

Title of Session: Science K-20 Resources

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

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Room: Science K-20 Resource Room

JeffC: Hi all

JeffC: Let's start with brief introductions.

JeffC: I'm an Education Technology Consultant, volunteer on Helpdesk here and am the facilitator of this group, although I am not a science teacher.

BjB: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and am interested in ways to integrate the arts into science

AmandaLeg: I'm Amanda, I'm a new teacher in Fourth Grade.

MandyV: I teach high school biology and biotechnology in Ohio

JeffC: OK... let me go over the resources in this room a bit.

JeffC: If you scroll down the top frame, you'll see a number of Links, Discussion threads, etc.

JeffC: I've created a public bookmark file for this group at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

JeffC: Unfortunately, that site is down this week.

JeffC: When it's up... if you go to <http://www.mybookmarks.com> and login: mathscience password: tappedin ... you can add links, edit links, and/or download all of them to your computer.

JeffC: There are also links to archives of past meetings.

JeffC . o O (in this room)

AmandaLeg: I'm here, just looking at the links on the top part of the screen.

MandyV: This seems like a very helpful site.

JeffC: thanks

JeffC: One other thing I want to make you aware of here is the threaded Discussion board.

JeffC: If you click the Discussion link on the left of the top frame, you will see links to past threads.

JeffC: If you yourself wish to post to Discussion, feel free. Your message will go out to the 165 members of this group via email.

JeffC: So... if you're looking for resources, collaboration, help, etc. you would do well to post there... since your message will go out to 165 members. Be sure to include your email address if you want a response.

AmandaLeg: whoops,... This is my first time.

JeffC: No problem

JeffC: OK... since there are only the two of you here today (Bj is here logging this)... is there anything in particular you are looking for? We can chat a bit... have a little Q&A session.

MandyV: Bj If you are looking for ideas to connect science and art. How about drawings of organisms like protists and/or models of things like cell division?

AmandaLeg: Do you have any websites or suggestions for Science Fair?

JeffC: <http://school.discovery.com/sciencefaircentral/>

MandyV: Amanda - Have you tried accessexcellence?

JeffC: <http://www.super-science-fair-projects.com/>

AmandaLeg: Actually, I've never heard of it. What is it?

MandyV: If you go to dogpile.com or google.com and enter science fair ideas, you should get a large list of sites.

SusanR joined the room.

AmandaLeg: Thank you for the Discovery link.

JeffC: hi Susan

JeffC: <http://www.scifair.org/>

JeffC: Yes... looking at google now... there are lots of science fair sites.

MandyV: Janice VanCleave has numerous books out on science fairs - she may also have a connection on one of the sites.

AmandaLeg: These came from Google?

JeffC: yes

JeffC: I knew about scifair.org ... but it also came up on google

AmandaLeg: I've tried google previously but usually end up with nothing useful.

JeffC nods

JeffC: I'm sorry I'm not being more active right now... I was up all night (insomnia)... and am pretty tired right now for some weird reason.

BjB hands Jeff a cup of coffee

BjB suggests Jeff do jumping jacks

JeffC: thanks

JeffC: I am thinking that this group would benefit during the school year from having guest speakers.

JeffC: I will post to the Discussion board a call for suggestions.

BjB wonders if the science fair site would have a contact person

MandyV: There is a lot of garbage on the search engines, but I usually look at the web address to see if it looks more professional like access excellence or discovery school, etc.

JeffC: I always check the site before posting a link.

JeffC: Here's the link for access excellence: <http://www.accessexcellence.org/>

AmandaLeg: I know an awesome Science teacher that did pull outs for her school. I can ask she contact you if you'd like.

AmandaLeg: Thank you.

MarshaR joined the room.

BjB waves hi to Marsha

JeffC: Hi Marsha

SusanR: Welcome Marsha

BjB: we're discussing possible guest speakers for the coming school year, Marsha

MarshaR: Hello sorry I'm late....traffic

MandyV: lol

JeffC: no problem Marsha

JeffC: I went over some of the resources in this room.

JeffC: Focusing on the public bookmarks site (which is currently down unfortunately) at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/mathscience>

JeffC: And also the suggestion to post on the Discussion board in this room... to get out your questions, calls for collaboration, etc. to the 165 members.

SusanR: What about Bill Nye..

SusanR: as a special guest

JeffC: If you post to Discussion Marsha, and what a response... you will need to include your email address.

JeffC: I was thinking about Bill Nye.

SusanR: or any science expert in various fields Jeff

AmandaLeg: That would be awesome

JeffC: He actually has an account here.

BjB: we actually have a Tapped In member named Bill Nye, but it's not the same guy

SusanR: . o O (does a quick search)

BjB: sorry, Jeff

BjB: . o O (I asked him)

JeffC: oh... darn!

BjB: he might be interesting to talk with though

SusanR: I had my grade 2 students in lab coats and goggles ..pretending they were Bill Nye..doing their experiments

SusanR: during Science Fair Week

SusanR: soooo cute

JeffC: lol

SusanR: lab coat=father's/brother's white shirt

MarshaR: What about someone who can teach basic GPS kinds of things...I know the software can be expensive but maybe there's a cost effective/easy-to-use alternative?

JeffC: that's a major stumbling block though Marsha... anything that costs money... especially big money... is likely to be a deal-breaker for K-12 schools.

MarshaR: Everywhere I read about emerging technologies it speaks to remote imaging....and I'm not sure that's the same as GPS...but I'd be interested in figuring out how to use it

BjB thinks there might be an archived transcript on GPS

SusanR . o O (geocaching..)

MarshaR: Also, for me, I think navigating the NASA site is mind boggling.

JeffC: There is a cool site called "google earth" that is freeware... and can give students a chance to look at the rest of the planet... it adds GPS info in it (I think).

MarshaR: I know that someone like a Leni Donlan can make LOC seem doable...is there a NASA counterpart?

BjB: oh, wouldn't that be amazing, Marsha!?

MarshaR: I was thinking more of the visual mapping of variables....like plotting population density against physical features kind of thing...on the GPS topic

JeffC: cool Marsha

BjB: I'd search on www.enc.org

JeffC: I have to run... because... now is time for swimming lessons for the kids (lots of swimming today).

JeffC: I'll stay logged on... and read what is said later.

BjB . o O (quickly before they go private)

BjB waves to Jeff

MandyV: you can get a wide variety of map types and locations at usgs. I think you can purchase fairly inexpensive aerial views of a particular area.

MarshaR: Have you ever used digital imaging software to examine those USGS maps?

MarshaR: Something akin to Photoshop, like maybe Elements or Photodraw?

MandyV: No - have you?

MarshaR: No, but a friend used PD to teach a lesson on the orbit of the Earth...used periodic images of the Sun taken from the same place...

MarshaR: the size of the sun changed as Earth's position in its orbit changed

MandyV: That sounds interesting

MarshaR: so the kids could track that because the "size" of the sun measured differently in pixels....they were able to conclude we (the Earth) was moving

MandyV: You have to love the applications of digital technology!

MandyV: Well I have some other surfing to get done tonight. I will visit this site again some time. Have a great evening.

MarshaR: Nice to meet you

BjB: anything else anyone has to add?

SusanR: a fruitful discussion