

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

**Moderator:** BJ Berquist for Jeff Cooper

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Room: Science Resources Group

**BjB:** once again, I'd like to remind you to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH

**BjB:** And I will also ask you to please introduce yourself to the group.

**LazaroV:** I remembered that. way better than the other screen. thanks for the tip.

**BjB:** you're welcome, Lazaro

**FatynK:** you can also make your fonts larger...may help

**BjB** nods as she adjusts her bifocals

**LaTrinaM:** I am LaTrina from University of Houston

**ErinStr:** I'm Erin, university of Houston student graduating soon!!

**FatynK:** hello again..I am a senior at the University of Houston..will be teaching middle school science in the fall

**LazaroV:** I am Lazaro, also from University of Houston

**YaraS:** I am from the University of Houston

**YaraS:** I plan on teaching kinder next school year just finished student teaching

**LazaroV:** I am teaching 2nd grade in the fall.

**ErinStr:** I'm still job hunting, but will be teaching elementary

**BjB:** I will assume that Jeff is going to do much the same thing with this group as he did in the math group...discuss some ideas to keep the brains active over the summer...any suggestions?

**KimberlyEB:** Hello my name is Kimberly. Instructional Technology Specialist in Norfolk Public Schools

**TanyaDK:** I am from U of H too, I will be teaching 1st grade.

**LaTrinaM:** I am planning to teach from Early childhood to fourth grade

**BjB . o O** ( did anyone suggest a science journal? )

**FatynK:** or rock journal

**YaraS:** no but that is a good idea

**FatynK:** students can gather rocks from the many places they visit over the summer

**LazaroV:** that is interesting Fatyn.

**FatynK:** there are many things they could do with it

**BjB . o O** ( all those poor washing machines crunching all those rocks left in pockets! )

**FatynK:** hits the geology

**KimberlyEB:** my district does an interactive science journal

**ErinStr:** that is a good idea

**BjB:** tell us more about that, Kimberly, please

**LazaroV:** they could also keep track of the types of vegetation they see.

**FatynK:** different flowers

**LazaroV:** gather leaves

**BjB:** and bugs

**FatynK:** then older grades can go into genetics with the flowers

**ErinStr:** bugs, they'd like that

**BjB:** observe bugs, not gather them

**KimberlyEB:** based on SOL, students create pictures to help them retain different science concepts

**LazaroV:** one child picked up a caterpillar in my class. I think he was going to keep track of its growth.

**BjB** nods. Record cloud forms. This would be good for temp, humidity, etc. too

**LazaroV:** he even had a cage for it.

**FatynK:** a phase of the moon journal would be good too

**BjB** wonders if the caterpillar turned into a butterfly?

**LaTrinaM:** that is good

**FatynK:** every night they go out and look at the moon..illustrate and explain what they see

**LaTrinaM:** cool

**ErinStr:** tracking hurricanes

**BjB:** ohhhh....I hope not, Erin!

**ErinStr:** me too, but it's a good concept

**BjB** agrees

**LazaroV:** they offer cd's that are free at the library here in Houston.

**LazaroV:** they track the hurricane, and the speed at different points.

**YaraS:** hey where we live in Texas that is a very realistic and interesting thing for these kids

**ErinStr:** yes it is, very meaningful

**BjB:** I understand that, Yara...I am just hoping we don't have another hurricane season like last year!

**FatynK:** I would encourage all the students to visit the science museum at least once in the summer

**LazaroV:** that is another thing they could do.

**LazaroV:** they could also visit the zoo.

**YaraS:** oh me and you both!! It was crazy here in Houston with Katrina and Rita

**ErinStr:** and the children's museum

**LazaroV:** it's free certain days.

**TanyaDK:** I think Thursdays...maybe Tuesdays

**FatynK:** yup

**ErinStr:** the zoo would also be good

**BjB:** nice to encourage family activities like the museum and library

**BjB . o O ( and zoo! )**

**KimberlyEB:** technology can be a perfect tool to get students excited about science

**FatynK:** get students thinking about their science projects early

**TanyaDK:** Kids love the zoo and get really interested in at least one animal, once they attach to that animal they learn everything about it

**FatynK:** have them find something interesting that they would like to know more about

**LazaroV:** they could do a journal entry for a certain animal and write interesting facts about it.

**FatynK:** teachers can send out a newsletter in the summer to all the students..or post on the school website..interesting topics or upcoming events

**FredK:** What about the [www.tramline.com/trips.htm](http://www.tramline.com/trips.htm) for virtual field trips

**BjB:** good, Fred. Tramline is pretty reasonable

**BjB . o O ( last I heard it was \$25 a year, but that was some time ago. )**

**TanyaDK:** what about at home, monitored experiments

**FredK:** the website has a good selection free

**JeffC** joined the room.

**LaTrinaM:** you can do a science journal on activity you did in the science kits

**BjB:** another alternative is to have you teachers create group rooms in the Tapped In Student Campus. Then the kids can log in and post some of their experiences to the group room discussion board

**TeresaE:** as you all can see I am more into math than science, but again thinking of science for the summer it would good for kids to just have some fun and look for ways to link it to science

**FatynK:** does NASA have any free days?

**YaraS:** I agree math and science can be found anywhere and are fun!

**TanyaDK:** Nasa has a great website for kids too

**YaraS:** I think NASA does have reduced days

**TeresaE:** agreed that way they know that someone is interested and they are not doing something just to be busy

**LazaroV:** the community libraries have certain days where a person comes in with snakes, and different animals. in case kids can't go to the zoo.

**BjB:** speaking of NASA, I'm hoping to have a NASA group room in the student campus. It will be introduced during the Tapped In summer festival on July 19

**BjB:** and I've also been talking to the National Weather service

**YaraS:** actually I think the Nasa part is free its Space Center Houston that costs \$\$ they are two different tours

**TeresaE:** if they keep record of science and everyday fun, that may give some kids ideas for the upcoming school years' science fair activities

**ErinStr:** when taking trips, they can look at the geography and landforms of different places

**BjB:** good, Erin and Teresa

**FatynK:** scavengers hunts would be great

**TanyaDK:** what about weather in different climates and reasons why the climate is that way

**FatynK:** the teacher can give each student a scavenger hunt to do over the summer

**TanyaDK:** you know, when they travel

**SusanR:** . o O ( send the kids to Science camp )

**TanyaDK:** Absolutely

**TeresaE:** I was able to google earth recently and found a way to view pictures and landscapes from all over the world via gsp and had fun doing so

**DeniseHK:** What about using an educational blog to post ideas that students can reflect on?

**ErinStr:** I love google earth

**TeresaE:** they can scavenger hunt areas around the world to learn about the earth and its environments

**SusanR:** have them create something with sodaplay

**BjB:** the url, Sue?

**TeresaE:** they can also start a collection that would benefit the science lab at their schools

**LaTrinaM:** you all have some good ideas

**TeresaE:** would that be similar to brain pop

**SusanR:** <http://www.sodaplay.com/>

**LaTrinaM:** Science is fun when it hands-on

**YaraS:** yes

**SusanR:** not quite hands on but close

**BjB** agrees...and meaningful

**TeresaE:** you are so right, I had so much fun when I was engaged tactically in science than ever when reading about science

**FatynK:** I agree..my class did at least 15 labs while I was there students teaching

**SusanR:** Sodaplay animates two dimensional models made out of masses and springs

**TeresaE:** that sounds like a fun site

**LazaroV:** sounds interesting.

**SusanR:** It's an online creative toy

**TeresaE:** so are there themes and the children then pick what interests them

**LaTrinaM:** it do sound fun

**TeresaE:** thinking the same thing

**BjB:** Any other ideas?

**BjB .** o O ( you all are brilliant! )

**BjB:** what about food?

**LazaroV:** you could pick out experiments and post them on Tapped in.

**FatynK:** I love it

**LazaroV:** they can pick a few to do.

**TeresaE:** the more variety the better

**SusanR .** o O ( the science of cooking )

**FatynK:** baking soda and vinegar...mix it and see what will happen (both cooking ingredients)

**TeresaE:** yes the science of cooking, what makes a baked good rise or what causes a cake to fall after being taken out of an oven

**DeniseHK:** There are lots of lesson plans that use grocery store science - (where you can get the items from the grocery store)

**TanyaDK:** for the young ones, just making a cake is really interesting....

**TeresaE:** what ingredients can be substituted for others and what changes must be made

**TeresaE:** why does the butter sizzle at high temp

**TanyaDK:** measurement, states of matter, consistency

**TeresaE:** is it the fat content or the water content

**FatynK:** what is the steam that comes out of a boiling pot of water represent?

**FatynK:** ...go into water cycles

**TeresaE:** yes measurement is the most fun, try doubling a batch of cookie dough with second graders

**LazaroV:** there was one about making homemade detergents.

**LazaroV:** and cleaners.

**BjB:** or bubbles

**TeresaE:** or just halving a recipe to cook for one or two

**SusanR:** o o ( The Accidental Scientist <http://www.exploratorium.edu/cooking/> )

**LazaroV:** to see if they would both clean the same.

**BjB:** o o ( although bubbles need glycerin which is difficult to obtain now )

**TeresaE:** yes what common ingredients can be used for cleaning around the house and are also environmentally friendly

**TeresaE:** baking soda

**TeresaE:** vinegar

**TeresaE:** cream of tartar

**TeresaE:** just to name a few

**FredK:** Tramline has a good tour of "bread"

**BjB:** make tin can ice cream

**TeresaE:** vinegar and bread gets rid of corn or calloused toes (of the feet)

**BjB:** tries to picture a kindergartener with corns

**TeresaE:** cream of tartar and vinegar is good for cleaning old cast iron bath tubs

**TeresaE:** am I dating myself

**BjB:** winks at Teresa

**TeresaE:** or their grandparent

**BjB:** ahhh...more family involvement



**ErinStr:** you can show them how soda eats away at things

**TeresaE:** true true

**LazaroV:** oh yeah.

**FredK:** some mixtures from household products can be dangerous

**DeniseHK:** What type of resources are you looking for?

**ErinStr:** that's something they need to know

**TanyaDK:** soda on a penny or car battery...something like that

**TeresaE:** that is my baby's science project that is due next week

**LazaroV:** it eats away the stuff on the car battery terminals.

**TanyaDK:** yeah, and we drink that stuff

**DeniseHK:** I have a URL database that is web accessible that many of my teachers use (I am a science consultant) would you be interested in the URL for that?

**FredK:** the soda neutralizes the acid

**TeresaE:** corrosion right

**BjB:** yes, please, Denise

**DeniseHK:** [http://fmpro.aea11.k12.ia.us/url\\_database/](http://fmpro.aea11.k12.ia.us/url_database/)

**TeresaE:** yes

**LaTrinaM:** I forgot how think

**BjB:** thanks

**BjB:** to think start the line with /th followed by the thought

**DeniseHK:** You can search the synopsis for what you want- ie simulations, lesson plans, biology, etc..

**LazaroV:** they can do experiments about erosion.

**ErinStr:** they can always experiment with plants

**TeresaE:** yes and the summer time is just the right time, think summer rains

**LaTrinaM:** o O ( picturing my parent using vinegar and bread for their feet )

**TeresaE:** hahahah

**TeresaE:** it works though I hear

**LazaroV:** I think I will write that one down.

**LazaroV:** my dress shoes killed me the whole semester.

**TeresaE:** ooh I am so sorry I wished I had known before now

**TeresaE:** try mephistos

**TeresaE:** they are the best walking shoes that I have found

**LazaroV:** are those for guys?

**SusanR:** agrees; bought a pair of mephisto sandals last summer

**FatynK:** alright guys..it was nice sharing ideas with you all..

**TeresaE:** same here

**SusanR:** yes, Lazaro

**SusanR:** science of candy <http://www.exploratorium.edu/cooking/candy/index.html>

**ErinStr:** what about observing natures....like bird watching in your backyard

**TeresaE:** yes and feeding them of course

**ErinStr:** of course

**DeniseHK:** The science of candy looks really good- what would you recommend on it?

**LaTrinaM:** kids love studying about animals

**LazaroV:** I once did an experiment on which bread molds the fastest.

**LazaroV:** all it takes is sandwich bags, bread, and water.

**LazaroV:** oh and dust.

**TeresaE:** that sounds like a good one to do

**LazaroV:** the one behind the t.v.

**TanyaDK:** oh, I like the molded bread experiment

**LaTrinaM:** food is a great experiment for science

**TeresaE:** what about how long for the grass to grow between cuttings and trimmings

**SusanR:** try the kitchen lab

**TanyaDK:** sometimes you get grossed out by how many preservatives are on food

**TeresaE:** with rain and without rain

**FredK:** How about using yeast instead of mold?

**YaraS:** I like the grass idea

**TeresaE:** I agree if only we knew perhaps we would change our eating habits

**ErinStr:** what about something with pets? what could you do with that?

**TeresaE:** what kind of conditions do certain plants prefer, shade or full sun and carefully measure their growth

**LazaroV:** you can see which food the pet likes better.

**BjB** . o O ( don't give the cat a bath )

**SusanR:** The National Geographic has a ton of hands on activities; what youngster does not like creating a tornado in a bottle

**SusanR:** <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/kids/activities/>

**ErinStr:** I like that site a lot

**TeresaE:** or which pet food adds more weight with the same amount of consumption

**YaraS:** I could see that making my dog a little sick

**YaraS** smiles

**LazaroV:** yeah, sounds kind of cruel.

**FredK**: o O ( 4-h projects )

**LazaroV**: peta would be giving us a call.

**SusanR**: try the "Crazy Crystals"

**BjB**: 4H is a great idea

**TeresaE**: no that is not what I meant, just that some foods are not as good as others and we do not want overweight pets do we

**YaraS**: I understand

**TanyaDK**: you can't change dog food too often or your dog will get very ill

**LazaroV**: yeah, I was kidding

**TeresaE**: the idea is finding the best food to feed our pets, talking quality foods

**LaTrinaM**: united streaming is a great site viewing on the web

**YaraS**: I think you could research what is healthy for a dog to eat and look into different dog foods and see which really have these ingredients

**TeresaE**: sorry did not mean to ruffle anyone's feathers

**BjB**: making sure our pets get enough exercise and lots of water when it's hot

**TanyaDK**: looking at protein percentages

**TeresaE**: yes I agree

**LaTrinaM**: I agree

**ErinStr**: studying airplanes and aerodynamics could be fun....I know I like airplanes

**FredK**: paper airplanes?

**BjB** smiles...lots of fun.

**ErinStr**: that too

**ErinStr**: I meant real ones though

**FredK**: How about kites?

**ErinStr:** kites are good

**TeresaE:** also origami and that could be linked back to math

**FredK:** proportions

**TeresaE:** yes

**FredK:** One square can be folded and cut to show lots of proportions

**BjB:** for those of you new to Tapped In, you are engaged in what Tapped In is meant to do...collaboration among colleagues. It's always a most impressive thing to observe!

**FredK:** I will have to get the instructions later.

**BjB** bows deeply to all the participants

**LazaroV:** they could also study pollution.

**ErinStr:** just to throw this out there, I was teaching a unit on animal adaptations and found some really great online games dealing with animal adaptations

**ErinStr:** I'll have to search for them again because I don't have them saved on this computer

**FredK:** Where?

**ErinStr:** [http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco\\_info/topics/climate/adaptations/index.cfm](http://www.ecokids.ca/pub/eco_info/topics/climate/adaptations/index.cfm)

**LaTrinaM:** thanks

**ErinStr:** <http://www.lpzoo.com/education/zebra/teacher/adaptations.html>

**ErinStr:** these were very good

**DeniseHK:** That looks good. What parts would you recommend (on the websites) Erin?

**ErinStr:** on the second one, each different level has a couple of games

**ErinStr:** level 2 has great games

**ErinStr:** level three has you "build a beast"

**DeniseHK:** Is that a simulation of sorts?

**TeresaE:** sounds like a good one to view and try myself

**FredK:** One resource for a variety of subjects is <http://www.suite101.com> . We could get into a totally different discussion with that site.

**ErinStr:** I can't pull it up on this computer because I don't have shockwave downloaded

**LazaroV:** what grade level was your unit for?

**ErinStr:** 4th

**LazaroV:** I think it's time to go. everyone have a good night.

**LazaroV:** great ideas.

**LazaroV:** bye

**BjB:** one last suggestion, if I may?

**LaTrinaM:** ok

**BjB:** don't forget gardens...planting, harvesting

**BjB:** there is also a very cool build a prairie project

**BjB:** <http://www.bellmuseum.org/distancelearning/prairie/>

**TeresaE:** I really enjoyed this session and so glad to get all of the great suggestions for summer time fun for the kids

**TeresaE:** but not gone just yet

**TanyaDK:** gardens are great for early grades too

**BjB:** one of the links on that site is to an interactive building a prairie interactive task

**TeresaE:** sure they are, how about early fall gardens

**BjB:** . o O ( really really interactive )

**BjB:** and then there is compost and worms!

**TeresaE:** so that the children can at least sow and reap for early winter harvest

**BjB:** ok...my brain is full...did you have fun?!

**FredK:** So many ideas to plant in the minds of students.

**ErinStr:** I enjoyed this

**TeresaE:** oh don't forget the worms

**JeffC:** <http://www.yucky.com>

**ErinStr:** thanks for the ideas

**BjB:** thanks, Jeff!

**TeresaE:** truly a lot to do with children and just enough to get all involved in some way or another

**JeffC:** I've also got several hundred science links at <http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/coops> in the Science Folder

**JeffC:** thought I'd pop in a few here at the end.

**FredK:** Thanks

**JeffC:** if you haven't already joined, please join this group.

**ErinStr:** thanks

**TeresaE:** I see the need to keep this transcript already

**BjB** waves goodnight. Thanks for all your contributions to the discussion

**TanyaDK:** thanks everyone

**ErinStr:** bye guys!

**DeniseHK:** I will be adding those from this site to the URL online searchable database that I posted also