

**Title of Session:** Math Resources K-20+

**Moderator:** Jeff Cooper

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Room: Math Resources Group

**JeffC:** We usually start with introductions, so if everyone would type in a few sentences about themselves, what they're looking for from this group in particular and/or Tapped In in general would be appreciated.

**DianneFo:** I am taking graduate classes to get Special Ed certification...currently teaching math

**DavidWe:** I'm David Weksler. Jeff and I recently gave a workshop on Tapped In by video-conference (I was really there, Jeff was "video-ally" there) at the NECC conference in San Diego. I'm in hot New Jersey, close to hot New York City

**FredK:** I am a tutor with the Pushmataha County Literacy Council in SE Oklahoma

**EmilyW:** I am Emily, helpdesk volunteer, I hope to find new math resources to share with the group

**JeffC:** I facilitate this group and am also on Helpdesk here at Tapped In.

**DianneFo:** I'm in hot suburban NYC as well

**FredK:** It's not cool in SE Oklahoma

**JeffC:** OK... for those who are new to this group, there are a number of resources within this room.

**JeffC:** From Discussions (where you may post a question, call for collaboration, request for lessons, etc.) to Links of important math sites.

**JeffC:** This month I'd like to get people looking at a site I just learned about. It's from Australia and relates to math standards there, however, I feel that math tends to be somewhat universal, and I thought if we all looked at the site and some of its related links, we could as a group decide if it is a worthwhile site for math teachers here.

**JeffC:** The site I'm talking about is:

<http://m.fasfind.com/wwwtools/m/24089.cfm?x=0&rid=24089>

**EmilyW:** I just learned about this site like 5 min ago

**EmilyW:** yes, it is a good site to share

**DavidWe** smiles

**JeffC:** This site is from wwwtools for education, and I'm curious if we all spent some time at it, investigating different links, what we could come up with as a group.

**JeffC:** I've created a redirect for the site at: <http://snipurl.com/mathtools1>

**EmilyW:** you want us to look at the links and do what with them?

**JeffC:** I'd like you to take a look at that page, then just follow a few of the links that interest you off of that page, then report back what you've found.

**DavidWe:** Want to set a time limit, Jeff?

**JeffC:** If we spend about 10 to 15 minutes on this, I think we'll get some idea as to how useful this site is in general, and learn something more about the other links in particular.

**DavidWe** nods

**FredK** . o O ( math goals are at the bottom )

**FredK** tool box

**DavidWe** investigates [http://www.lane.k12.or.us/insttech/vtc/math\\_interactive.html](http://www.lane.k12.or.us/insttech/vtc/math_interactive.html)

**DavidWe** . o O ( It's in Oregon )

**JeffC:** ok... again... I'd like people to look at <http://snipurl.com/mathtools1> and report back in about 10 minutes what they think of that page and 2-3 links off of it.

**DavidWe:** Go there pick a topic and investigate for 10 minutes

**JeffC:** Right... David's link is the same as my redirect.

**JeffC:** So... if you take a look at that main page, then investigate 2-3 links off of it and report back, that's what's happening for the next 10-15 minutes.

**EmilyW** agrees that math is universal

**FredK:** I took Gizmos out of the toolbox. They look useful at <http://www.explorelearning.com/>

**DavidWe:** That's a great site, Fred

**EmilyW:** lots of great articles on this site

**DavidWe** doesn't like opening links and being surprised that they are PDF files

**EmilyW:** or powerpoint

**DavidWe** agrees

**DianneFo:** found a nice article on benefits of graphing calculators in classroom

**DavidWe** smiles

**EmilyW:** usually the math sites I see are more like the links under lessons and activities

**FredK:** Our literacy students love word searches

**EmilyW:** I like how this links seem to all work

**EmilyW:** (no broken links yet)

**DavidWe:** That's a good thing

**DavidWe** finds one good nugget

**EmilyW:** they have a link to the technorati tag math to find blogs tagged with math

**EmilyW:** wow, that's impressive

**FredK:** ;holds his breath for David's nugget

**DavidWe** was waiting for "sharing time"

**DavidWe:** I even have a t-shirt that goes with this one

**JeffC:** go ahead David

**EmilyW:** (sorry I shared before the time was up, but I have to leave soon)

**JeffC:** Please post the link and then your appraisal.

**DavidWe:** I don't know if anyone knows about TableTop - a piece of software for elementary students to begin to understand sets, groupings, ways to look at data

**DianneFo:** sounds interesting

**DavidWe:** It's very cool, but as it was developed by TERC (education technology developers) it had limited visibility

**DavidWe:** Inspiration announced just before NECC started that they would start distributing it. They've renamed it "Inspire Data"

**DavidWe:** I have a free t-shirt

**DavidWe:** <http://www.terc.edu/newsroom/880.html>

**DavidWe:** I was concerned that this software was going to die off without a educational software publisher taking it on. The Inspiration folks are pretty cool and it makes a lot of sense that they are distributing it

**DavidWe:** <http://www.terc.edu/work/441.html>

**DavidWe:** Gets students thinking about representing data (tables, plots) and does it in very intuitive ways

**DavidWe** doesn't know if anyone here uses the elementary curriculum "Investigations" - an elementary curriculum for math that was developed at TERC

**DavidWe:** If TERC is a new term for most of you, here's their main web page:

**DavidWe:** <http://www.terc.edu/>

**DavidWe** looks at Jeff

**JeffC:** Thanks David

**DavidWe** bows humbly

**FredK** wonders how much the Inspire Data is going to cost

**DianneFo:** looks like a good site

**JeffC:** I liked the Inspire Data software, and wonder along with Fred what the cost will be. But to use concept maps (like Inspiration) in the realm of integrating math with other curricula, it seems like a definite step in the right direction.

**DavidWe** thinks the prices is quite reasonable

**JeffC:** Could others please post up a link or two with a brief synopsis before we move on.

**DavidWe:** Free downloadable 30 day trial

**SusanR:** I am thinking Back to School...so this one seems to have a goldmine of activities both student and teacher centred... <http://www.education-world.com/math/>

**DavidWe** . o O ( \$69, Fred )

**DavidWe:** Welcome back, Marsha

**FredK:** ty

**DavidWe:** I'm sure there are site licenses for it - they are also marketing it for K-12

**DavidWe** . o O ( Oh, sorry, \$79 but there is a \$10 rebate... )

**DavidWe:**

<http://www.inspiration.com/store/main/index.cfm?fuseaction=inspiredata.single&CFID=7052451&CFTOKEN=63555022>

**DavidWe:** There's a long URL for the online store order page

**DianneFo:** marcopolo-education.org

**FredK:** Our literacy students love word searches. This one looks very usable:

<http://www.vivi.addr.com/xw/ws3.html>

**JeffC:** A good one for K-1 students do you think Fred (to get them counting up to ten and then some)?

**FredK:** Yes, that is where some of our students are even though they are adults

**JeffC:** interesting

**JeffC:** any other sites to share from the main one? I'm thinking this is a pretty decent portal site.

**JeffC:** again: <http://snurl.com/mathtools1>

**DavidWe** agrees with Jeff

**JeffC** waits to see if others have a site to share that is linked from the above site.

**JeffC:** no one? ok... please feel free to add one as we move on.

**JeffC:** The next thing on the agenda is to talk about this group and the 2006-2007 school year.

**DavidWe** smiles

**JeffC:** I would like to get specific topics to be discussed as well as featured guest speakers.

**JeffC:** This group has almost 200 members (and I've been unsubscribing those whose email addresses expired). We're looking at the next 10 meetings, and I think it should be possible to get "math gurus" in here for the coming year.

**JeffC:** All that means is that we need to find, invite, and support those math educators who have something innovative to share in this field.

**JeffC:** At the same time, I'd like to increase the number of members here at Tapped In who have K-12 classes (specifically in math) and get several of them to collaborate, so that students may work on problems and math projects together.

**JeffC:** If you teach math or know a math teacher, please have them contact me and I will help them set up a classroom here and show them how to collaborate with other K-12 classes.

**JeffC:** The same thing goes if you know of someone who would be a good guest speaker or would like to facilitate this group for a month.

**MarshaR:** This sounds terrific....

**JeffC:** Thanks Marsha, my plan is virtually the same for the Science Resources group that meets immediately following this one.

**DianneFo:** sounds great...will keep an eye on your calendar of events

**MarshaR:** I'd be thrilled to work with another teacher, for example....I need to re-energize myself and my classroom. I almost drowned in meeting testing standards next year. I'm not doing it again...although I'll focus on it, I'll not have the spotlights turned up quite as much. So a nice collaboration would be fabulous.

**FredK . o O** ( outside my parameters for adults )

**JeffC:** That sounds great Marsha.

**JeffC:** I'll help you set up a K-12 class for yourself.

**JeffC:** Could be Fred, but I'm wondering if it still wouldn't be possible. I don't know of many adult ed classes here though.

**FredK:** Our literacy council is mostly one-on-one tutoring

**DavidWe:** Dianne, you know about the Math Forum, right?

**DavidWe** . o O ( [www.mathforum.org](http://www.mathforum.org) )

**JeffC**: I have to run... but there will be another meeting for Science Resources in 10 minutes (I'll be back)

**DavidWe** can hang out and continue the discussion

**FredK**: It's the tutors that need the resources

**DavidWe** agrees with Fred

**DianneFo**: yes I'm familiar with that...

**DavidWe** smiles

**DavidWe**: I was part of the group of people who built the Math Forum

**MarshaR**: Math Forum is my saving grace on more than one occasion.

**DianneFo**: it has a lot of helpful info

**DavidWe** smiles

**DavidWe**: Glad to hear

**MarshaR**: So thank you for the life preserver.....

**DavidWe** knows about OTHER flotation devices

**MarshaR**: It is also a place that just is fun to bum around inside and scan through different files...so much to learn

**DavidWe**: Always

**MarshaR**: I would love to figure out how to engage my math kids with more computer based work.

**DavidWe**: You know about the Problems of the Week, Marsha?

**DavidWe**: How old are your math kids, Marsha?

**MarshaR**: I used Microworlds (LOGO) in Tech Ed and now that I'm in math, I want to use it to explore writing programs that address the conceptual learning they're doing.

**MarshaR:** We did it a little with probability and flipping....going from experimental to theoretical

**MarshaR:** 6th graders

**DavidWe:** Do you know about the book "Writing to Learn Mathematics" by Joan Countryman?

**MarshaR:** But fractions...decimals....ratios....scale factors.....so much to learn

**MarshaR:** no I don't

**DavidWe:** Hang on, I'll find a reference for you

**MarshaR:** but I'm writing it down.....

**DavidWe:** Joan used to be a math teacher and chair of the Math Dept. at Germantown Friends School in Philadelphia

**DavidWe:** Here's the Amazon web page - long URL (sorry)

**DavidWe:** <http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/0435083295/102-9105945-0498510?v=glance&n=283155>

**DianneFo:** thanks for the interesting links...will keep checking your calendar...gotta go

**DavidWe** waves to Dianne

**DianneFo:** bye

**DianneFo** left the room (signed off).

**MarshaR:** I will try and interlibrary loan this for sure....we did POW all last year and I already use math journals. This could be helpful.

**DavidWe:** It's a great book and very interesting from the point of view of getting students to EXPRESS what they KNOW about mathematics

**MarshaR:** I wanted to use programming as a method for them experimenting to figure out what they knew and then testing their ideas....probably because I'm really a science teacher in math teacher clothes

**SusanR:** Looks good David and Marsha...checking out the Table of Contents here. <http://books.heinemann.com/products/08329.aspx>

**DavidWe:** Yes, Heinemann publishes it, I believe



**MarshaR:** I agree getting them to express what they know in a coherent way is tough....it takes a reservoir of writing samples. I think they get better when they see other student work...good and bad examples.

**DavidWe** lets everyone know that he leads a math and technology in education discussion in Tapped In on the 3rd Tuesday of each month

**DavidWe** agrees with Marsha

**JeffC** is back... heading to Science Resources. Please continue here with David if you wish.