

Title of Session: Science Resources: New and Improved NASA Portal

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

Guest Speaker: Sharon Bowers

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SharonWB: So happy to see everyone.

SharonWB: Hello everyone.

SharonWB: I'm a 6th grade science teacher ... lucky enough to work for NASA and the National Institute of Aerospace.

RebeccaSc: Hi! My name is Becky Schlembach. I am student teaching through the University of Houston. Right now, I am teaching in a Language Arts and Reading classroom. I want to know more about Science - especially NASA!

SharonWB: Becky ... what grades are you working with?

JuliaAl: I am currently a student teacher in a 3rd grade class. I will be graduating from the University of Houston this May.

RebeccaSc: Right now I am in a third grade classroom. I am majoring in Special Education K-12, though

JeffC: Hi Sharon... most here just attended our Math Resources group. If anyone needs a refresher on how to join Science Resources: scroll down the top frame, click the little "i" in the green circle in the Welcome box, click the link to "join this group" then click the "Room View" button to return to the Welcome screen.

SharonWB: Christy? Tell us a little about your work.

ChristyN: Hello...I'm a first grade teacher in Harrisonburg, VA

ChristyN: we are a diverse school system in the Shenandoah Valley

SharonWB: Christy ... I'm in VA Beach ...

SharonWB: I wanted to start by taking you all to the new and improved NASA portal.

SharonWB: Jeff ... refresh my memory about how to take folks to url.

SharonWB: Please

JeffC: just paste it up Sharon!

SharonWB: That's too easy ... please travel with me to www.nasa.gov

JeffC: now there's a site that doesn't need snurl.com!

JuliaAI: just landed there

SharonWB: There's lots to be found here.

SharonWB: Before we dig into the "educators" section ...

SharonWB: Scroll down the landing page ...

SharonWB: And look for the Interactive Features.

SharonWB: There's a great new site that's just been added that I think you'll enjoy.

SharonWB: Let me know when you see "NASA Home and City"

JuliaAI: I see it

RebeccaSc: I'm there!

SharonWB: Great ...

SharonWB: Christy ... see it?

SharonWB: Jeff ... BJ?

BJB2 nods

ChristyN: just found

JeffC: yup

SharonWB: Click on NASA Home and City ... and enjoy

SharonWB: One of the exciting things to share with students is all of the NASA innovations.

SharonWB: If you go inside the house ...

BJB2: amazing!

RebeccaSc: nice

SharonWB: You can go to each room to see how we use NASA innovations everyday

JeffC: OMG! That was my house when I lived in Vallejo!

JuliaAI: this is cool!

SharonWB: This fits nicely into a discussion we had today about the differences between science and engineering.

JeffC: 1936 Cape Cod style... I bet NASA snooped on me using their satellites! now I know why google earth has such a clear pic of it!

SharonWB: Pretty fancy home, Jeff.

RebeccaSc: This is extremely informational

SharonWB: When we talk to kids about "science" ... that's studying the "natural world."

SharonWB: When we talk to students about "engineering" ... that's creating the "designed world."

JuliaAI: Kids will see the connection

JeffC: really excellent stuff!

SharonWB: This site lets us really appreciate how people create the designed worlds.

SharonWB: When you're ready ... go to the city.

SharonWB: And ... let me know when you're there.

RebeccaSc: k

JuliaAI: I'm already there

SharonWB: Christy ... Jeff ... BJ?

RebeccaSc: Kids will definitely find this site intriguing - not just informational.

JeffC is busy thinking about using insulated paint when he redoes his interior!

ChristyN: I'm in air travel...is that part of the city?

SharonWB: Yes ... air travel is highlighted.

SharonWB : Do you see the icons across the top of the site?

SharonWB : Scroll over them ... and you'll see parts of the city.

ChristyN: yup

SharonWB : They're all fun to see ... go explore and let me know where you are.

JuliaAI: I'm in sports and recreation

RebeccaSc: I'm looking at sports and recreation shock absorbing shoes. I'm trying to find things that I use everyday

ChristyN: I'm looking at public safety

SharonWB : One way you can use this in the classroom is to let students see what "science" leads to this "engineering."

RebeccaSc: Julia, do you see ingestible thermometers?

JuliaAI: no I don't

JeffC : Sharon... before I go... be sure to show them K-12 NASA room (perhaps at the end of the session).

RebeccaSc: they're in sports and recreation

RebeccaSc: look at the dropdown list. It's crazy!

JuliaAI: found them

RebeccaSc: How new is this portal?

SharonWB : The re-design has been in the last month or so.

SharonWB : This site has only been up for a few weeks.

SharonWB : The NASA city and home site.

SharonWB : The NASA portal has been around for a long time ... but it's newly re-designed.

RebeccaSc: Wow. It is new. Are we going to explore other, "older" features, too

SharonWB : And ... once we finish here ... I want to show you some other great

resources.

RebeccaSc: great

SharonWB: Oh ... yes ... there's lots to see.

JuliaAl: this is extremely interesting

SharonWB: NASA City and Home would also be great to use with the Toshiba and NSTA ExploraVision competition.

SharonWB: Are you all familiar with that?

JuliaAl: I'm not

RebeccaSc: No.

SharonWB: Explore for a moment ... and I'll find the url ...

SharonWB: BRB

ChristyN: is there a part of nasa's site that has activities/info. directed at young children?

RebeccaSc: NASA Kids' club looks friendly for kids

SharonWB: Christy ...yes ... there are special activities for young students

SharonWB: The Kids' Club is designed for K-3

SharonWB: ExploraVision ... <http://www.exploravision.org/>

ChristyN: thanks!

SharonWB: You don't have to go there right now ... but this is a K-12 competition to encourage creative design.

SharonWB: Students are asked to work as a team

SharonWB: Choose a modern innovation.

SharonWB: Research it to discover an earlier form of that innovation.

SharonWB: And then ... imagine how it might improve in the future.

SharonWB: For example ...

SharonWB: If you look at a modern microscope.

RebeccaSc: Brilliant. Is it all online?

SharonWB: The competition is explained online.

SharonWB: Students can create their own graphics and use technology to show their thinking.

SharonWB: And ...they create PP slides to showcase their work.

SharonWB: We use to run this as an afterschool event in an elementary school I work with.

SharonWB: You all ready to go back to the main NASA landing page?

RebeccaSc: This sounds like a good way to get students engaged in sciences who might not be interested otherwise.

JuliaAI: Sounds interesting and challenging for students

RebeccaSc: Sure.

JuliaAI: yes I'm ready

SharonWB: Let me know when you're back on the NASA landing page.

RebeccaSc: I'm there.

JuliaAI: I'm there

SharonWB: Great.

SharonWB: Go ahead and click on the NASA Kids' Club to see some of the games there.

ChristyN: I'm there

SharonWB: It's not really by "grade" ... but by "skill"

SharonWB: So ... 1 - 5 are the skill levels

SharonWB: Choose a skill level ...

SharonWB: And ... choose a game ...

SharonWB: And then ... please let me know what you're doing.

JuliaAI: I chose level one and the game "What Comes Next"

ChristyN: I've tried the concentration/matching game and the letter game on level one

RebeccaSc: I just tried the differences and patterning games in level 1. I'

RebeccaSc: I'm moving up now.

JuliaAI: This is a cool game for patterning in K

SharonWB: Glad that you see that .

SharonWB: The plan is to work on patterning ... sequencing ... alike/different

SharonWB: Simple concepts ... great observation skills

JuliaAI: now doing level 3 Airplane High Low

SharonWB: Addictive ... isn't it

SharonWB: Oh .. hello Rachel.

ChristyN: I like the "build your rocket"

RebeccaSc: there's even trivia on level 5

SharonWB: Are you with us ... we're at www.nasa.gov

SharonWB: in the NASA Kids Club

SharonWB: Once you've played a little ... scroll down until you see "pick a planet"

SharonWB: Please let me know when you're there.

RebeccaSc: I have a note though. Pluto isn't a planet, but it is being included in the solar system of this game. Is that because the game has been around so long or because people are still that familiar with it?

SharonWB: Yes ... the argument about Pluto ... and planet status is new.

JuliaAI: I do not like the Airplane High Low game

SharonWB: Julia ... tell me why ... and I can pass that info on.

JuliaAI: I think that the activity loses its fun after you have tried to guess so many times

and get the wrong answer for so many times.

SharonWB : How might they improve it?

JuliaAI: It would be better if there were more clues to guide the kids to choosing the correct number in one or two attempts

JuliaAI: maybe provide more characteristics of the number

SharonWB : Good suggestion ... I'll share that with the creators.

JuliaAI: such as if it is even or odd.

ChristyN: I like the format of the addition game, so that they can choose multiple ways of reaching the same answer.

HollyH joined the room.

SharonWB : Hello Holly.

SharonWB : Please join us ... we're at www.nasa.gov

SharonWB : In the NASA Kids Club.

SharonWB : We're going to explore the Planets.

SharonWB : Who all is with me at the planets?

HollyH: I am.

SharonWB : Great!

RebeccaSc: I'm here. This is extremely informative, yet brief enough to not let a student lose interest

SharonWB : Look down the left hand column ...

SharonWB : See the Multimedia choice?

JuliaAI: Where do I find the planes

RebeccaSc: yes

SharonWB : Once inside the NASA Kids Club ...

JuliaAI: okay

SharonWB : Below the skill levels ...

SharonWB : Good ... got it?

SharonWB : All of these images can be saved.

SharonWB : If you right click on them ... you can save them.

SharonWB : This is a great source for students looking for images.

SharonWB : And ... if they simply indicate that it's a

SharonWB : NASA image ... they are free to use them.

ChristyN : having trouble finding the planets

JuliaAl : I'm lost, I'm still at the nasa kids club page

RebeccaSc : scroll down. it's text just above the bottom picture on the left

ChristyN : got it

ChristyN : thanks

SharonWB : Julia ... okay?

RebeccaSc : good

JuliaAl : not really

SharonWB : Tell me where you are.

JuliaAl : Nasa kids' club

SharonWB : Do you seek the skill levels 1 - 5?

HollyH : looks like a great resource

JuliaAl : yes

SharonWB : There's more ... too.

SharonWB : Scroll down below that ...

SharonWB : Do you see some text about "exploring the planets?"

JuliaAI: Where it says pick a planet

SharonWB: Yes ...

SharonWB: Click that ...

JuliaAI: got it

SharonWB: You're in ...

JuliaAI: yes

SharonWB: Now ... so that students can learn more about related careers ...

SharonWB: In the left hand column ...

SharonWB: Look for "People"

SharonWB: Do you see it?

RebeccaSc: yes

JuliaAI: clicked on people

SharonWB: Click on that ... and you'll see short biographies about current NASA folks

JuliaAI: done

ChristyN: yes

SharonWB: it let's students see that there are LOTS of jobs at NASA ...

SharonWB: And ... we NEED LOTS of kids to join us

RebeccaSc: nice

JuliaAI: cool

SharonWB: If you "click" on Education ...

SharonWB: You'll see related educational resources

JuliaAI: This is great

ChristyN: I have a class full of 7 year olds who currently want to join you....or...at least

they did last week as we studied planets!

SharonWB: I'd LOVE to talk with them ... too.

SharonWB: I'd be happy to "guest lecture" for you ... anytime.

RebeccaSc: This is an excellent vocational resource!

SharonWB: It's pretty powerful.

SharonWB: Now ... go back to the left column

SharonWB: And ... click on "kids"

JuliaAl: done

SharonWB: Alien Safari is lots of fun.

BJB2 . o O (I've been encouraging teachers to create K-12 classrooms and then collaborate with the NASA resource room in the student campus, Sharon)

SharonWB: Oh ... that would be wonderful.

SharonWB: Are you all looking at any aliens?

JuliaAl: yes

BJB2: then you could be a guest speaker for classes anywhere in the world

SharonWB: I'd love to do that!

SharonWB: We have lots of new things in the works.

ChristyN: I'm enjoying the messenger videos of Mercury

SharonWB: There's LOTS to see ...

SharonWB: But ... let me drag you away and back to the landing page.

SharonWB: The easiest way to get there is type in www.nasa.gov

ChristyN: there

SharonWB: You can't really do back buttons.

RebeccaSc: There.

SharonWB : Do you see "for educators" across the top?

JuliaAI: I'm there

ChristyN: yup

RebeccaSc: Yes.

SharonWB : Across the left ... you'll see specific age categories

SharonWB : You can all go where you want to go ... for your teaching needs.

SharonWB : When you scroll down ... you'll see a way to sort through the resources ...

RebeccaSc: helpful

SharonWB : Do you all see the NASA podcasts on the left?

SharonWB : There's a NASA room at iTunes

SharonWB : With some amazing video podcasts.

JuliaAI: where is the podcast?

SharonWB : Scroll down ... looking at the left side of the page.

RebeccaSc: is that the education tv schedule?

JuliaAI: at the page where I see the grade levels?

SharonWB : Below the Education TV Schedule

JuliaAI: Education TV schedule is the last thing on the menu

SharonWB : Yes

SharonWB : I chose 5-9

SharonWB : And then ... once I got on that page

SharonWB : In the left column there's Education TV Schedule

SharonWB : Below that ... is NASA podcast

RebeccaSc: hm... I can't find it either

JuliaAI: I don't see anything under Education TV schedule

SharonWB: Let me take you there another way.

JuliaAI: thank you

SharonWB: Across the top of the page ...

RebeccaSc: I'm there.

SharonWB: do you see ... Home News Missions Multimedia About NASA

JuliaAI: yes

SharonWB: Scroll over Multimedia

SharonWB: Do you see podcasts as a drop down

JuliaAI: yes

SharonWB: That'll take you there.

SharonWB: Plus ... there's video

SharonWB: and lots of other images

BJB2 looks at the clock on the wall

JuliaAI: I'm there thanks

RebeccaSc: There are so many resources

SharonWB: One more stop ..

JuliaAI: This is a cool site

SharonWB: If you have time ...

ChristyN: yup

SharonWB: Under the Multimedia choice at the top

BJB2: If you haven't visited the NASA Resources room in the K-12 Student Campus, that is also a great place! Jeff has added a featured passageway to that room from this room

SharonWB : Under the Multimedia drop down

SharonWB : Go to Interactive Features

SharonWB : Let me know when you're there.

RebeccaSc: Here.

JuliaAI: here

SharonWB : Each of these features is cool ... but ... go to NASA 101

JuliaAI: here

SharonWB : This site will keep you "up to date" with the latest projects at NASA.

SharonWB : Across the top are the 4 Mission Directorates ... plus Education

RebeccaSc: thanks for the information!

SharonWB : When you have time ... each has a video clip ... and interactive.

ChristyN: is there any video on the space station available on nasa.gov?

SharonWB : Yes ... lots ...

JuliaAI: This is a wonderful resource that I will definitely use

ChristyN: my kids are very curious about what life is like there

SharonWB : Thanks Christy ...

RebeccaSc: Thanks, Sharon!

SharonWB : Christy ... if you go to Multimedia ... and type in space station ... that will take you there.

BJB2: thanks, Sharon...overwhelming and wonderful, as always!

SharonWB : And ... I think there are some podcasts too.

ChristyN: thanks

SharonWB : Thanks BJ ...

SharonWB: Now you know why I wanted to show you these new sites ...

SharonWB: Sorry it took so long

JuliaAI: it was definitely worth the time

SharonWB: Thanks to everyone for joining

SharonWB: Please let me know if I can help you all ... in any way.

JuliaAI: Thank you Sharon for sharing

ChristyN: thanks a lot!

SharonWB: If you need me ... sharon.bowers@nianet.org

RebeccaSc: Have a goodnight!

SharonWB: You too.

SharonWB: Good night.