

Title of Session: Nuts About Nature

Moderator: BJ Berquist

Title of File: 20050419nan

Date: April 19, 2005

Room: Tree House Conference Room

BJB2: Bill should be here shortly....

BJB2: while we wait, a couple housekeeping tips

BJB2: go to the Actions menu in the top right of your chat window

BJB2: and click on DETACH

BJB2: that will make your chat window larger and easier to read

KateCr: that is soooooooo much better!!

GeorgeB: nice tip

BJB2: when Bill shows you a url, hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard as you click on the url

HeatherLG: will do

DavidWe . o O (or anybody shows an URL)

SpencerO joined the room.

BJB2 nods to David

BJB2 waves hi to Spencer. Welcome

SpencerO: hello

BJB2 hopes everyone has their thinking caps on. Bill leads an unusual discussion

BJB2: he does a lot of constructivist teaching and expects his participants to contribute to the dialogue

BJB2: Hi, Crystal. Welcome

CrystalCA: Hi

BJB2: if you've just arrived, a reminder to go to the actions menu in the top right of your chat window and click on DETACH

CrystalCA: Got it

BJB2 wonders if perhaps Bill is having thunderstorms where he is

CrystalCA: is Bill the presenter?

BJB2: anyone here from South Carolina?

BJB2 . o O (or is it North Carolina?)

BJB2 nods to Crystal

DavidWe checks the weather

HeatherLG: looks out the window at the unusual Oregon sunshine

BJB2 looks out the window at the dark in PA

CrystalCA: nice weather here in south Texas

SpencerO: light snow in Bozeman MT

BJB2: let's start with introductions. Please tell us where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

BJB2 hopes Spencer keeps the snow to himself

CrystalCA: I am located 20 miles north of Corpus Christi, Texas and I teach 8th grade science

HeatherLG: I'm near Portland, Oregon and teach Spanish, English as a Second Language and computers

GeorgeB: George Bell, Annapolis, MD. I teach high school science

KateCr: I'm in Houston, TX and the weather is wonderful here!!

DavidWe: Doesn't look like showers in South Carolina

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and have actually met Bill Hilton Jr during one of his Hummingbird presentations

DeeDeeCI: I am currently a student at the University of Houston and hope to teach middle school math and maybe science

SpencerO: My name is Spencer Olmsted and I am a pre-service teacher hoping to be in upper elementary. I'm currently in Bozeman, but I'll probably relocate to Washington State.

BJB2 . o O (he bands hummers...absolutely fascinating!)

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm in New Jersey and I help math and science teachers learn more about technology

DonnaR: I'm Donna Reed, I'm NOT an actress. I'm in St. Charles, MO (just west across the Missouri River from St. Louis). Hoping to be a librarian. Not a teacher.

CrystalCA: Where is Bozeman?

SpencerO: Montana

BJB2 wondered about that, Donna...but that ages us both!

DavidWe: Montana State University is in Bozeman, right?

SpencerO: yep

DonnaR: Actually, I didn't know who she was. My husband told me. (that really ages him)

BJB2 laughs..he robbed the cradle?

DonnaR: He'll be 51 next week. I just turned 35. So, almost...

BJB2 changes the subject

CrystalCA: That's not bad, my husband is 17 years my senior

BJB2: Bill has several webpages....I'd like to share one with you

BJB2: <http://www.hiltonpond.org/>

DonnaR: They have to be, to get the maturity level. haha.

BJB2: Bill publishes a weekly newsletter that has incredible photos

BJB2: I recommend that you subscribe

CrystalCA: how?

GeorgeB: you hold the control key down while you click on the site, right.

BJB2: right

HeatherLG: Impressive...

BJB2: scroll down to This Week at Hilton Pond

HeatherLG: and bilingual...

DonnaR: great photos in the gallery

BJB2 agrees with Donna.

CrystalCA: the clarity of the pictures are amazing

BJB2: there is information about how to subscribe to the newsletter at the bottom

BJB2: For a free, non-fattening, on-line subscription to "This Week at Hilton Pond," just send us an E-mail with SUBSCRIBE in the Subject line. Please be sure to configure your spam filter to accept E-mails from hiltonpond.org.

BJB2: the email is ThisWeek@hiltonpond.org

BJB2: when you've looked at the newsletter, go back and take a look at the link to the hummingbirds

BJB2 . o O (Operation RubyThroat)

DonnaR: Love the mouse icon.

BJB2 smiles. Me too

BJB2: I know both sites can keep you busy for ages....

BJB2: two more things I want to share with you and then we'll take questions

BJB2: Bill has created a group resource room called Environmental Education

BJB2: to join the group click on the SEARCH tab at the top of your screen

BJB2 . o O (right)

BJB2: then click on GROUPS

BJB2: enter ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

BJB2: when you get a match, click on the group owned by BillHi

BJB2: that will take you to the group ID page.

BJB2: there is a place at the top of the screen to join the group

HeatherLG: you lost me at search

BJB2: once you've joined the group, the group name will be added to your favorite places menu and you can access the room resources

HeatherLG: at the top of the Tapped In screen or Hilton pond?

BJB2: click on SEARCH in the top right of the Tapped In screen

BJB2: if you've detached, you need to either attach or find the other part of the screen

BJB2: then click on GROUPS

BJB2: with me?

BJB2: . o O (this is a mini lesson on how to join a group)

HeatherLG: woo hoo! I'm in!

MelissaP joined the room.

BJB2 cheers for Heather...excellent

BJB2: hi, Melissa

SpencerO left the room.

MelissaP: Sorry I'm late

HeatherLG: thanks for the help bjb!

SpencerO joined the room.

BJB2: np, Melissa...our speaker is also late. I'm tap dancing

GeorgeB: Can you give us a little info about our speaker?

BJB2: we've discussed two of Bill Hilton Jr.'s websites, how to subscribe to his Hilton Pond newsletter, and joined the Environmental Education group

BJB2: George, here's another opportunity for a mini lesson...let's see if Kate can help me

BJB2: Kate, do you remember how to ID a person?

BJB2: . o O (I only showed you how to ID a person who was logged in...sorry)

BJB2: since you all know about where the search tab is...let's go back to that tab

BJB2: but stay on PEOPLE

BJB2: and enter BillHi

BJB2: or Bill Hilton

BJB2: you'll get a match ...click on Bill's name

GeorgeB left the room.

BJB2: and you'll see Bill's ID

SusanR joined the room.

BJB2: . o O (South Carolina)

SusanR tiptoes quietly in

BJB2: now you know how to ID someone who isn't logged in

MelissaP: I just found myself

BJB2 smiles...glad to hear that, Melissa!

DonnaR: All those years of searching...

BJB2 chuckles.

BJB2: This is a good opportunity to remind you that your ID page is your introduction to the Tapped In community

GeorgeB joined the room.

BJB2: to edit your ID click on the ME tab at the top of your screen and then click on the subtab SETTINGS

BJB2: good job, George

GeorgeB: took some time, but got it

BJB2 nods...happens to us all from time to time

BJB2: so, we've sort of done an overview of Bill's sites and I've given you some information about using some of the features in Tapped In.

BJB2: I apologize for Bill, but I'm sure that he's having some tech problem that is preventing him from logging in

BJB2: does anyone have any questions about anything I've discussed?

BJB2 . o O (this discussion will count if you're here for class credit)

BJB2 . o O (I've bored everyone into a deep sleep?)

DonnaR: deep thinking...

BJB2 . o O (you've all logged in to the discussion and walked away hoping to just have a transcript?)

BJB2: Donna, try that again but type /th first

BJB2 . o O (deep thinking)

SpencerO: I don't have any questions about the sites

DonnaR: Ok, maybe I have a question. What have you found most helpful with Tapped In?

SpencerO: this was my 1st conference

GeorgeB: mine too

BJB2: we'll open the floor to any questions.

DonnaR: Mine too

BJB2: good question, Donna

GeorgeB: what would Bill usually discuss?

BJB2: I find that the most valuable feature of Tapped In is the collaboration that takes place and the professional development opportunities that are provided

BJB2: Another good question, George...

MelissaP: I am nuts about nature and today I did a nature program...

BJB2: most events on the calendar are archived at www.tappedin.org/transcripts

BJB2: so you can read archived transcripts from past Nuts About Nature discussions

DonnaR: So what we type in tonight goes on our permanent record?

SpencerO: Tell us about the nature program Melissa

MelissaP: I thought you'd never ask

BJB2 listens to Melissa

BJB2 nods to Donna

MelissaP: It was the standard "plant a marigold seed in a cup" but we also planted already grown flowers in a window box the kids decorated with paint markers - all the kids signed their name and the branch got to keep it. They also made a care manual to go along with it so they could track who was taking care of it when

MelissaP: I'm in a public library and this program was truly all ages. I've seen this done a lot with younger kids, but we had high schoolers really interested.

BJB2: Bill likes to help educators learn to love nature and share that love with their students. He helps them think about why things happen

BJB2: did you place the planters in different light sources?

BJB2: was the soil all the same?

MelissaP: I stayed late talking to a kid from Somalia about why plants grow in funny directions

BJB2: cool, Melissa

SusanR: Those kids will look forward to tracking the development of their plants on a daily basis, Melissa

BJB2: what other things can you learn from the project, Melissa?

MelissaP: (We talked about how they might have to move the planters during the day, or that since most of them come in after school - they only know what sort of light comes in from 3 pm -on

BJB2: if they leave the plants in the same place they may be able to figure out where the most light comes from

SpencerO: I taught a lesson about light and color today, but that may not fall into a strict definition of "nature"

BJB2 . o O (without even seeing it)

MelissaP: I think what was really cool was that since we had flowers from the nursery already for planting, they were able to see what their seeds would grow into - and they might have more patience as their plant grows

BJB2: sure it does, Spencer...was it natural light or artificial light?

MelissaP: I love the science of color

SpencerO: it's pretty amazing how much most people don't know about light

BJB2: Circles of Light: The Mathematics of Rainbows
<http://geom.math.uiuc.edu/education/calc-init/rainbow/>

SpencerO: yeah - and light color vs. pigment colors /mixing / filtering etc

SpencerO . o O (wish I had a site to give you)

MelissaP: Subtractive vs additive right

SpencerO: I'm sorry Bill couldn't be here

BJB2: me too. I'm sure he's sorry he isn't here too

BJB2: not sure all these links work, but try this, Spencer, for color

BJB2: <http://www.backflip.com/members/bjberquist/5489939>

MelissaP: how often do things get added to the calendar?

BJB2: usually the calendar is completed by the first of the month

BJB2: stuff isn't normally added during the month

BJB2: I'm going to bring this discussion to a close. Thank you all for being good sports and hanging in there.

BJB2: I hope you found some of the information useful

DonnaR: Thank you.

SpencerO: thanks

BJB2 waves goodnight

MelissaP: by - thanks

SusanR: Thanks, Bj

BJB2: my pleasure