

Title of Session: K-20 Science Resources

Moderator: David Weksler

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Room: After School Online Room

BJB2: Welcomes everyone to the K-20 Math discussion

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

BJB2: can you please tell us where you are located, what you teach or hope to teach, and what brings you to the discussion.

DavidWe waves

DavidWe: Hi, Sue

DavidWe: We're just getting started...Bj?

StaceyCh: this is my first time!

DavidWe: That's great, Stacey. Glad that you came today

JessicaEC: I am from Houston Texas, hope to teach pre-kindergarten, and I'm here for a school assignment

MelissaDK: I am in Regina, and hope to teach grade 1 or grade 3/4.

NicoleEE: I'm the same as Jessica

DavidWe initials Jessica's assignment book

StaceyCh: I'm in Fargo ND and I will be a math teacher

DavidWe: Welcome, Staffany

TaraSC: I am from Louisiana. I hope to teach History and I have to do this for a class I'm currently taking

StaffanyR: Hello Everyone

SusanR: I'm in Ontario and I hope to acquire some new resources for my next spec ed assignment

SusanR: I am the K to 3 Great Resources facilitator here at TI.

SusanR: as well

CrystalL: I'm a second grade teacher in South Louisiana

DavidWe wants to go back to South Louisiana

DavidWe: Welcome to you all

DavidWe hems and haws and tries to figure out what he's going to talk about this evening

StaffanyR: I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston

SusanR . o O (Math Forum)

DavidWe thanks Susan for THAT suggestion

DavidWe gets some ideas

CrystalL: Me too

DavidWe: A couple of other basic instructions....

BJB2: a reminder that if you are new to Tapped In go to the actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH

SusanR . o O (some great sites for junior spec ed students)

BJB2: when a url is shown, hold down the ctrl key when you click on the url

DavidWe nods to Susan

DavidWe wonders if he can ask the 6 new folks (Jessica, Melissa, Tara, Stacey, Nicole, Staffany, Crystal) to tell a little bit about what they think about math and the Internet

DavidWe: <http://www.mathforum.org>

DavidWe: Just an example - DON'T CLICK!

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe . o O (it's just a good site)

DavidWe: And I used to work there.

NicoleEE: I've heard of it, if that helps

StaceyCh: I think the internet is a great tool to get help from

DavidWe smiles at Nicole

StaffanyR: It's an excellent site

DavidWe: Thanks, Staffany

StaceyCh: I have had to do assignments and teach and I use it all the time for examples

DavidWe feels a bit proud about the Math Forum

MelissaDK: I have not used the internet that much in math, but in many other subjects. I am eager to learn.

DavidWe nods to Stacey

JessicaEC: math is all over the internet, and comes in handy for my assignments

StaffanyR: Nods to Melissa

DavidWe: But, I'm interested in how you all MIGHT use the Internet - what would you guess is out there?

NicoleEE: hehe

CrystalL: I like to use the internet for interactive games and for ideas with lessons in math

DavidWe agrees with Jessica

DavidWe: Do you have good resources for that, Crystal?

TaraSC: I'm interested in finding ways to help students overcome math fears. I'm always using links to help with my studies so I think the idea is great.

DavidWe . o O (places you know where the good stuff is?)

MelissaDK: You could use the internet to gather real-life information, like diff in weather temps around the world

DavidWe: Great, Melissa. Good idea

CrystalL: I use a lot of different ones. I like the LA state site Making Connections and NCTM Illuminations

JessicaEC: google is always great when looking for specific math items...like picture examples....etc.

StaceyCh: I like math.com

DavidWe: Give me an example of real-life information that you might be able to find online

MelissaDK: Go to theweathernetwork.com and find out the temps of the capital cities of Canada, and graph them, for example

StaceyCh: you can find statistics online

DavidWe: What kind of statistics, Stacey?

StaceyCh: there are so many!!

DavidWe: Have any of you every gone to the census website?

StaffanyR: No

CrystalL: No

MelissaDK: No

JessicaEC: nope

NicoleEE: nope

DavidWe: . o O (for example, Stacey)

StaceyCh: statistics of a schools grades for math throughout the years

TaraSC: Is there a good site for High school algebra?

DavidWe: We're talking about (generally) math resources on the Internet

StaceyCh: maybe compared to other schools

DavidWe: Yes, Tara, I think there are quite a few, actually

StaceyCh: statistics about car accidents

CrystalL: I like the Houghton Mifflin web site.

DavidWe: The census site, just so you know is: www.census.gov

TaraSC: thanks

StaffanyR: Thanks

DavidWe: They are often at the NCTM meeting (which starts tomorrow in Anaheim, CA) with a booth of interesting activities and ideas that they formulate for teachers

DavidWe: But...

DavidWe: Let me ask you all to hold on for a second and I'll give a little preamble

DavidWe: So, let me tell you a bit about ME!

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler

DavidWe: I started working with the Math Forum (actually the Geometry Forum) in 1992 when we got a big bunch of money from the National Science Foundation (NSF)

StaffanyR: How did that go?

DavidWe: We actually spent a fair amount of time running workshops on how to use email and other Internet tools to help teaches (mostly near Philadelphia, where we started) to learn about the Internet

DavidWe: Well, it went well, except it was a bit early in the Internet development as a tool for educators

StaffanyR: Sounds interesting

DavidWe: We not only had to put stuff online, but teach people how to get to it

CatherinBr: I work with K-2. We are learning how to use manipulatives with children so they can enjoy math and understand it better.

DavidWe: We gave teachers FREE Internet access and I often went to homes to connect computers, install software, etc.

DavidWe: That's great, Catherine. There are some pretty cool virtual manipulatives - Susan can tell you about some of those sites.

TaraSC: wow you mean people didn't know how to use the internet?

DavidWe: Well, 12 years ago, it was A LOT LESS POPULAR - there wasn't much out there

DavidWe: I'm 46 and there a lot of teacher my age and older who just didn't learn much about computers in school - there wasn't much access to computers in the 1970s and 1980s

DavidWe: In any event, you all know that there is a ton of stuff out there. Finding it is one of the challenges

NicoleEE: I agree.. I mean I'm 23 and I still don't think I used computers that much in elementary

StaffanyR: That is so true

DavidWe: One thing the Math Forum tried to do was become an online community for math educators

DavidWe agrees with Nicole

StaceyCh: we did number munchers in elem school

TaraSC: I'm also from that era

MelissaDK: me too

StaceyCh: that is about all in the computer lab

StaceyCh: we were introduced to the internet at school in 7th grade

DavidWe: As a community we welcomed people to come by and it didn't matter if you were 10 years old and in 5th grade or 35 years old and a college professor. If you were interested in some area of math, you were welcome to login to the Math Forum and interact with us

NicoleEE: just for math educators?

DavidWe: Well, as the Math Forum, math seemed to come first, but as you might expect, there is a lot of cross-over

NicoleEE: okay that answered my question..nevermind

DavidWe hopes Bj has a comment ready about math and ART

JessicaEC: I didn't know about it, so I think not many people really know or knew about it.

DavidWe: So, yes, there are a lot of nice interdisciplinary units on math and (fill in the blank)

CatherinBr: I just made a powerpoint that involved geometry. We took pictures of every day objects and showed how most everything has some sort of shape that involves geometry. It was fun. I myself recently learned how to use a computer. I am 42. Going back to college forced me to learn computers.

DavidWe appreciates Catherine comments.

JessicaEC: that power point wasn't that fun....huh Nicole?!

DavidWe: Forcing people to learn can be a challenge, but some people get really turned on by learning more about technology

MelissaDK: that is a great activity for tessellations as well Catherine

NicoleEE: NOPE!! hehe

DavidWe: Ah-hah! Someone said the magic word, TESSELATIONS!

DavidWe: So, do most of you know about the artist, M.C. Escher?

JessicaEC: no

StaffanyR: No

NicoleEE: nope

CrystalL: no

MelissaDK: nope

TaraSC: no

DavidWe: Okay, web site is coming up, then. This one you should take a look at

DavidWe: Ready?

MelissaDK: yup

DavidWe: www.mcesher.com

StaffanyR: Yes

CrystalL: what does it have?

SusanR: We made tessellations with Appleworks ..from grade 2 to 6 with this tutorial

SusanR: from the math forum

SusanR: <http://mathforum.org/sum95/suzanne/tess.intro.html>

DavidWe: Take a quick look at that page and then click on "GALLERIES" to see examples of his art work

DavidWe: Thanks, Susan

CrystalL: now

DavidWe: That's another great project to help students to learn about tessellations

SusanR: and place them in a Powerpoint presentation

DavidWe: Yes, Crystal. Why don't you ALL take a quick look at the M. C. Escher site

DavidWe: Take a couple of minutes and then let me know when you are "back" from viewing his art work

DavidWe: Thanks for that Susan. Remind me sometime to tell you about the first workshop Suzanne came to at the Geometry Forum

DavidWe: welcome back, Nicole

MelissaDK: back

DavidWe nods

CatherinBr: I was complemented on my creative manipulatives this week. I would like to share them with you all. First, I made children create a bouquet of flowers adding certain color flowers. Kind of a Martha Stewart project. They loved it. The second, was creating butterflies out of paper or foam paper. I put the answer on the body of the butterfly. The questions such as 5, 5 were on the wings, 25 was on the body. You could practice adding or multiplying.

DavidWe waits another minute or so

DavidWe: Great, Catherine. Congratulations

JessicaEC: back

NicoleEE: okay I'm never doing that again.. ahh.. I got lost

DavidWe: Okay, I'll continue...

DavidWe: No problem, Nicole. It happens to everyone

StaceyCh: ok

DavidWe: So, what do you all think about Escher's art?

CatherinBr: Since this is my first chat, how long do they last?

DavidWe: Typically an hour, Catherine

CatherinBr: Thank You

DavidWe . o O (one isn't required to stay for the whole hour)

DavidWe: So, Escher's art is generally seen as one of the big intersections of math and art

DavidWe: He wasn't good at math at school ...yes, Staffany...and he came from a family of engineers, but his interest in geometry eventually led him to DISCOVER new ways of dividing up the plane, tessellating the plane, a major feature of Geometry

CrystalL: Vertically tile your pages then you can see both

DavidWe waits to see if everyone can avoid the pop us search engine

DavidWe . o O (or horizontally, if that works more easily)

DavidWe: Overlapping the windows is good, so you can see part of each window

DavidWe: The other IMPORTANT web site that I want you all to know about is the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse (ENC) - set up by the Department of Education

DavidWe: ENC is a database and a great resource for math and science K-12

CrystalL: I've used that one. I also get the magazine

DavidWe: Gail Hoskins (a former teacher) and a friend, does presentations in Tapped In about ENC

DavidWe: The web site is www.enc.org

CatherinBr: I find it disturbing that most of the teachers I observe, give math work sheet to the students (K-3). What do you all do to avoid this? We are taught at University of Houston to never give a child a work sheet.

DavidWe: It is a lot to look at, so save that for a little later, okay?

CrystalL: I see the art. I typed his name

DavidWe: Well, Catherine....that's a great question

NicoleEE: especially 3 grade.. I see that a lot too

CatherinBr: We are taught to find math games to teach students.

SusanR: work with manipulatives and have them create their own worksheets

DavidWe: BJ has a suggestion for you all, something to get you deeper into Tapped In

DavidWe thanks Susan for that suggestion

JessicaEC: the "upper" elementary schools use a lot of work sheets in every subject

NicoleEE: true

DavidWe believes that thousands of teachers across the country use worksheets

BJB2: has anyone joined the K-20 Math group?

SusanR . o O (Math Their Way)

DavidWe nods

JessicaEC: I meant classes not schools

JessicaEC: yep

StaffanyR: Yes

NicoleEE: think so

MelissaDK: I find it especially helpful to use cooperative groups in math, having the students participate in three diff activities during one math lesson

DavidWe nods to Melissa

DavidWe: Want to tell people a bit about the group, BJ?

BJB2 nods to David

StaffanyR: I agree with Melissa

BJB2: the K-20 Math group is a resource room with lots of links and files

DavidWe: Does everyone understand that Tapped In is a virtual campus?

CatherinBr: I myself learn better from other students rather than the teacher. I like placing students in groups too.

StaffanyR: Yes

BJB2: to join the K-20 Math group click on the SEARCH tab in the top right of your screen

DavidWe . o O (there are buildings, in the buildings, floors, on the floors, rooms)

BJB2: then click on the subtab GROUPS

JessicaEC: yes, I understand the Tapped In community...

DavidWe appreciates hearing about teaching styles

DavidWe: Thanks, Jessica

BJB2: Enter K-20 MATH RESOURCES

JessicaEC: no prob david!!

BJB2: And Find It

DavidWe: Why don't you all join the K-20 math group and then we can continue the discussion in the group room

DavidWe: Okay?

BJB2: once you've got a match, click on the group name next to the green i

NicoleEE: can't we just highlight your name after you enter the room and follow you?

CatherinBr: When you say, joined the K-20 math group, what do you mean. What can that do for me?

JessicaEC: okay....

BJB2: that will show you the ID page for the group

StaffanyR: I thought we had to join the group in order to participate in this Tapped In session

DavidWe: Just something to learn more about Tapped In, have more access to online resources for Math, Catherine

BJB2: at the top of the page is a place to Join the Group

BJB2: once you join the group you can enter the group room

DavidWe: You don't actually HAVE to join the group to take part in this discussion, Staffany

StaffanyR: OK

DavidWe: How's everyone doing in terms of joining the group (you can always "unjoin" later)

CatherinBr: I see.

DavidWe smiles

MelissaDK: great

BJB2: Groups are special interest groups that are resource rooms

NicoleEE: then it's under your fav's?

MelissaDK left the room.

DavidWe: So, if we go to the group room to take a look around - you won't be able to get in if you aren't a member of the group

BJB2: only Tapped In members can join a group and only group members can enter a group room

DavidWe: BJ, Susan, I'll go to the group room. Will you help anyone who is still trying to figure it out?

NicoleEE wonders if anyone is going to answer her question

DavidWe: Thanks.

StaceyCh: this is all so new to me

DavidWe: Sorry, Nicole, the question is...?

DavidWe nods to Stacey - yes, I understand

BJB2: once you join the group, the group name is added to your favorite places menu

MelissaDK joined the room.

JessicaEC: there ya go nicole!!

NicoleEE smiles at **BJB**

NicoleEE: thanks

DavidWe: Yes, it will be in your favorite places

NicoleEE: thanks

BJB2: anyone need directions again on how to join a group?

JessicaEC: nope!! we leaving??

StaffanyR: No

DavidWe: Okay, I'm off to the room. Follow me!

Room: Math Resources Room

BjB joined the room.

DavidWe: So, Jeff has ADDED things to the room, files, links, etc. Take a minute and explore the files, links etc. that are listed on the left side of the page

DavidWe: I was with a group of 13 teachers today for 6 hours in Piscataway, New Jersey today.

DavidWe: Trying to help them learn about some online resources, some software for Geometry, etc.

NicoleEE: ahhh..

DavidWe smiles

StaceyCh joined the room.

DavidWe: What other questions...

NicoleEE: there you are!!

DavidWe: Hi, Stacey. Glad that you made it

StaceyCh: hi

DavidWe: ...other questions do you all have?

DavidWe: Or topics that you would like to discuss

StaffanyR: No

MelissaDK: virtual manipulatives

DavidWe: Do you think you will login to Tapped In again, in the future, to take part in other discussions?

NicoleEE: ya.. that sounds cool

DavidWe nods to Melissa

JessicaEC: so people just get on here and talk about math, for instance, sharing websites?

DavidWe: Okay

MelissaDK: yes

StaffanyR: Yes

StaceyCh: Yea I think I will come back

NicoleEE: sure

JessicaEC: I will come back...

DavidWe: That's good to here

DavidWe: So, virtual manipulatives....

BjB: scroll down on the screen above this chat window, everyone

DavidWe: There's an official web site for the National Library of Virtual Manipulatives

DavidWe: It is located at:

BjB: and click on the link to Math and Science Public Bookmarks

DavidWe: <http://matti.usu.edu/nlvm/nav/vlibrary.html>

BjB: there is a login and password under Links

DavidWe: That's a good starting point

DavidWe apologizes for interrupting Bj

DavidWe: Everyone find that web page?

MelissaDK: yup

BjB: you can add resources to these bookmarks

DavidWe: What's up, Nicole?

NicoleEE: under featured items?

StaceyCh: in one of my education classes we use manipulatives all the time

DavidWe . o O (pattern blocks?)

JessicaEC: Nicole, you might not want to click on it...I think you can't visit more than one place or something....you know how I can open up internet explorer multiple times

SusanR joined the room.

DavidWe reminds people that they can have multiple web browser windows open at the same time

NicoleEE: okay did it.. so everyone clicked on math and science public bookmarks.. then what??

DavidWe: Finding resources for teaching math concepts is one thing. Figuring out how to use those things, especially if they are online resources often takes some planning - how many computers do you have access to, does every student have a machine, do they need to share, etc.

DavidWe: Mostly so you know that it is there, Nicole. I believe that is why Bj wanted to tell you about it

NicoleEE: oh..

DavidWe smiles

JessicaEC: hehehe...

NicoleEE apologies for interrupting

DavidWe: Jeff Cooper (JeffC) has done a lot of work collecting resources and organizing them, to some extent

DavidWe: No problem, Nicole

DavidWe: Learning can be messy, sometimes

NicoleEE: esp. over the internet

StaffanyR: True

StaceyCh: how do you make your name black

DavidWe: You guys are mostly interested in teaching elementary level students, am I right?

JessicaEC: especially in a pre-k class!!

DavidWe smiles to Stacey

DavidWe nods to Jessica

MelissaDK: yes

StaffanyR: Not me, Middle School

StaceyCh: yea that

StaceyCh: I want middle school

DavidWe: To do the "non-verbal" things... (your name will be black) type the following
:waves

DavidWe . o O (start with a colon :)

StaceyCh hi

JessicaEC: I want the teeny students!!

StaceyCh: ok

StaceyCh: thanks

DavidWe smiles and nods towards Jessica

DavidWe: welcome, Stacey

MelissaDK o O waves

DavidWe: the other thing is the "thought" command /th

DavidWe: type /th deep thoughts

DavidWe . o O (deep thoughts)

DavidWe: start with the slash

MelissaDK . o O (hello)

DavidWe: All of these things help in the conversation....

DavidWe . o O (good, Melissa)

StaceyCh: yea

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Sometimes it is USEFUL to "emote" as opposed to TALK out loud

StaceyCh: yea

JessicaEC my dog is eating my shoe Nicole!!

DavidWe: Susan just reminded me that there is a K-3 resource room - you can join that as well.

MelissaDK: ;o O nods

JessicaEC . o O (going to kill him!!)

DavidWe: Don't type the o 0's

MelissaDK: ok

MelissaDK nods

DavidWe: just type what follows /th blah, blah, blah

DavidWe: Well done, Melissa

NicoleEE . o O (blah blah blah)

NicoleEE: hehehe

DavidWe: As with MANY things - good Nicole!

DavidWe: it takes some time AND practice to get comfortable in Tapped In

DavidWe: You have to play with it.

NicoleEE wonders if David is upset that we went off task

DavidWe: I've been using Tapped In since 1996

DavidWe: Not at all, Nicole.

DavidWe: Part of the learning curve, I believe

StaceyCh: I have to jet, thank you for all the help! I really enjoyed my time here

NicoleEE: its been around that long.. man

DavidWe does notice that he's the only male in the room, so he's being polite, too

NicoleEE: haha

StaceyCh: Bye everyone

JessicaEC . o O (mind is always off task)

DavidWe: Yes, Nicole. It actually came out of software that was developed for people to play Dungeons and Dragons

DavidWe . o O (Role-playing games)

JessicaEC: my brother used to play that game!! hahaha

DavidWe grins

DavidWe smiles

JessicaEC . o O (10 minutes!!)

DavidWe: We have about 10 minutes left, then, before American idol, why don't we wrap up

MelissaDK: Well, I have to go to class. Thanks for all the help. I will definitely come back for more tapped in sessions.

DavidWe: Did you learn something today?

JessicaEC: hahahaha!!! thanks David!!!!

DavidWe nods to Melissa. Thanks for coming

MelissaDK: Bye

NicoleEE: haha.. that was awesome!!

JessicaEC . o O (David is humorous!!)

StaffanyR: A little

DavidWe: You will all get a transcript of this by email after you logout

DavidWe tries his best to be humorous*

StaffanyR: some great websites

MelissaDK: ok, thanks

JessicaEC . o O (what a brat...correcting....)

DavidWe: Anything else you want to ask, Staffany?

DavidWe nods to Jessica

DavidWe: Hey, I work with teachers, Jessica

JessicaEC: clearly!!

DavidWe smiles at Jessica's comment

StaffanyR: Thanks for all your help

DavidWe: You're welcome

DavidWe: Thanks for coming this evening

JessicaEC smiles at david

StaffanyR: No problem

NicoleEE wonders if Jessica and David need a private chat

DavidWe wonders if Nicole wants to join the K-3 group

StaffanyR: OK Nicole

NicoleEE: umm.. what's that again?

JessicaEC . o O (wonders why Nicole said that...)

DavidWe thinks Nicole has an active imagination

NicoleEE: haha.. it was a JOKE!

DavidWe smiles

JessicaEC: I know!!!

DavidWe agrees

NicoleEE: okay.. on that note..

DavidWe: As a member, you also can start your own group. You can "own" two groups

DavidWe: Each group can have a room, a discussion board, etc.

DavidWe: Kind of cool to have those features for free

StaffanyR: I know

JessicaEC: and we all have offices!!

NicoleEE: I know.. I can't believe this is for free

DavidWe: The National Science Foundation also supported the development of Tapped In

DavidWe: You all should know that the NCTM web site - www.nctm.org - is pretty good also

DavidWe: The main organization for math teachers in the US - NCTM

NicoleEE: okay.. thanks!!

DavidWe nods

DavidWe: Welcome

StaffanyR: Thanks

DavidWe: Thanks again for joining me

DavidWe: Good luck with school and teaching

DavidWe waves bye

JessicaEC: thanks for having us...you're quite entertaining