

Title of Session: Technology in the Classroom
Moderator: BJ Berquist and Susan Roseman
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Room: After School Online Room

BJB2: Hi, Denise. Welcome

DeniseHar: Hi. What is the topic for today. I have questions about powerpoint if possible.

ChantaratP: now in Thailand , we are going to have general elections on Feb, 6

JasonDe: is this tech in the classroom

BJB2: yes, it is, Jason

JasonDe: thanks

BJB2: we're waiting to see if Donna Hendry logs in...

BJB2: if not, we'll start without her

BJB2: While we wait, a couple housekeeping tips

BJB2: if you're new to Tapped In, click on the ACTIONS menu in the top right of the chat window and then click on DETACH

BJB2: we usually start all the discussions in Tapped In with introductions

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

KarenConna: I'm an Ed Tech Specialist for an Intermediate Unit in PA

KimZB: I am a first grade teacher in VA.

JenniferSc: I'm a doc student at Montana State University. I'm studying literacy and tech integration.

DeniseHar: My Name is Denise. I teach sixth grade in a small k-8 in rural central CA

JasonDe: I teach at a K-8 school in rural CanadaI teach a combined one/two class and am the computer site contact at our school

ChantaratP: I am policy analyst from Bangkok, Thailand

JenniferSc . o O (Wow, what a diverse group.)

BrookeM joined the room.

BJB2 agrees with Jennifer. We should be able to get you some answers to your ppt question, Denise!

BJB2: Hi, Brooke. Welcome.

BrookeM: Hi

BJB2: Brooke, we've just done introductions. Can you please tell us where you are located and what you teach?

BrookeM: I am in Maryland and I teach second grade

BJB2: wonderful! Thanks.

BJB2: I know Denise has some ppt questions. What brings the rest of you to this Tech in the Classroom discussion?

ChantaratP: I am really a teacher but working closely with the teachers as the policy and planning officer

KarenConna: I work with teachers who only see students for 30 minutes once per week -- remedial reading

KarenConna: wondering what ideas might be out there for this limited time period and need to strong instruction in reading

JenniferSc: I'm here to learn anything I can and help others too.

BJB2 nods to Karen

JasonDe: I am the lead technology teacher in our school.....It's my job to encourage colleagues to get on board with technology

SusanR: Hello everyone

BJB2: Susan, please introduce yourself to the group

BJB2: everyone has been posting what they hope to get from this discussion

SusanR: I had that job in my school a few years back, Jason

BJB2: I have a suggestion for Karen if your teachers are online in the classrooms

BrookeM: I am hoping to get ideas for instruction for my second grade mainstream classroom

KarenConna listens

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional teacher from Ottawa, Ontario

KarenConna: BJB - some teachers have access to Internet, some don't

BrookeM listens to the suggestion

BJB2: are you familiar with the K-12 student campus in Tapped In, Karen?

KarenConna: Yes

SusanR: and I facilitate the K to 3+ great Resources sessions here at TI

KimZB: I have technology available in my classroom, but have limited 25 minute blocks in our lab where students can have engaged time with a computer..so I am looking for some new ideas...

BJB2: some lower grade and lower level teachers use the threaded discussion boards in the student campus for their students...

KarenConna listens

BJB2: the authentic audience helps to motivate the students

BrookeM: I have done that but it wasn't too successful

BJB2: teachers just have the students turn off (disable chat)

BJB2: how did you do that, Brooke?

BrookeM: my school systems' computers do not allow the chat

KarenConna: Great idea - I'll pass that along to them and help them get started in trying it out

BJB2: Brooke, you may be able to log in with chat disabled

BrookeM: I posted photos using the image links and then added writing prompts to what we were reading in class

BJB2: the student campus is a safe and secure location for kids

BrookeM: there the students had to answer my questions

JenniferSc: I have an idea for Kim that I learned the other day...It's called story starters. Each child gets an intriguing story. They write for 3 minutes, more or less depending on age. Then they switch computers and add to each other's stories. Make sense?

BrookeM: I can log in without the chat

BJB2 smiles and nods to Jennifer

KimZB: Yes, Jennifer, I like that idea!

BrookeM: what do you do about slow typers?

SusanR: Great idea, Jennifer.

KarenConna: Jennifer - have you thought about trying that same thing using WIKIS?

JenniferSc . o O (WIKIS, what's that?)

BJB2: if they're slow typers, they're probably slow writers also

BrookeM: no it is hard for some of my slow typers that aren't slow writers

BJB2 lets Karen explain WIKIS

KarenConna: It's a collaborative tool that users can edit without any additional knowledge

BrookeM: I don't want to waste my time with typing programs but I don't have that much computer time

JenniferSc: Where can I find it?

KarenConna: There are some available for education

BrookeM: wikis are a great tool

KarenConna: give me a sec to find an address for you

KimZB: I was thinking that I could also do this in pairs--the typers could keep it going. You could start it out with an assistant and maybe a parent helping you will small groups to model it.

BJB2: anyone else have suggestions for reluctant writers?

KarenConna: Jennifer - here is a link that might help you get an idea about what a Wiki is: <http://c2.com/cgi/wiki?WikiInEducation>

DeniseHar: I have my sixth graders write a never ending story that stays up on my classroom computer.

JenniferSc . o O (Thanks, Kim)

SusanR: Have you thought about communicating with another class through email?

BJB2: one thing that doesn't have to be tech based is to have the child draw a picture...maybe based on one of the story starters....and then write the story.

BJB2: you could collect the stories and illustrations into a class book

SusanR: another suggestion...key pals provides an authentic and motivating opportunity for students to read and write

BrookeM: what is key pals?

JasonDe: I find using Kidpix will often motivate those reluctant writers

KarenConna: I've heard of key pals and you might find that really motivating for your students Brooke

BrookeM: We don't have Kidpix they replaced it with Image blender

SusanR: I have had students write rebus stories using the stamping tool

JenniferSc: You can also use an illustrator program, like Apple Works, to encourage visualizing for reluctant readers. Read a vivid passage and let them draw what they "see".

JasonDe: I like the rebus idea!!

KimZB: I just created a weblog where we posted Roses are Red poems and asked staff and classes and soon parents to post their own Roses are Red poem. This is a class dictated activity for my group, but older students could type up their own poems. This doesn't take up lab time, we can check it in our room and the students are coming up with more ideas for poems. Check it out sometime! Link: <http://rosesareredpoems.blogspot.com/>

KarenConna . o O (nice idea Kim)

DeniseHar: I was wondering if anyone was a whiz at powerpoint. I'm just starting a project and have a few questions.

BrookeM: what type of project?

DeniseHar: It is a Egypt report. I need to know how to set up hyperlinks to create a non-linear presentation.

JasonDe: can just get off topic here for a moment....each time I try to view a web link posted I take myself out of the discussion. Is that supposed to happen?

BJB2: Jason, when you click on a url hold down your ctrl key

JasonDe: thanks

BJB2: . o O (that overrides the pop up blocker)

KarenConna: Denise, I can help - just a sec and let me bring up powerpoint to make sure I tell you correctly

BrookeM: Jason, I also open a web browser b4 I enter TI that way I can look at stuff

JasonDe: great

KarenConna: Denise, you need to use the insert menu and select hyperlink, then....

KarenConna: in the next window you want to select link to a place in this document.

DeniseHar: That's what I thought. I'm trying, but it won't let me select hyperlink. Is it just because I haven't created the slides yet ?

BrookeM: try typing something as a practice

SusanR: and if you are interested in KidPix lesson plans ..
<http://www.littlelake.k12.ca.us/Lakeland/onlineleskidpix/onlinekidpix.html>

SusanR opens up Powerpoint

KarenConna: Make sure that you've highlight the text that you want to make a hyperlink first then try the insert menu

DeniseHar: OK, Then you put "place in this document"???

KarenConna: yes

KarenConna: click "Place in this document"

CathyPB joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Cathy. Welcome

DeniseHar: Lifesaver. Sometimes the easiest steps kill me. I hate it when my students know more than me..

BJB2: are you here for Tech in the Classroom, Cathy?

DeniseHar: Thanks, Karen

KarenConna: make sure that you put a link back to the one you just linked from

KarenConna: so you can navigate

KarenConna: you're welcome

BJB2: Denise, the power of Tapped In is the collaboration that takes place among the members

DonnaH joined the room.

BJB2 faints

DonnaH: (BUGGER)

BJB2: Hi, Donna!

SusanR: Our fearless leader, Hi Donna

DonnaH: Hi hi. sorry.

SusanR: Welcome

BJB2: You have a wonderful group here, Donna...they've been working together to answer tech questions they have

DonnaH: that's the whole point...networking:)

DonnaH: So catch me up, guys...where are we?

SusanR: We have picked up some useful tips, Donna..using blogs, kidpix and powerpoint

DeniseHar: So how are you guys doing that so and so -""faints" and Nods or " Waves"

BJB2: Denise, type a colon and the action :faints

JenniferSc: We're just kicking around ideas about using tech to motivate reluctant writers and readers.

DeniseHar: Denise:nods

SusanR claps

BJB2: start the line with the colon, Denise

JenniferSc waves to Denise and smiles

DeniseHar waves and cheers!

BJB2 cheers...you did it, Denise

ChantaratP: I have never seen Kindpix, how it works

KarenConna . o O (wonders if Jennifer has uncovered anything interesting related to literacy and technology in her graduate work)

DonnaH: you know, I don't particularly like Kidpix.

BJB2: why not, Donna?

DonnaH: at least as an authoring tool.

SusanR: any particular reason, Donna

SusanR: teachers have been using it to death

DonnaH: Because the program itself sucks a lot of power, so most comps in our district (say, lower than P3's) tend to crash from it...

BrookeM: Kidpix can be misused easily but when used right it is a valuable resource

DonnaH: and then the kids play around more so with the images, bells, whistles, than actually working on their story.

KimZB: We often seemed to have network problems with Kid Pix. We are lucky enough to have Scholastic Keys now and it is great!

JenniferSc: Thanks for asking, Karen. Just in the beginning stages. Mostly, I am getting more ideas how to integrate. And the motivation aspect is big in the literature.

DonnaH: I've actually used Powerpoint for stories...

KarenConna: KidPix can be thought of as a mindtool - a mindtool is any tool that starts with a blank page and allows the students to create or construct some learning

ChantaratP: Where can we find detail of kidpix, Brook?

DonnaH: kids import scanned pics, or use clipart...or draw in paint or something related...

BrookeM: Donna- why don't you allow time for playing and then get to business

DeniseHar: I've used printshop as an authoring tool with great success for first graders. You just need to save a template for them to start with and let them type. Then they can add graphics with adult help.

DonnaH: I have:) but 'play' becomes the whole thing. it can become time intensive.

KarenConna: Jennifer - I'd be interested in your final results as I have about 20 reading specialists that work in my division

BrookeM: I agree that powerpoint for stories is alot more fun though the kids love seeing their stories being played infront of them

BJB2: Chantarat, try http://www.riverdeep.net/products/kid_pix/kpd4.jhtml

DonnaH: Brooke, I've actually printed the pages out on card stock, and created bound books out of them.

ChantaratP: Thanks Brook

KarenConna: Peter Reynolds - Fablevision has new software out called Stationary Studio. It's highly rated, but I haven't used it yet.

SusanR: and these integration ideas may help..<http://www.teachers.ash.org.au/jmresources/kidpix/kidpix.html>

DonnaH: it makes layout really easy...and you can still do all sorts of fun stuff with graphics and with text.

DonnaH: not to mention...if you print out the 'handout' layout? (6 slides to a page?) you have a good way to create comics.

BJB2: what about inspiration and kidspiration?

DonnaH: and/or flashcards.

JenniferSc: Well, then, we should keep in touch. Right now, I am working with preservice literacy teachers and classroom teachers. But eventually, I want to focus my efforts on struggling middle-school readers, as they are my favorite!

DonnaH: if you're going to use one, stick to inspiration.

KarenConna . o O (yea inspiration and kidspiration are great ideas)

DonnaH: granted, its possible kidspiration has been upgraded since I've last played with it.

KarenConna agrees with Donna

SusanR: a related product is Smart Ideas
<http://www.smarttech.com/products/smartideas/clipart/index.asp>

DonnaH: but in its first incarnation, it was actually MORE difficult to learn

JasonDe: smart ideas is a great place to have students begin mapping out their writing

KimZB: I do like Kidspiration for word webbing to get younger students started with writing

KarenConna: I've used Kidspiration with Kindergarten students, but used Inspiration for 2nd grade and up

SusanR: It is site licensed in Ontario, Jason

KarenConna: Jennifer - yes, let's keep in touch -- you might even want to connect with some of the reading specialists in my area

JasonDe: yes, smart ideas is now ministry licensed

DonnaH: personally, I tend more toward online programs than software I have to buy...but that's me.

BrookeM: Donna have you looked at www.starfall.com?

BJB2 . o O (and not everyone has access to online programs)

JenniferSc: Karen, are they in Tapped In?

DonnaH: (well, me and a really cheap school system.)

DonnaH: it sounds really familiar...but I don't remember anything about it now.

KarenConna: Some are -- we're just starting to get our staff introduced to TI

JasonDe: [www.starfall](http://www.starfall.com) is a great place to begin with emergent and early reader

BrookeM: it is a web-based phonics teacher

BrookeM: it is great for k-1

JasonDe: agree

KarenConna . o O (my reading specialists might be interested in starfall)

BrookeM: and children in 2nd who need phonics work

JasonDe: absolutely

DonnaH: have you guys used <http://www.storyplace.org> ?

JasonDe: need a speedy connection though for it to run without the child getting easily distracted!

JenniferSc: Well keep me in mind when you get a group going on Tapped IN, unless there is way for me to connect to them now...

DonnaH: (I just led a workshop last week that included that site...I use it for preschool literacy)

BrookeM: <http://www.mrsmcgowan.com/> is a teacher's site and she has some good word work on her site not to mention a tons of literature resources...tune your volume down b/c she has music

KarenConna: Jennifer, I will -- I'll be in touch

DonnaH: and it's excellent, because it is both English and Spanish...and the groups i get for the preschool literacy workshops are usually 50/50

SusanR: Speaking of concept mapping ...if you want a FREE concept mapping tool check out teachnology ...http://teachers.teachnology.com/web_tools/graphic_org/concept_web/

DonnaH: I've used that:)

JenniferSc: On the topic of great sites...www.infosearcher.com has great integration tools.

JenniferSc: To add to Karen's technology -- they have a graphic organizer generator on that site too. Just a few clicks and you can customize your own organizer.

SusanR: the url Jennifer please

BJB2 smiles. Pam Berger, who does Infosearcher, leads a monthly discussion in Tapped In called WebTools. Pam's next session is Thursday, Feb. 10

SusanR: oops there it is

KarenConna: Thanks BJB

JenniferSc . o O (Yes, BJ, that's how I found it. I am looking forward to that too.)

DonnaH: check this site out:

DonnaH: <http://www.educationalpress.org/educationalpress/>

DonnaH: (create bingo boards, flashcards, all sorts of manipulatives:))

BrookeM: I like!

JenniferSc gives Donna a huge thumb's up

SusanR: Have the students create the WORKSHEETS or flashcards

DonnaH: (thinks Sue's been listening to me for too long!)

DonnaH: that's exactly what i've had my students do.

DonnaH: saves me work *laugh* one class will create the other class's worksheets.

DonnaH: esp. for vocab review etc.

BrookeM thinks about indoor recess

SusanR: let them exchange sheets etc.

DonnaH: exactly.

DonnaH: (I've done that with crosswords too)

DonnaH: kids either hated them or loved them...instead of straight vocab quizzes, I'd give out crosswords.

DonnaH: that would be their tests.

SusanR: in fact most of the FREE online tools are sooo easy to use that most students can do the generating

DonnaH: after all, the clues were the def's...and they were given hints by how they fit...

DonnaH: I like discovery channel's ...

DonnaH: (and free is a good word)

SusanR agrees

BJB2: Our hour is about up, everyone

JenniferSc . o O (I'd love to stay, but we can't cook with no electric. Hubby is hungry.)

JenniferSc . o O (I hope we'll meet again.)

BJB2: thanks for joining the discussion!

DonnaH: I have a deadline for a project for this weekend anyway (oops)

DonnaH: sorry for being late:(

KarenConna: Thanks everyone for the great ideas and suggestions

ChantaratP: Thanks all I've got more ideas for setting up the policy. and get the great answers from friends like u all. Thanks again.

BJB2 waves goodnight

JenniferSc waves goodbye to everyone.

BrookeM: Thank you everyone!

DonnaH: night everyone!