**Title of Session:** Web 2.0 Tools for Schools
**Moderator:** Lynne Wolters
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Room: Web 2.0 Tools for Schools Group


**LynneW**: Welcome all to the February Web 2.0 Tools for Schools session.

**JaneOst**: glad to be here

**LynneW**: I am an ed tech professor from Portland, OR

**LynneW**: Please introduce yourselves.

**TerriG**: wow

**TerriG**: I am from Laredo, TX and teach occupational therapy

**MaryFrancT**: I am a 3rd grade teacher from Burke, Virginia.

**JenniferVG**: I'm a computer teacher from Pompton Lakes, New Jersey

**JaneOst**: I teach ESL at a community college in NJ. also an ed tech student at NJCU

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

**JaneOst**: NJ is well-represented

**BrendaJB**: I am the technology coordinator in a middle school in Columbus, GA

**LynneW**: I'm delighted to share these resources with you.

**LynneW**: We will be visiting a few sites that I hope will be of interest.

**LynneW**: I have posted them in a note just below the Web 2.0 logo.

**LynneW**: Some are for reference.

**LynneW**: This first one falls into that category.

**LynneW**: I found this to be a helpful resource for "explaining" Web 2.0 and social networking tools.

**BjB**: Emerging Technologies for Ed Tech Wiki

**BjB**: http://couros.wikispaces.com/emerging+technologies

**LynneW**: Please click on the link and spend a couple of minutes checking it out. Then come back here.

**TerriG**: it has quite a bit of information

**KarenL**: Oh dear.  My name is Karen.  I'm a library media specialist in an elementary school in Detroit.

**LynneW**: We were just looking at a Web 2.0 reference wiki.

**KarenL**: love wikis!

**KarenL**: need to learn more. . .

**LynneW**: I have posted the links to the sites we are visiting today. These links are located just below the Web 2.0 graphic.

**KarenL**: ooh, readwritethink is excellent!

**JaneOst**: helpful resource for definitions and differentiating between the tools

**LynneW**: Exactly what I thought Jane

**LynneW**: Who is back from the wiki visit?

**TerriG**: I'm back

**JenniferVG**: I'm back

**JaneOst**: I am. I also like the links to articles

**KarenL**: I'm back.  Need to bookmark the emerging technologies.

**LynneW**: How would you use this site?

**LynneW**: Would you be a contributing member?

**LynneW**: Has anyone added information to a wiki you did not host?

**JaneOst**: first a learner, then a contributor

**TerriG**: not I...just learning

**JaneOst**: not yet

**MarleneK** joined the room.

**LynneW**: Welcome Marlene

**LynneW**: Please introduce yourself.

**MarleneK**: Thanks, sorry I'm late.

**LynneW**: No problem.

**MaryFrancT**: I am back, but not very familiar with how to use some of the technology listed

**MarleneK**: I'm from Alberta, used to be a Science teacher for over 15 years.

**MaryFrancT**: and its benefits for a classroom

**LynneW**: Let's talk about that.

**LynneW**: What is unfamiliar?

**KarenL**: I could see wikis as a wonderful collaboration tool for students. . .

**MaryFrancT**: such as blogging

**KarenL**: if students were working on a research project, they could write their ideas in a wiki and have other group members respond.

**LynneW**: Good idea Karen.

**TerriG**: right, easy access for collaboration

**JaneOst**: How do people edit others' work? Does it get sticky? I have only worked with blogs

**LynneW**: Does anyone use instructional blogging?

**KarenL**: not yet.

**EvelynRP** joined the room.

**TerriG**: no,

**MaryFrancT**: no

**LynneW**: Welcome Evelyn

**MarleneK**: Not at this time.

**JenniferVG**: No, I haven't used blogging yet but want to

**LynneW**: I use instructional blogging for all of my education courses.

**JaneOst**: Can you describe instructional blogging

**BjB**: Evelyn, Lynne just asked if anyone used instructional blogging

**LynneW**: Each student becomes a content creator with their own blog

**KarenL**: interesting, tell us more.

**LynneW**: Instructional blogging is using a blog as an interactive, electronic course communication tool.

**LynneW**: I'll project the course blog for an undergrad ed tech class.

**LynneW**: Look for the "Neighborhood" and you will see links to my students' blogs.

**LynneW** projects http://www.edu333.blog-city.com

**MarleneK**: How do you monitor cyber bullying on a blog, with regards to comments that others might add, or do you turn off that feature?

**LynneW**: Well, remember I'm working with adults.

**KarenL**: Wow!!!

**KarenL**: Impressive.

**LynneW**: This class met last night and we did talk about the quality and type of comments that are appropriate.

**LynneW**: We had a situation where one student misunderstood the comment of another. Very instructive all around.

**KarenL**: You know, I just became familiar with gaggle.net.  It is an excellent tool for students and has parameters in place to prevent that.

**TerriG**: sorry, but where is the "neighborhood"

**KarenL**: Gaggle.net also has a blog.

**BjB**: text communication can be so easily misconstrued

**LynneW**: I asked the students, who are now in their 4th week of class, how they felt about their blogs.

**KarenL**: haven't used that yet.

**MaryFrancT**: So is this something that you could see useable in K - 12?

**LynneW**: Accountability came up most frequently. They feel accountable to each other to offer good work and to pay attention to each others' work.

**LynneW**: Terri, the "Neighborhood" is down toward the bottom of the left gutter. Just scroll down.

**LynneW**: There are several really good and free educational blog providers that are appropriate for K-12 use.

**KarenL**: edublogs.org is one.

**LynneW**: I like that one best.

**KarenL**: David Warlick has one, too.

**KarenL**: I think?

**MaryFrancT**: thanks

**LynneW**: Yes he does Karen

**JaneOst**: how do you set up the instructional blog. Is it really a web site with links to your students' blogs

**LynneW**: The blogs have a "front" side that is the public side and then an administrative side where the content is created and posted.

**LynneW**: The admin side is very similar to any type of editor.

**JaneOst**: great. did you use edublogs.org?

**LynneW**: I recommend them to my pre-service and inservice teacher students.

**LynneW**: I use a blog-service provider in Scotland ... blog-city

**KarenL**: is blog-city free?

**JaneOst**: I teach ESL at a community college. I think this could work for me.

**EvelynRP**: sorry to interrupt the flow but when you "project" should I be able to see something?

**LynneW**: Since my student must post all of their work to their blogs, I needed a service provider that would allow server space to host files.

**LynneW**: Evelyn, you should see a new browser window open up and go to the site.

**KarenL**: that's what I like about this blog. looks like you can host many files.

**LynneW**: If it doesn't, you can just click on the link.

**KarenL**: do you have a limit on space?

**LynneW**: Yes, but I never have been able to go over it.

**KarenL**: must be a lot of space!

**LynneW**: They offer free blogs but I use premium blogs for the design and content features and the file space.

**LynneW**: Students get to keep their blogs for one year paid.

**KarenL**: thanks, Lynne. that means money.

**TerriG**: how much is that?

**LynneW**: I pay less because of the number of blogs that I purchase each year. They do offer an educational discount. The public rate is $36.00 per year.

**LynneW**: I pay $10.00 per year per student blog.

**LynneW**: It is paid for from their course fee.

**LynneW**: Are you ready to visit the next site?

**TerriG**: yes

**MaryFrancT**: yes

**MarleneK** nods.

**JenniferVG**: ok

**KarenL**: yes

**BjB**: Skype As An Inclusion Tool Class Produced Video

**EvelynRP**: yes

**LynneW**: It requires Quick Time

**BjB**: http://learningismessy.com/blog/?p=196

**LynneW**: Please watch it - turn up your volume and then let's talk about it.

**TerriG**: That is great!  but the video froze on me--it wouldn't con't.

**LynneW**: Terri, perhaps you can visit it another time.

**LynneW**: Did you see enough to get an idea of how Skype was being used?

**EvelynRP**: I could hear the audio but couldn't see the video - my computer may be too old. It sounded good!

**TerriG**: yes, I was able to hear some of the students

**LynneW**: Hi Kathleen

**MarleneK** has a slow connection is still waiting for it to load.

**KathleenJ**: I know I'm late so am just listening

**LynneW**: Oh, Marleen. Don't bother with the video now.

**LynneW**: It will take too long.

**LynneW**: Does everyone know what Skype is?

**MarleneK** bookmarks for later

**TerriG**: no

**EvelynRP**: nope

**MarleneK**: I love using skype

**LynneW**: Marlene, explain what Skype is and how you use it.

**MarleneK**: It's a free program that allows you to keep in touch with anyone around the world who also has a skype account

**TerriG**: wow!

**MarleneK**: Its like tapped in with audio

**TerriG**: but what does skype stand for

**LynneW**: Think of a free video telephone.

**MarleneK**: You can also develop a skypecast.. I did my first a few weeks ago. I felt like a radio talk show host.

**JaneOst**: That is so moving. Skype is amazing!

**LynneW** projects http://www.skype.com

**MaryFrancT**: We are using it in my Technology and Teacher Education class at George Mason to communicate with other students in graduate programs at UVA.

**MarleneK**: And I joined a skypecast that was being hosted by a 12 yr old boy. He was such a diplomatic host, taking questions from participants all around the world

**TerriG**: unbelievable!!!

**JaneOst**: I agree!!

**LynneW**: I found Skype to be easy to install and easy to use.

**DavidWe** agrees with Lynne

**MarleneK**: It is incredibly easy to set up an account on skype and also easy to create your own skypecast

**JaneOst**: This would be a great way to introduce other cultures in class.

**MarleneK**: Its not too mac friendly with the skypecasting right now, but great on a PC

**TerriG**: sounds good..what's needed

**JaneOst**: that's good to know

**MarleneK**: headset , or a the speakers in your computer and a mic

**LynneW**: Great idea Jane. You can also record skype conversations - it is frequently done as interviews for podcasts.

**KathleenJ**: I'm going but this seems really interesting, so I joined the group

**KathleenJ**: bye for now

**LynneW**: Wonderful. We meet monthly.

**LynneW**: Bye

**DavidWe** waves to Kathleen

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

**MarleneK**: Super easy to record the conversation too.

**LynneW**: I want to move on to other tools.

**TerriG**: ok

**EvelynRP**: ok

**BjB**: ReadWriteThink Tools

**BjB**: http://www.readwritethink.org/student_mat/index.asp

**LynneW**: ReadWriteThink Tools are fairly commonly known. However, if you are elementary educator and don't know about this resource...you should.

**LynneW**: Many of these tools can be good for ELL/ELD students/classrooms

**TerriG**: there is so much variety

**MarleneK**: ELL/ELD?

**JaneOst**: good to know

**LynneW**: English Language Learners

**LynneW**: English Language Development

**RichelleM** joined the room.

**LynneW**: Hi Richelle

**RichelleM**: Hi there, I am a first timer

**BjB**: Animated Human Body Ebook

**DavidWe**: Welcome to Tapped In, Richelle

**MaryFrancT**: This is similar to kidspiration, but has a lot more

**BjB**: http://www.apples4theteacher.com/elibrary/bodybook.html

**RichelleM**: Thank you

**LynneW**: This next web site is an interactive ebook.

**TerriG**: I really like this one...It is really interactive and moving!!!

**LynneW**: I think kids would really enjoy this.

**MaryFrancT**: This the kids would really go for!

**LynneW**: The next site, Fontifier, you can look at on your own.

**LynneW**: Let's go to Instacalc.

**BjB**: Fontifier: Your Own Handwriting On Your Computer

**BjB**: http://www.fontifier.com/

**BjB**: Instacalc Online Calculator Shows Your Work

**BjB**: http://instacalc.com/

**TerriG**: terrific!

**EvelynRP** good stuff

**JaneOst**: wow

**MaryFrancT**: interesting

**RichelleM**: I liked that

**JenniferVG**: I really liked the instacalc

**LynneW**: How would you use Instacalc?

**TerriG**: yes, quite interesting

**LynneW**: Would you let students use it?

**JaneOst**: to do my finances?!

**JenniferVG**: I think it would be helpful for more complicated equations.  I would let my students use it.

**JaneOst**: instead of a calculator

**BjB** . o O ( how about their finances? Or brainstorming about the cost of a trip )

**BjB** . o O ( a vacation in Hawaii )

**DavidWe** smiles

**LynneW**: I thought this might be a great tool embedded into a WebQuest.

**MaryFrancT**: it could be useful

**LynneMB**: fyi.TI has version of their graphing calculator .. has to be downloaded, though, to be used..

**JaneOst**: wow again

**MaryFrancT**: cool

**LynneW**: Any questions or suggestions?

**BjB** . o O ( TI = Texas Instruments, not Tapped In )

**TerriG**: ok..

**JaneOst**: My kids would be thrilled. Why would you not let students use it?

**LynneMB**: thanx

**TerriG**: no questions...but a lot of exploring to do

**MaryFrancT**: ditto for me, lots of exploring

**LynneW**: I thought students might be more engaged in "showing their work" if they were using a tool like this.

**LynneW**: Remember there are lots of links to resources here in the group room.

**TerriG**: yes, thanks

**MarleneK**: algebraic equations seem to work on it too, that's cool

**DavidWe** smiles

**DavidWe**: it's a web-based spreadsheet, essentially

**LynneW**: If you have a particular subject area or tool need, please post your request on the discussion board in the room here.

**BjB**: The next Web 2.0 Tools discussion will be on March 15

**TerriG**: ok

**DavidWe**: so, if you can do it in Excel, you should be able to do it in instacalc

**DavidWe** . o O ( more or less )

**LynneW**: Everyone will get a copy of your request and can respond.

**MarleneK**: Did you talk about podcasting before I arrived?

**LynneW**: Thank you coming today. If you are not a member of this group, please consider joining.

**TerriG**: ok, thanks

**JenniferVG**: Thank you.

**RichelleM**: Great

**MarleneK**: Thanks Lynne

**JaneOst**: Thanks you. This was a truly inspirational session.

**LynneW**: I just referenced podcasting - no we really didn't cover it.

**DavidWe**: Richelle?

**MaryFrancT**: Thank you for all of the wonderful information.

**LynneW** smiles

**DavidWe**: Great discussion, Lynne

**LynneW**: You are most welcome.

**EvelynRP**: will you be covering podcasting anytime soon?

**LynneW**: See you March 15th.

**DavidWe**: Can I help answer your math question, Richelle?

**DavidWe** waves to Lynne

**LynneW**: Evelyn, I have lots of podcasting resources I can post for you.

**LynneW** waves back

**LynneW**: Bye BJ thanks for your help