Title of Session: Web 2.0 Tools for Education
Moderator: Lynne Wolters
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Room: After School Online

LynneW: For those of you who do not already have it...please open the document Web20 Resources featured under files in this room.

BJB2: welcome to tonight's Web 2.0 Resources with Lynne Wolters

SusanR joined the room.

LynneW: Hello Susan

SusanR: Hi Lynne

BJB2: Lynne will be creating a group room for Web 2.0 Resources and will move all her documents to that room

BJB2: so be sure to come back and join the group!

SusanR: wonderful

BJB2: we usually start the Tapped In discussions with introductions

BJB2: please share with Lynne where you are and what brings you to the discussion

BJB2: I'm an art teacher and on helpdesk for Tapped In

BJB2 . o O (in Pennsylvania)

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler - a HelpDesk volunteer and teacher educator - I lead a math education and technology discussion in Tapped In. I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

EmilyW: I am in TX and I am here because I enjoy learning about new tools

RuthN: I'm in Missouri and helping teachers K-12 with technology this fall.

KathySc: Cape Cod, MA and I have just finished reviewing over 200 Web 2.0 apps, and I wanted to see if Lynne had any of the ones that I like on her list!

LynneW: I am an assistant professor of educational technology in the College of Education at Concordia University, Portland, OR.

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher and facilitator of the K to 3+ Great Resources Sessions..fascinated by all the web 2.0 tools out there

LynneW: Kathy has thrown down the gauntlet of challenge.

EmilyW: 200 tools?

EmilyW: wow

KathySc: Naw...just an easy way to find out about more resources!

DavidWe: 200?

SusanR . o O (heard there is now a Web 3.0)

KathySc: (I only found about 25 that I thought would be useful for teaching and learning, though!)

DavidWe: As long as it isn't Windows 3.1 - that was really bad

LynneW: I like to start out with a warm welcome, a couple of general questions, and a short discussion on Web 2.0

LynneW: Please know how delighted I am that each of you are sharing this time with me.

LynneW: What do you know or think Web 2.0 is about?

LynneW: No talkers?

EmilyW: well my definition of it has changed recently

LynneW: Emily, I was hoping for a comment like that. Can you explain?

EmilyW: before I thought it was just blogs, rss feeds, social bookmarking, social networking, and podcasts

KathySc: Online Web apps that take advantage of AJAX as a back-end and allow what really seems like full-featured online apps.

EmilyW: but now I have discovered tools like mapping, to do lists, and other tools

DavidWe . o O (what's AJAX?)

LynneW: I agree with both of you.

LynneW: AJAX is the built-in programming - back-end that enables the technologies of Web 2.0

RuthN: I heard on a radio talk show about how all content will be now stored on the web and we don't need many applications anymore.

EmilyW: add wikis to my list of what I thought before

LynneW: Ruth, what I believe is important is that we now have a choice.

EmilyW: but there are way too many tools that do the same thing

DavidWe: Anyone know a good URL about AJAX?

LynneW: These online apps create a wonderful opportunity to educators and school districts, kids and their families.

DavidWe: AJAX = JAVA + ?

LynneW: David, if you wait I can post in the new resources room this evening.

EmilyW: I found the def of ajax once

DavidWe nods

KathySc: (Asynchronous JavaScript and XML

EmilyW: (that was one term I did not know in one of my job interviews)

DavidWe: Here's something:

DavidWe: Ajax, shorthand for Asynchronous JavaScript and XML, is a Web development technique for creating interactive web applications.

LynneW: Let's look at some resource sites and then discuss the educational potential and its implications.

LynneW: Here is a new site that I may be of interest to those who have been to this session before.

LynneW projects http://www.gliffy.com

LynneW: Did everyone get a new window opened to this site?

RuthN: yes

SusanR: yes

EmilyW: this is a neat site, a new one for me

LynneW: This site is a web based app that allows you to create flow charts, wire diagrams, process - limited mind mapping and room configurations.

LynneW: Once you have an account, you can save your work and it is hosted on the web.

LynneW: Whenever you need a hard copy you can print it off, you can share your work with others and collaborate online.

EmilyW is creating an account right now

LynneW: There will be an email verification step.

DavidWe nods

LynneW: Any ideas how you might use this application in your classrooms or professional development activities?

SusanR: seating plan for students

LynneW: Yes

KathySc: Time lines for projects

RuthN: In Elem. you use flowcharts all the time to relate information or to write a story.

BJB2: graphic organizer for a lesson

BJB2 . o O (and have the students collaborate and expand the organizer)

LynneW: These are great ideas.

EmilyW: teaching about flowcharts in computer classes

LynneW: BJ is on the right track.

EmilyW: using the user interface tools to teach web design

LynneW: The key in exploiting the power of Web 2.0 apps is to think in Web 2.0 and allow students to work in Web 2.0

LynneW: It can be difficult to get out of the static and stand alone framework of Web 1.0

KathySc: (Although it still does have its place, don't you agree?)

DavidWe: Why is that, Lynne?

LynneW: Students can actively engage in collaborative information building, meaning-making.

LynneW: Of course, as with anything that is a technology for learning - the right tool at the right time for the right need.

LynneW: I'm just focusing on reminders for how to move to the capacity of Web 2.0

LynneW: Does everyone have a copy of the web 2.0 resources list open?

KathySc: Wb 1.0 for information-seeking, Web 2.0 for information construction and manipulation and communication?

LynneW: Yes!!

LynneW: Those of you who are familiar with this list - can you give an overview of a site you particularly liked?

KathySc: WRITLEY!!!

KathySc: WRITELY (SP)

LynneW: Kathy, why Writely?

KathySc: I actually am using it with some ISTE Task Force members to collaborate on a vision and mission statement for an upcoming project...

KathySc: ...it is a clean, easy-to-use interface with all revisions stored and accessible. It is great!

EmilyW: I am familiar with tada list

DavidWe: Are you going to be at NECC, Kathy?

KathySc: (Yes.)

LynneW: This is a perfect example of how it can be used well. COLLABORATION

DavidWe nods

DavidWe pokes Jeff

LynneW: Emily, what do you think of Tada?

DavidWe needs a reference for Tada, please

BJB2 . o O (don't forget that we're also using TI for collaboration   )

SusanR: What is Tada, Emily

LynneW: Part of the idea with many Web 2.0 apps is a focus on single purpose.

DavidWe: http://www.tadalist.com/

LynneW: Not a broad, all the bells and whistles application.

EmilyW: it's a to do list

KathySc: That is what is so great about it. You can choose the specific tool for the specific task.

KathySc: (We terminally left-brainers LOVE that!)

DavidWe . o O (sometimes a swiss army knife is useful, though)

EmilyW: I use it to collaborate with others on a project

LynneW: And that exercise is a good one for helping student learn how to make discriminating decisions.

EmilyW: for example, in TI , we could use it to plan something and check mark it when the task is finished

DavidWe nods

LynneW: And create a new list when side tracking of the conversation happens.

LynneW: The ideas/responsibilities don't get lost but the focus remains

LynneW: I am particularly fond of Thinkfree.

LynneW: Has anyone tried out this Office Suite clone yet?

SusanR: Yes

LynneW: I have been using it to convert MS Office documents to .pdf. It works really well.

NathanL joined the room.

DavidWe waves to Nathan

EmilyW: you can do that?

LynneW waves hello to Nathan

KathySc: Yup, we use it for kids who do not have the Office suite at home.

LynneW: Yes Emily. It is all part of the free package.

NathanL slips quietly into the back.

LynneW: Nathan, please introduce yourself.

EmilyW: where is it?

DavidWe: www.thinkfree.org

DavidWe . o O (I think)

LynneW: It is on the list about half way down the second page.

KathySc: thinkfree.com

LynneW: Yes.

DavidWe: nope, not there

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: http://www.thinkfree.com/common/main.tfo

LynneW: Many of our pre-service teachers begin the program with new computers with Works on them and no Publisher or PowerPoint.

LynneW: Thinkfree will take a monetary burden off these students who just invested in their new computers.

EmilyW: I want something that converts files to pdf

LynneW: It also is good for working collaboratively with other students in group projects.

EmilyW: the only thing I have that does that is Print Shop

LynneW: This will do it. You can upload any document and do the conversion.

DavidWe: Adobe Acrobat, Emily

DavidWe believes MS Word on a Mac will save to .pdf

EmilyW: I have a pc

KathySc: (or this free one that we use, not Web 2.0 though) http://www.primopdf.com/

RuthN: so what do people use instead of Publisher?

DavidWe: For what purpose, Ruth?

EmilyW: I don't like publisher, I use print shop, but I have both

LynneW: Although not as sophisticated, there is Interactive Printing Press.

RuthN: Programs for banquets for example.

LynneW projects http://interactives.mped.org/view_interactive.aspx?id=110&title=

LynneW: This works well with small student projects. It is particularly good for elementary students.

RuthN: Thanks!

LynneW: I also like iRows. It is a spreadsheet application.

LynneW projects http://www.irows.com/

LynneW: Students can work with data and create graphs and charts.

LynneW: How many of you use spreadsheets with your students?

RuthN: I do.

NathanL raises his hand.

LynneW: Great. What kind of uses do they experience?

LynneW: Create a Graph is another site that simply creates graphs.

LynneW projects http://nces.ed.gov/nceskids/Graphing/

KathySc: I like the older version of that one since it goes into why to use which type of graph.

LynneW: I like to use the Microsoft education materials for those explanations.

KathySc: Yes, I agree those are good, too. I guess I took a different avenue when I identified my favorite Web 2.0 apps for use in schools. I looked more at the tool-based versus the software replacement ones. My list is here in case anyone wants to look AFTER Lynne is done. http://**KathySc**hrock.net/web20/

NathanL . o O (Look out for O'Reilly)

LynneW: Thank you Kathy.

LynneW: Let's look at some multi-media resources.

KathySc: (Hey, he actually wrote me back and we had a discussion. I was impressed!)

LynneW: There are some instructional simulations that may be helpful to you or your colleagues.

LynneW projects http://www.thinkport.org/Technology/simulations.tp

LynneW: Would you like to take a few minutes to check out a simulation or two?

RuthN: sounds good to me

KathySc: Yes, thank you!

DavidWe smiles

LynneW: Let me know when you are back.

DavidWe: Lynne...?

LynneW: Yes sir

DavidWe: Since Kathy is here as well, I'd be very interested in both your opinions of the usefulness AND utility of Tapped In

LynneW: I'm open...in what regard?

DavidWe: I'm doing a talk at NECC about TI and helping Jeff Cooper (JeffC) in doing a 3 hour workshop

LynneW: Yes, Jeff told me about it. I think that's great.

DavidWe: For collaboration, for teacher professional development, for overcoming Faculty Resistance to Online learning, etc.

DavidWe: Well, we certainly don't have many people signed up for the workshop - NECC wanted to cancel it

DavidWe: It's challenging to get people to see the utility of online environments

KathySc: Besides the collaborative aspect that is evident, the quality of the programs that are offered, like the one we are currently in, should be a natural selling-point.

LynneW: Sure. People who know TI are probably looking for something new and those who aren't familiar with TI probably don't know what to think.

DavidWe . o O ("should be" is KEY!)

DavidWe nods

KathySc: Did you schedule "experts" to appear during your workshop? That might be a draw.

LynneW: Kathy, please go ahead and discuss this with David. I'll chime in where I feel compelled.

KathySc: ok

DavidWe: We've got lots of ideas for WHAT to do...the real question is whether anyone will be willing to spend $99 to attend the workshop on top of the NECC registration

DavidWe . o O (lot of money)

DavidWe: I've not done a strip-tease in a long time

LynneW: Folks like take aways. I don't think they want your clothes David!

KathySc: Actually, teachers may be getting somewhat overwhelmed with the number of collaborative environments they have to attend to...

DavidWe: Yes, another issue

DavidWe smiles

LynneW: What other collaborative environments are being used widely?

NathanL . o O (The Attention Economy ... we're all overdrawn at the bank)

KathySc: ..between the homework posting, blogging and commenting with students, the student information system, yadda, yadda, they may be overwhelmed at yet another thing. Like Lynne said, it may be that those who don't know about TI don't know what to think.

DavidWe . o O (NCLB)

LynneW: Any chance you could send a prompting email message with a different description of your workshop?

KathySc: Is it like Moodle? Is it a course-creation environment? On and on. It is really unique, so it is hard to draw an analogy to another online environment...

DavidWe . o O (Elluminate)

LynneW loves Elluminate

BJB2 . o O (that fragmentation of teacher tasks is another topic that is hot right now)

BJB2: good news...

NathanL . o O (the tyranny of synchrony again)

DavidWe smiles

BJB2: Judi is doing a session during the festival to introduce Elluminate to Tapped In

DavidWe . o O (Judi Fusco?)

BJB2: so that some of the sessions can include voice

BJB2: yes, David

KathySc: But it is really not anything like Elluminate and Breeze. It strengths, IMHO, is the offices and places to go to meet people and discuss a topic.

LynneW: That is fantastic.

DavidWe . o O (Good job, Bj, on lining that one up)

KathySc: Elluminate does VoIP well, better than Breeze, but Skype is what the teachers know.

LynneW: I agree. It is very grounding to have a sense of place and community that TI offers.

DavidWe: That's what I like about Tapped In

DavidWe is fiercely loyal to old friends and technologies

LynneW smiles

LynneW: We have about ten minutes left.

RuthN: I'm back

DavidWe: Thanks, Lynne, Kathy...didn't mean to hijack the conversation

KathySc: Okay, let's get back to our leader!!

LynneW: Would you prefer to continue this discussion or do something WEb 2.0

KathySc: It is only fair to the others that you continue your Web 2.0 stuff, dontcha think?

RuthN: yes please

LynneW: Not on the list is a new blogging search directory. Its back end is very different than the other search engines.

BJB2 . o O (the next Web 2.0 discussion will be June 15 at 8pm EDT/5pm PDT)

LynneW: It considers many values such as number of links to the posting, frequency of posting, an evaluation of in-depth knowledge, etc.

LynneW: This is just for blogs.

KathySc: Technorati?

LynneW: It is called Sphere.

KathySc: Oh, thanks.

LynneW projects http://www.sphere.com

DavidWe: What's it good for, Lynne?

LynneW: Frankly speaking, this is where you would find Kathy as an ed tech blogger rather than myself.

LynneW: All of the big names and most knowledgeable people will be listed on your blog search.

DavidWe shrugs

KathySc: Looks like close to the same results I get in technorati.com, but it is a cleaner interface.

LynneW: It is a good way to winnow out casual bloggers from others.

LynneW: You can search by topic and ask for most recent, or other time frames.

LynneW: Say you wanted to know what the latest postings are on the Enron criminal outcomes.

KathySc: To help teachers, I just created a list of ed-tech blogs so they have a place to start. RSS and aggregation is just catching on with some teachers.
http://kathyschrock.net/edtechblogs.htm

DavidWe smiles

LynneW: Yes, I also have these listed on my ed tech news and resources blog.

NathanL . o O (I have about 500 in my 'gator at the moment ..)

LynneW: Sphere is what I would consider to be a place to find "thought leaders" as an information literacy step in authenticating Internet voices.

SusanR: Great list, Kathy...

LynneW: Thank you all for coming this evening. Kathy, you have been most generous.

KathySc: I figure if we can get teachers hooked on the great stuff that others are doing, the aggregation lesson can come later. Hum, I will have to spend some time on Sphere and see what I can get.

SusanR understands the time constraints of teachers

LynneW: I'll hang out here for more conversation but want to let you go if you need to do so now.

KathySc: Lynne, you know me...never one to be quiet in person or virtually. Thank YOU for the great new list of things to look at!

RuthN: Thank you to everyone, I love Tapped In

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Great, Ruth

BJB2 thanks everyone for participating in the discussion and helping to make our community such a wonderful place.

LynneW: Everyone is always welcome in Tapped In.

KathySc: Night all. Talk to you soon!

LynneW: Good night.