

**Title of Session:** WebTools for Education

**Moderator:** Pam Berger

**Title of File:** 20060515webtools

**Date:** May 15, 2006

Room: WebTools Group

**BJB2:** Welcome to WebTools, Yassine

**BJB2:** tonight's topic is English Language Arts Resources

**BJB2:** Pam is the discussion leader for this discussion and she usually has some real goodies up her virtual sleeve!

**YassineS:** Oh, it seems like the last class I attended here on TI!

**PamB:** What session do you attend?

**YassineS:** Teaching with the Arts. I guess

**BJB2:** not quite the same, Yassine, but it was about Language Arts

**PamB:** sounds interesting

**YassineS:** I see

**PamB:** Let's introduce ourselves

**YassineS:** Ok

**PamB:** I'm a school library consultant from New York City

**BJB2:** I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

**YassineS:** My name is Yassine. I [am] a teacher of English from Casablanca Morocco.

**PamB:** Wow! that's a distance away! Isn't technology great. We can all be the same room talking.

**YassineS:** I couldn't believe it the first time I got here !!

**ElizabetB2:** So how's everyone doing today?

**PamB:** Great. I'm glad you joined us...I was just about to begin.

**BJB2:** Can you please tell us where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach?

**SusanR** joined the room.

**BJB2** waves hi to Sue. We're just doing intros.

**PamB:** hi Susan, we are just introducing ourselves

**SusanR:** Sue from Ontario, Canada and K to 8 Occasional Teacher

**PamB:** I thought we would look at a few web sites for English language arts tonight.

**PamB:** If you click on FILES on the left side of the screen, you'll see a Featured file called LAresources.

**YassineS:** I got that

**PamB:** I have listed some LA websites that were highlighted in my last newsletter.

**PamB:** Why don't you look at the first two for 5 minutes or so and then come back and we can talk about them.

**YassineS:** What do you mean by LA , Pam ?

**PamB:** I think you'll be able to click on the URL and another box will open.

**PamB:** sorry, LA stands for Language Arts

**YassineS:** Ok, thank you.

**PamB:** The 2nd site is fun! Be ready to create your own comic strip

**JeffC:** I just got back... created a text note out of that LA Resources document Pam... if you want to feature it, people could just click on it now.

**PamB:** I thought it was Featured

**JeffC:** Right... as a Word doc... I copy/pasted it into a Text Note.

**PamB:** I understand. Thanks!

**BJB2:** For anyone new to Tapped In, go to Actions in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH

**ElizabetB2:** I've been navigating the first four, they are KID FRIENDLY!

**PamB:** yes, I agree, and packed with lots of fun stuff to encourage reading.

**ElizabetB2:** I agree. I love the book reviews. I can see my students getting interested in these sites

**PamB:** Would you recommend these to kids?

**PamB:** the book reviews are really helpful when kids can't decide what to read.

**YassineS:** It will be hard for my students to follow !!!

**PamB:** Jeff, have you used any of these sites with kids?

**ElizabetB2:** And it seems that they are being recommended by kids themselves. The vivid colors just capture my attention and I'm positive students would love to search for books using this site

**PamB:** Yassine, because of the language difference? What about the comic creator?

**JeffC:** I haven't had kids to use these sites with in a while... except for my daughter's class.

**YassineS:** English is Language number 3 here in Morocco

**PamB:** what is # 1 and #2?

**YassineS:** I can't get in the site

**YassineS:** Arabic then French (some kids learn Spanish as well)

**PamB:** Yassine, you need to look at the Children's International Digital Library at <http://www.icdlbooks.org>

**YassineS:** Ok, I check it...

**PamB:** I think it has children's books in Arabic and French

**PamB:** Yup, 32 in Arabic and 16 in French

**YassineS:** People don't read a lot here!

**PamB:** Why is that?

**ElizabetB2:** overall, or just not in English?

**YassineS:** I don't know. Some say that they don't have time. But it's mainly because Reading and Writing are part of education in its broad sense that starts from home...

**PamB:** Maybe some of these sites would be good motivators...

**PamB:** I have a friend who is having her students review the books in ICDL and write about them on a blog she set up.

**PamB:** I think the blog is the strong motivator!

**YassineS:** In English?

**YassineS:** Yes, it is. Students here blog and MSN more than anything else!

**PamB:** yes, in English... although some might speak and write Spanish

**YassineS:** I like the ICDL site, I'll tell my little brother (9à. He adores reading and has started writing some mini books

**PamB:** yes, they love to blog....that's why blogging about books is such a good idea.

**PamB:** great.

**PamB:** It was nice talking to you this evening.

**PamB:** Are there any websites for language arts that you would like to share?

**YassineS:** Some books exist in two languages there ! and this should work for me.  
Thanks Pam

**PamB:** you're welcome.

**PamB** smiles

**ElizabetB2:** I have to agree this site is very helpful especially with second or in this case third language learners

**YassineS:** Yes, it does.

**PamB:** The books are presented in the language(s) that they were published.

**PamB:** there are no translations.

**PamB:** Well, it's almost that time. Thank you for joining me.

**YassineS:** I see that there is English and Arabic scripts on the same page

**PamB:** Any final comments to share? Did you find a new favorite web site?

**ElizabetB2:** Thank you Pam for sharing these sites I am sure I will use them in my classroom

**YassineS:** Thank you so much

**PamB:** yes, it must have been published like that.

**BJB2:** Thanks, Pam. Great resources!

**PamB:** I hope I see you again.

**YassineS:** It [is] You have been very helpful.

**PamB** waves goodnight to everyone