

**Title of Session:** K-20 Science Resources

**Moderator:** Jeff Cooper

**Title of File:** 20050201sciencek20

**Date:** February 1, 2005

Room: After School Online Room

**JeffC:** Let's start with a brief introduction from everyone... and also anything they would like to see covered.

**JasodelGst10:** Jason, just exploring getting familiar with Tapped in. I teach a combined grade one and two class

**IsisA:** I have to attend a staff development via Tapped In. Would this apply?

**JeffC** nods yes to Isis.

**IsisA:** Yey! How long is this group meeting for and where can I print out proof that I was in?

**JeffC:** I facilitate this group, but am not a science teacher. I have created a group room with resources for science teachers, and will give you instructions on how to join later.

**SusanR:** Jeff, do encourage Jason to join the K to 3+ Resource Room.

**JeffC:** Isis, you will receive a transcript after you logoff (via email).

**IsisA:** Thank you Jeff. So, I am not sure of what the topic is...I know it is Science. But, what about it?

**JeffC:** Jason, you will need to register as a member to join either the K-3 or Science groups. Membership is free and easy.

**JeffC:** For a start Isis, take a look at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

**IsisA:** okay. Give me must a sec....

**JuneT:** HI, everyone. This is my first time to try this as well. So I think I am in the right place. Is this the K-20 Science Resources?

**JeffC:** You're in the right place June.

**JuneT:** Great

**JeffC:** June, please take a look at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

**JeffC:** There will be a transcript of this meeting posted in the Science Resources Group room as well.

**IsisA:** Jeff....I looked into the website you gave me and signed up. Now what should I do?

**JeffC:** Isis, I'd like to continue this meeting in the Science Resources Group room... I'll give you instructions on how to do that in a minute.

**JeffC:** To join the Science Resources Group: 1) Click the Search tab in the top frame 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

**JeffC:** Let's continue this in the Science Resources Group room.

Room: Science Resources

**JeffC:** If you scroll down the top frame you'll see a few links as well as transcripts from previous meetings.

**IsisA:** I'm new and I forgot how I can add your office in my favorites!

**JeffC:** I want to tell you both a little about <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience> It is a public bookmark site, and \*you\* can both add links by logging in at <http://www.mybookmarks.com> login: mathscience password: tappedin

**BJ:** Isis, at the top of the screen to the left of the favorite places menu

**JeffC:** oops... that should be <http://www.mybookmarks.com>

**BJ:** is ADD TO MY FAVORITES..but you don't need to do that because groups are automatically added to your favorite places menu

**JuneT:** So Jeff, did you say you are not a science educator?

**IsisA:** Oh. I see. so do people just post whatever they want to say about science?

**JeffC:** Right

**JeffC:** (to both questions)

**JeffC:** In this room there is a threaded Discussion board, you can post and it will go to over 100 science educators (via email).

**JeffC:** You may also post Links, upload Files to share, etc.

**IsisA:** I am also not a science educator but I am soon graduating from UH and becoming a Bil.Ed. teacher. I want to make sure my students have a great time learning science!

**JeffC:** There are a lot of interesting science sites at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

**JuneT:** I am both a doctoral student and an instructor of elementary science methods. Do you think this is a good place to get my students together to chat?

**IsisA:** I will make sure to share links with you next time I am in. Actually, I wish I had brought some along since I just became aware of some awesome ones yesterday as we were having a tour in a school at Spring Branch ISD in Houston

**JeffC:** I will also point both of you to <http://www.enc.org> ...that is the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse. Gail Hoskins will be presenting Science Fair info next month (here) as a guest speaker.

**JeffC:** Cool Isis

**JeffC:** June... you may create up to 50 student accounts here and bring your students.

**BJ:** June, Tapped In has a K-12 Student campus where you can bring your students

**JeffC:** Students meet in a separate Tapped In campus and can't reach this room however.

**BJ:** it is a safe and secure location for K-12 students

**JuneT:** Can they contribute to the links section or is that controlled by you or others? My students are university students....preservice teachers.

**BJ:** then you need to create a group room in this building for your students, June...

**JeffC:** Yes... oh... they don't need to be registered by you then... they can create their own Tapped In account and join this group.

**IsisA:** Tell your students that Tapped In is great! I am a first time user.

**IsisA:** I even have friends that have established their own Technology organization and hold meetings through Tapped In.

**IsisA:** I believe it is a world within the world of the internet.

**JeffC** . o O ( good thought Isis )

**JuneT:** I am thinking of emailing them and forming a group. They are all out in their schools doing their student-teaching this spring. It could be a great way for them to connect.

**IsisA:** So, let's talk about science.

**IsisA:** What kind of tools do you use to teach your students about science besides the usual ones?

**JuneT:** K-12? or University?

**JuneT:** I use the same methods for both. I fully believe in simple inquiry-based investigations.

**IsisA:** K-12. I plan on teaching 2nd, 3rd, or 4th...whichever is available. I know that school districts in Texas are doing all they can to teach more science to their students...we have a bad percentage in our TAKS test. It is a state-wide test...I don't agree with how some teachers make a big deal of it and teach "to the test" because if they do good, their school basically gets more money.

**JuneT:** I like to put out an investigation with little information and let the students figure out what is happening. Then we can come together and discuss what their impressions were and let them learn from each other. The students then can drive the next investigation to test their hypothesis.

**IsisA:** I want to teach my students the fun way but it is difficult for me since I didn't have a good experience in my elementary years.

**JeffC:** A number of lesson plans at <http://www.enc.org> are aligned to standards.

**JuneT:** ENC is a great site.

**JeffC:** A fun site is <http://www.yucky.com>

**IsisA:** I see. I think I have heard of that website before some time this semester.

**IsisA:** Thank you. I appreciate your help with this. Do you know of any in Spanish?

**JeffC:** Not offhand Isis

**JeffC:** However, if you go to <http://www.t-mail.com/cgi-bin/tsail> and click on the t-sail link, you can translate webpages into Spanish.

**IsisA:** See, I am going to be a bilingual teacher and would like to teach my students some terms in Spanish so that they can transition easily into English, especially in the science subject.

**JuneT:** I recently received this email about ENC. It is going off line unfortunately.

**JuneT:** The staff of the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse (ENC) regrets to inform you that the U.S. Department of Education will not continue funding for a national mathematics and science education clearinghouse beyond ENC's current contract year ending September 30, 2005. We believe that ENC has provided a valuable service to the nation's K-12 mathematics and science teachers over the past 13 years, and we look forward to continuing that work. We are currently developing plans to deliver ENC's products and services through subscriptions to schools, organizations, and individuals beginning in October 2005.

**JuneT:** If you would like to be kept informed about ENC's future directions, or if you have comments or suggestions for the staff, please send an email to [info@enc21.com](mailto:info@enc21.com).

**JeffC:** Yeah... of course they lose their funding... since they are so useful!

**JuneT:** I agree! This is a truly sad event.

**IsisA:** I cannot believe that ! See, things like that make me real mad.

**JeffC:** It's par for the course in education.

**IsisA:** I don't think so...I wonder if my teacher is aware of this?

**IsisA:** I will not see her until Thursday. I will make sure to tell her then.

**JeffC:** Next month here, Gail Hoskins from ENC will give a guest discussion on Science Fair activities.

**JuneT:** What date? Do you know what grade level?

**IsisA:** I see. That will be of great help! I will make sure I share this with my classmates.

**BJ:** March 1

**JeffC:** It will be the first Tuesday in March, which I think is the first, all grade levels I believe.

**BJ:** just a sec and I'll get the blurb she sent

**IsisA:** In your office?

**BJ:** Join Gail Hoskins on Tuesday March 1 from 7 PM - 9 PM EST (check the Tapped In calendar at <http://tappedin.org/tappedin/do/CalendarAction> ) for the ENC Math and Science Fair at Tapped In ( [www.tappedin.org](http://www.tappedin.org) ). Think about all those active participants at a fair -- either a county fair or a school content-based fair. You can get in touch with Gail before the event at <mailto:ghoskins@encc.org> or just join us at Tapped In for a participatory experience in K-12 math and science! "Bring" a K-12 math or science resource to share -- or just tour the resources on display! ENC Online <http://www.enc.org> is a great one-stop-shop for finding great sites. Join Gail to see some of her "favorite places" and to share yours.

**IsisA:** I see. So, you will not have your discussion in your office since you will be at Gail's?

**JeffC:** right

**JuneT:** Iris, what school are you attending?

**SusanR:** Gail's sessions are thought provoking ... at the same time she provides practical resources for the classroom teacher

**IsisA:** Great. It is very neat. See, I went to school (elementary) in Mexico and we NEVER had a science fair. Honestly, I have NEVER been in one.

**IsisA:** I am attending University of Houston.

**SusanR:** I recommend this site as well for some hands on exploration and perhaps as a resource for a Science Fair [http://www.exploratorium.edu/science\\_explorer/](http://www.exploratorium.edu/science_explorer/)

**IsisA:** I had only seen science fairs on TV until a few years ago.

**JuneT:** You may not be aware of LEARN NC. It is located at <http://www.learnnc.org> . It has lots of really good information, professional development and lesson plans.

**IsisA:** Thank you Susan. I am sure that with all the tools I am obtaining...my students will not have the same experience in science like I did.

**IsisA:** Well, I have to go for now. But I look forward to seeing y'all (I'm in Texas) on March 1st.

**IsisA:** Thank you so much for everything and for all those great links. I LOVE TO TEACH...and I am starting to love science!!!

**JeffC:** cool

**JuneT:** So Susan, what is your role in science education?

**SusanR:** I am the K to 3+ Great Resources presenter here at TI

**JuneT:** TI?

**JeffC:** You should definitely join the K-3 Resources group

**SusanR:** I am a dedicated primary teacher..all subjects

**JuneT:** Tapped In?

**SusanR:** TI=Tapped In

**JuneT:** Yes, the k-3 group might be a good place for my students to also join.

**SusanR:** Please do..browse - past sessions are there with all the links

**SusanR:** additional resources for browsing

**JuneT:** As I look up, I see that there are several science related groups. Some have doors that are open and others closed. Are the ones with open doors available now?

**JeffC:** yes June

**SusanR:** The K to 3 Resource Room is always open

**JuneT:** Why is that?

**JeffC:** Group rooms like this one are always open to members.

**JeffC:** Feel free to click the "Discussion" link in the left of the top frame... adding to discussions goes to all members (via email).

**JuneT:** Sort of a listserv approach?

**JeffC:** in a sense... being a group member means you automatically are "subscribed" to the discussion board (you can also unsubscribe)

**JuneT:** What I am looking at right now does not seem very active. Lots of posts are quite old. How successful to you feel the discussions are?

**JeffC:** You're right... they aren't used much

**BJ:** group leaders will frequently use the discussion board to post reminders of calendar events

**JeffC:** It would be more successful with more use, but that's not what members have done. Please feel free to start a thread.

**JuneT:** Thanks for you time and information. Got to go now.

**JeffC:** Time's about up anyways. Glad you could make it June.

**SusanR:** Goodnight all! Nice, intimate session, Jeff.

**JeffC:** thanks