

Title of Session: Math Transformers - Math and Literacy

Moderator: Patricia Chen

Title of File: 20080311mathtransformers

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Room: Math Transformers Group

PatriciaCh: Let's start

PatriciaCh: I teach middle school math in Florida

PatriciaCh: Please introduce yourselves.

KelvinT: I am currently working as a student teacher, teaching 8th grade math at Pin Oaks MS, Houston

TraciL: My name is Traci. I graduate in May and am currently student teaching. I plan on teaching kinder, 1st, or 2nd

MonaM: I am a student teacher in a Pre-K 3/4 classroom. I would like to teach 2nd or 3rd.

PatriciaCh: Terrific...welcome again

MonaM: thanks

TraciL: thanks

KelvinT: thanks

PatriciaCh: I encouraged Mona and Kevin to look at the files

PatriciaCh: The same to you as well ...Traci

TraciL: what files? Everyone personal files? I did that

PatriciaCh: Sorry about that

PatriciaCh: no ...the files in this room

KelvinT: smile

TraciL: how do I do that

PatriciaCh: I have posted a list of books that either I or other teachers have used in the

past

TraciL: okay how do I access that file?

PatriciaCh: In the welcome panel ... if you scroll down ... you will see the word doc as well as the powerpoint

PatriciaCh: on the left hand side of your screen ... you should see welcome...

PatriciaCh: click on it

TraciL: ok

PatriciaCh: the box below welcome ... you have featured items

PatriciaCh: you have links then files

TraciL: I see files followed by links under files

PatriciaCh: the last two documents are book titles

TraciL: sorry Mona and Kelvin

KelvinT: n/p

MonaM: No problem, This is helping me too.

PatriciaCh: the file one is a powerpoint that I created for a presentation that I did for a district inservice

PatriciaCh: first one ...not file one

PatriciaCh: typos

TraciL: so click on the combination and literature fiels those are the only fiels i see

PatriciaCh: yes

PatriciaCh: the literature titles ... you can use from K - 12

MaureenB joined the room.

PatriciaCh: welcome

MaureenB waves

PatriciaCh: we did intros I teach middle grade math in Florida

PatriciaCh: please tell us about yourself

TraciL: ok I looked at the power point

MaureenB: I am a fourth grade teacher in NY

PatriciaCh: I teach 7th grade ... and the powerpoint's target audience were teachers from 6-8 in our district

PatriciaCh: my message is ...you can use simple books to teach with ... the kids like the picture books ...

TraciL: yes mine do being they are younger

KelvinT: It works for almost all grade levels

MaureenB: I have a ton of them to introduce new concepts

MaureenB: books that is

KelvinT: that's great

PatriciaCh: yes create the projects that you want to go with the books

PatriciaCh: also it helps to create a rubric for assessment

TraciL: right

KelvinT: If have times in class, you can have the students participate in making the rubric

PatriciaCh: after you introduce the project and the requirements ...also review the rubrics with the students

PatriciaCh: if it is the first project ... I would not do that ...

PatriciaCh: some students are not familiar with the rubric concept...

PatriciaCh: but involving them is a great idea

KelvinT: Yes, it takes time for them to understand the rubric concept and that' why you should do it only when you have time

TraciL: what rubric Kelvin

PatriciaCh: rubric is an alternative assessment method

TraciL: oh okay

KelvinT: Patricia is talking about creating a project related to the book and a rubric to assess the student project

KelvinT smiles

PatriciaCh: you have websites that assist you in making up the rubric

PatriciaCh: it makes grading these projects very easily ...

TraciL: yeah, I like using rubrics because I feel that parents can understand why their child got that grade because the point system is explained

PatriciaCh: for young children ... it can be as simple as neatness, accuracy of spelling, calculations, etc

BjB . o O (and kids understand too...and take ownership of their work)

MonaM: Yes, they do like taking ownership of their work.

PatriciaCh: also it is a good idea ... to model a sample project as well

KelvinT: Yes. I have a source here to help creating a rubric. It' online <http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php>

MonaM: Thanks Kelvin.....

TraciL: I am a visual person so I always liked when my teacher could show examples so I agree

TraciL: thanks Kelvin

KelvinT: no problem

PatriciaCh: As Kelvin mentioned ... with the older kids after a few projects ..involve them in the process of making the rubric

PatriciaCh: you can also involve them in peer assessment as well

PatriciaCh: any questions about using books in teaching math?

MonaM: Can you give me just one book title, so that I could relate.

PatriciaCh: what grade level?

TraciL: yeah a book title would be useful

TraciL: 2nd

MonaM: ok

PatriciaCh: The book that I have in the powerpoint is a good one ... it is for young students

PatriciaCh: Stuart J Murphy writes a lot of picture books ... and is adaptable to all grade levels

TraciL: Mona you could ask for a different grade I didn't mean just to blurt, but I just thought I maybe could do some neat stuff when I teach math

MonaM: Thanks, I'll take a look at it.

MonaM: no problem, sounds good to me

PatriciaCh: the graphics are goodand easy to use ... I find it quite easy to adapt to middle school students

KelvinT: Mona and Traci, here is a few mathematics literature books that you can use in elementary school <http://www.thereadingnook.com/math/>

MonaM: Your a great helper. Thanks Kelvin :)

MaureenB: is your powerpoint on your page Patricia

PatriciaCh: yes it is ... under files

MaureenB: k

TraciL: very knowledgeable...Kelvin thanks for the good resources

KelvinT: no problems

PatriciaCh: if you look in the word documents grade levels are listed

BjB: don't forget that you can use a lot of picture books as cross curricular resources for math...doesn't necessarily have to be a math book

BjB: Pat has some wonderful literature connections in Files also

PatriciaCh: thanks ...

KelvinT: yes

KelvinT: I looked at the files and they are great resources

MonaM: Thanks Patricia for giving access to your resources

KelvinT: they are plentiful

PatriciaCh: if you search online some teachers have projects posted or webquests as well

BjB : I suggest if you haven't joined this group, that you do so

PatriciaCh: it is good to share with everyone

TraciL: I really like this and I think it will be useful for me in the near future

BjB . o O (joining the group is another good way to share)

PatriciaCh: anything a teacher can do and make it interesting ...is worth the effort

KelvinT: I agreed

MaureenB: We did a similar project with the ice cream scoops at a Family Math Night

PatriciaCh: but it is easier if we all share ideas and resources

PatriciaCh: girls like to do outfits ... at least in middle school

TraciL: that would be fun family math night

PatriciaCh: the concept of combinationice cream is always an easy idea

PatriciaCh: but you can adapt to other ideas as well

PatriciaCh: high school students may find it juvenile

PatriciaCh: the point is ... use something different to teach and/or reinforce concepts

TraciL: change is good and I like to make things fun when I can

PatriciaCh: can someone share ...how you will use this with your students

KelvinT: Patricia, you mean how would I use these books with my students?

PatriciaCh: the idea of literature in a math class

MaureenB: I could use this and have find all the combinations and than introduce probablity

PatriciaCh: you can also do geometry

KelvinT: yes

MaureenB: I use Sir Circumference for geometry

PatriciaCh: Yes ...that series is excellent ...

KelvinT: I used the book called "sir cumference and the first round table" with my 8th grade students

PatriciaCh: also ..Shel Silverstein's ...the book on poetry ... it has mathematical references as well

TraciL: I would use something from that book that you suggested to us after looking and getting myself familiar with it. sorry my computer froze

MaureenB: don't forget Pi day is on March 15

MonaM: I am not familiar with that series, but it sounds interesting. I will have to look for them.

KelvinT: It' great

PatriciaCh: Burns, Marilyn

PatriciaCh: geometric shapes, patterns, attributes

MonaM: thanks.....

BjB : Marilyn Burns is also the master of manipulatives

PatriciaCh: the name of the book is Greedy Triangle

PatriciaCh: it is a simple book ...but you can do a lot with it

PatriciaCh: this is the name of the Sir Cumference's author *Neuschwander, Cindy

PatriciaCh: Shel Silverstein's "Light In the Attic"(Poetry) ...

PatriciaCh: there are many poems that you can relate to math

TraciL: really I have not really heard of "math poems"

MonaM: me either, but I have heard of the "Light in the Attic"

PatriciaCh: the poems have inferences it doesn't say math directly

BjB : meter? Rhythm? Pattern?

PatriciaCh: if you read some of the poems ... you can see how you use it

TraciL: What kind of hands on manipulatives do you use in your classroom? Anything different besides the counter things. I really like to make things fun for my students

PatriciaCh: some are patterns ...some poems talk about shapes...

MonaM: What I have seen is the usual manipulatives.

PatriciaCh: I teach 7th grade ... we don't use them ...

PatriciaCh: my students are not permitted to use them in state testing ... so I stay away from them

TraciL: oh yeah that is right nevermind sorry

BjB : <http://nlvm.usu.edu/>

PatriciaCh: no ... it is a fact of life for us

KelvinT: yes but I think you can always use it to demonstrate the concepts

BjB : check out the national library of virtual manipulatives

MonaM: I remembered something, currently in my Pre-K classroom, we are using Easter eggs for math.

BjB . o O (K-12)

TraciL: that is cute

TraciL: Mona

PatriciaCh: thanks **BJB** ... I was looking for the website

PatriciaCh: the national virtual website is a great one ...

GaryPa joined the room.

PatriciaCh: welcome

PatriciaCh: we are chatting about how to use picture books to teach or reinforce concepts

PatriciaCh: in math

GaryPa: Hi, sorry I made it late.

PatriciaCh: what do you teach?

BjB: you also might want to check out the K to 3 Resource Room for more math stuff for the ankle biters

GaryPa: 8th grade math, way above the ankles

PatriciaCh: ah ..

BjB: sometimes those big tough middle schoolers like the fun stuff too

KelvinT: they do

MonaM: . o O (go ankle biters)

PatriciaCh: if you look at the files... I have a compilations of book titles .. some are math but some are cross curricular books

KelvinT: and if you hand them manipulatives, you have to specifically tell them what to do and what' not to do

GaryPa: sometimes can at this point seem like forever

PatriciaCh: the middle schoolers like being read to ..but they will protest

BjB nods to Kelvin...that's when you want to use virtual manipulatives

BjB looks at the clock on the wall

BjB: The next Math Transformers will be on April 8

PatriciaCh: only a few more minutes left ...

PatriciaCh: any last comments

GaryPa: Thank you I started checking this out as part of my Master's course at NJCU.

KelvinT: Thank you Patricia and **BjB** for this wonderful opportunity to learn and share

TraciL: Not at this time. Thank you for your wonderful insights

PatriciaCh: thank you coming and sharing as well

MonaM: Thank you

PatriciaCh: next the meeting time will be 4-8-08

TraciL: okay

MonaM: k

GaryPa: Thanks, I will check out the files and see you in April.

PatriciaCh: good night everyone