: And superbly linked to NSES.

Jan_NS: can't wait to see this!

GailH: I will show you the elementary url now, and where it says middle school coming soon, it will become a link.

Jan_NS claps eagerly!

GailH: <http://www.enc.org/features/focus/archive/ideask4science/>

GailH: The elementary one is great too.

GailH: We did a similar series in math late in 2004. Here is one part, (and they all link to each other within the math set). <http://www.enc.org/features/focus/archive/ideasmmath/>

GailH: Sorry to be blabbering on so non-stop.

GailH: I stop and breathe and stretch fingers now!

BJB2 hands Gail a soothing cup of tea

Jan_NS: don't apologize - I am so glad that you came prepared to share - that was to be the topic for discussion tonight.

GailH: It can be topic your next time -- and maybe you'll want to share the article. I can give you the "real" url (now) but it will not work until noon Thursday. (You can get to it fine with what I gave already).

GailH sips the tea and plans on two cups!

Jan_NS: wow. great stuff. I will definitely share with my preservice teachers on Thursday during class.

Jan_NS: this semester I have three instructional technology classes for preservice teachers. Two are beginning level, the third for middle and secondary preservice

GailH: beginning meaning elementary or beginning meaning novice?

Jan_NS: novice (and very novice at that)

GailH smiles.

GailH: I have something to share for that (maybe)?

GailH: It is actually a three-part thing.

GailH: Gets both older in age and more advanced.

Jan_NS: the full -time faculty have the science methods courses to teach. I want to teach in higher educ. so I teach what I can

Jan_NS: sound interesting

GailH: <http://www.enc.org/features/calendar/unit/0,1819,206,00.shtm>

GailH: <http://www.enc.org/features/calendar/unit/0,1819,207,00.shtm>

GailH: <http://www.enc.org/features/calendar/unit/0,1819,208,00.shtm>

Jan_NS: this will be useful for my students.

GailH: Did you use to teach middle school science?

Jan_NS: thanks for these resources

GailH is glad to share them.

Jan_NS: actually I was a free floater. I worked in Environmental Education for 20-ish years and did a lot of guest teaching at all levels in schools. I also did private school teaching for several years. I have a checkered past

Jan_NS: I am certified 7-12 biology and general science. Lots of professional development teaching - workshops, courses, etc.

GailH: We have a lot in common. My background is quite mixed too.

GailH: BTW, for you and for you to share with your students if you wish....

GailH: I hope you can join me here at Tapped in on Tuesday March 1 from 7 - 9 PM EASTERN time for an ENC Math and Science Fair. (Think about how there are so many participants at a fair -- either a county fair or a school content-based fair.) Get in touch with me before the event at <mailto:ghoskins@enc.org> or just join us at Tapped In for a participatory experience in K-12 math and science!

Jan_NS: I will share that info. I probably can join in.

Jan_NS: My more advanced class has to participate in Tapped In discussions during the semester

GailH: Jeff C normally has events then, but he is sharing that spot with me. This has been planned for several months.

Jan_NS: Wonderful

BJB2: you might also want to invite Bill Hilton

Jan_NS: btw - do you have access to video conferencing facility?

BJB2 . o O (leads Nuts About Nature)

GailH: Good idea. I intend to really PR this -- if I even stop giving real-time events like I have for these three weeks now!

GailH: I know him a bit. SC, I believe -- we have that in common too.

BJB2: hummingbirds

GailH: During two of the five events I did in UT last week, they had intermittent server trouble. My sim has 10,000 pages and is usually less than three weeks old -- so it is not bad.

Jan_NS: amazing!

GailH: I get lots of questions (and praise) for my ability to not be dependent on Internet.

Jan_NS: good for you.

GailH: I think THAT is an important message in technology education -- that the lesson goes on, whether the technology works or not!

Jan_NS: exactly!