

**Title of Session:** Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears - Rocks and Minerals

**Moderator:** Kimberly Lightle

**Title of File:** 20080904penguinrocks

**Date:** September 4, 2008

Room: Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears Group

**KimberlySL:** Jessica is the project director for Beyond Penguins and usually leads the chat but she is under the weather so I'm filling in for her

**BJB2:** ahhh...that's the advantage of collaboration!

**KimberlySL:** We talked today - I'm just going to highlight some special things in this latest issue of the magazine

**KimberlySL:** BTW - until somebody else shows up - I have a presentation at the NSDL Annual Meeting about our PD efforts - I am going to talk quite a bit about Tapped In

**BJB2:** how cool!

**KimberlySL:** that's good - do you remember Gail Hoskins with the Eisenhower National Clearinghouse

**BJB2:** oh, yes, Gail is wonderful!

**BJB2:** she led discussions here for quite some time

**KimberlySL:** I agree - I worked with her at ENC for years - I was the associate director for instructional resources

**BJB2:** we were very sad when ENC left

**KimberlySL:** We're both still at OSU - she is in charge of the preservice math and science teachers placements

**BJB2** . o O ( we=Tapped In )

**KimberlySL:** Thanks - we were pretty sad too....

**BJB2:** great...please tell her I said hi

**BJB2:** and she's welcome back any time!

**KimberlySL:** I will - I remember when she would do Tapped In events about ENC

**JudiF** joined the room.

**JudiF** waves

**JudiF**: Hi Kimberly

**BJB2** hugs Judi. Kimberly, meet Judi

**BJB2**: Judi, meet Kimberly

**JudiF**: Did you just get the OERL paper from the SRI web site?

**BJB2**: Kimberly, Judi is the co-director of Tapped In

**JudiF**: emailing Dan Zalles?

**KimberlySL**: I was just reading a NYT article - sorry!

**KimberlySL**: Yes - that was me - it is a very small world

**JudiF**: (sorry for the odd question, but I think you just got one of the OERL papers I wrote)

**JudiF**: Cool!

**JudiF**: it is indeed

**JudiF**: and it's getting smaller online

**JudiF**: good to meet you

**KimberlySL**: You too

**JudiF**: is this your first session here?

**KimberlySL**: Beyond Penguins is what we were going to talk about and that is the project that I have the evaluation questions about

**JudiF**: cool

**KimberlySL**: not first session - I usually lead the Middle School Portal chat - Jessica is the project director but isn't feeling good and so I'm the PI I am filling in!

**JudiF**: ah

**KimberlySL**: About that paper - I was so glad that Dan got back with me - sometimes

you send an general email to a site and you're never quite sure where it goes

**JudiF:** hang on my 4 year old is screaming

**KimberlySL:** I have a 17 year old - I think she is screaming too - ha

**JudiF** nods

**JudiF:** (mostly back)

**JudiF:** heh

**KimberlySL:** Judi - would you like to know a little more about Beyond Penguins?

**JudiF:** My 4-year-old is mostly no screaming now. I would love to know a little more

**JudiF:** I have about 10 more minutes

**JudiF** listens eagerly

**KimberlySL:** cool - NSF funded - International polar year and DR K-12

**JudiF** nods

**JudiF:** where are you located Kim?

**KimberlySL:** we're using literacy as the trojan horse to get more science in elementary classrooms

**JudiF** smiles at the sly trick

**KimberlySL:** Ohio State University - Columbus

**KimberlySL:** We are using a magazine metaphor - I was hoping that elem teachers would be more comfortable with that model of online learning

**JudiF:** okay cool. Are you aware of the work being done at KU in GIS/GPS related to the north pole?

**KimberlySL:** My co-PI works with those folks - Carol Landis - she's at the Byrd Polar Research Center at OSU

**JudiF:** (and visualizations of ice and the outreach they have with students? My niece is involved in that and if you were there I'd really be swearing the world was really tiny)

**KimberlySL:** no kidding!

**JudiF** nods

**JudiF**: yea

**KimberlySL**: we are on issue 6 - rocks and minerals

**JudiF**: my niece just got her masters

**JudiF**: cool

**JudiF**: so you work with elem?

**JudiF**: what grades exactly?

**KimberlySL**: each issue is thematic - science content and a literacy strategy - this issue is determining importance

**KimberlySL**: K-5

**JudiF**: cool

**JudiF**: (I have a first grader too :-)

**KimberlySL**: we have a children's author write a feature story each month - then we turn it into a electronic book - I would love to get feedback from your 1st grader

**JudiF**: which web site should I click on?

**JudiF**: (there are lots in the web page)

**KimberlySL**: <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=September2008> -

**JudiF**: my kids are coming to look

**KimberlySL**: If you then click on feature story and scroll down you'll see the electronic version for K-1 - if you click on the paw the page turns and if you click on the thing in the top right corner it reads the story to you

**JudiF**: okay... I'll do hat.

**KimberlySL**: You have to scroll past the foldable versions to the electronic versions

**JudiF** looks for the paw

**KimberlySL**: bottom right corner

**KimberlySL:** I really love this story - women in science - Julie didn't like science... now she's a geologist

**JudiF:** I don't see a paw on that page

**JudiF:** I see the ice picture

**JudiF:** and all the links

**JudiF:** but I am missing the paw

**JudiF:** if it were a snake....

**KimberlySL:** oh good - you found it

**KimberlySL:** I just realized that Julie's story is in the 2-3 and 4-5 versions. the K-1 version is about rocks

**JudiF:** found the picture

**JudiF:** we're going to look at the story

**JudiF:** one sec

**JudiF:** she wants more

**JudiF:** she's a big fossil fan

**KimberlySL:** cool

**JudiF:** we went to Arkansas this summer

**JudiF:** and there were fossils everywhere where we were

**JudiF:** she has a whole collection now

**KimberlySL:** How fun! go to the virtual bookshelf article

**JudiF** looks

**JudiF** is there

**KimberlySL:** Each issue has a virtual bookshelf too where we highlight really good children's books - maybe you can find some books she would like on fossils

**JudiF:** cool

**JudiF:** I will

**JudiF:** she's so into dinosaurs

**JudiF:** and thus, fossils

**LaraO** joined the room.

**JudiF:** oh... my next appointment just called

**JudiF:** Thanks for showing me things Kim

**KimberlySL:** very cool - you might want to let her hear the 2-3 version of the story - it's about Julie the geologist - might be inspiring

**BJB2:** welcome, Lara

**KimberlySL:** Good to meet you - thanks!

**JudiF:** and email me if you have questions about the OERL paper ad that's a good idea we'll check out the 2-3 version

**KimberlySL:** Hi Lara

**JudiF:** Thanks!

**LaraO:** hi

**JudiF** goes back to her office

**BJB2:** Kimberly, Lara is a tech teacher. Can you show her the magazine?

**BJB2** waves bye to Judi

**JudiF** left the room.

**LaraO:** I worked with Kimberly the other evening with the wikis :-)

**BJB2:** ahhh...right.

**KimberlySL:** sure! It's for k-5 teachers - helping them integrate science and literacy

**KimberlySL:** I recognized your handle!

**KimberlySL:** This is one of my projects too

**LaraO:** I have 6 - 8 but many of the same concepts can be applied

**KimberlySL:** Do you work with elementary teachers?

**LaraO:** nope middle school

**LaraO:** I turned a lot of people on to shelfari after the other evening

**KimberlySL:** oh sure - the magazine is thematic - each issue has a different science theme and focuses on a literacy strategy

**KimberlySL:** cool - that was the Beyond Penguins shelfari

**KimberlySL:** <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/information.php?topic=archive> - this is the archive of all the issues

**KimberlySL:** we plan on having 20 or so issues

**LaraO:** the students at my school the students are very low and need much help with strategies

**KimberlySL:** we also have a blog - <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/polar> - very active

**KimberlySL:** Another thing I like to highlight is our feature story - we have electronic versions each issue if you click on an issue - then click on Feature Story

**LaraO:** are they written for the students or for the teachers? we are constantly looking for real articles that we can use in curriculum that are at varied reading levels.

**KimberlySL:** <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=September2008> - this is the latest issue - you can click on this URL and then click on Feature Story - scroll down to where it says electronic versions - there are three versions

**KimberlySL:** the books are for students - we even have foldable versions so that students can have their own copies

**KimberlySL:** the electronic versions have the audio file so they "talk" to you - the paw in the corner turns the page - the play button reads the page to you

**LaraO:** it is very hard to find articles at varied reading levels to use in curriculum courses. there are not many out there that allow you to have the same subject and yet the kids reading on their level

**KimberlySL:** we have three versions - K-1, 2-3, and 4-5 (sometimes the 4-5 gets a little

higher)

**KimberlySL:** They are expository books with glossaries

**LaraO:** four five would be good for many of our kids. I hate to say it, but we still have quite a few kids that we are attempting to teach decoding to in the 8th grade

**KimberlySL:** in issue 6 there are actually templates for each level that helps teachers teach about determining importance - that article is the Literacy Content Knowledge article

**KimberlySL:**

<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/column.php?date=September2008&departmentid=professional&columnid=professional!literacy>

**KimberlySL:** we know that - I love the 2-3 and 4-5 story this issue - Julie hated science until she got turned on to rocks

**KimberlySL:** Here are all the feature stories -

<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/browse/column.php?departmentid=literacy&columnid=literacy!feature>

**LaraO:** do you know of anything like this that would focus on engineering or technology? I am really stressing to my students that technology is more than computers - that it is anything that we use to from nature that makes our lives easier. it is almost impossible to find articles like this for those subjects

**KimberlySL:** BJ - Judi said her daughter really loved fossils - we have an issue on the Polar Past <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=April2008>

**BJB2:** I'll let Judi know, Kimberly. Thanks

**KimberlySL:** I don't know if we are going to write an issue on that topic or not - we sure might and I can bring it up to the team

**LaraO:** I don't know about the general world but my kids hear technology and all they think of is the computer. Half of them still think an engineer involves a train :-)

**KimberlySL:** Lara - since you were in the wiki discussion - here is the link to all the integrating technology articles -

<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/browse/column.php?departmentid=professional&columnid=professional!technology>

**KimberlySL:** Good point - Engineering/Technology at the Poles might be quite interesting



**LaraO:** very interesting, especially when that scientist had to be rescued. the technology and engineering that went into that alone was extreme

**LaraO:** have you ever heard of the program project lead the way?

**KimberlySL:** I have - I know the project director here in Ohio

**LaraO:** I attempt to teach the middle school version - gateway to technology

**LaraO:** the issue in my district is that I only have my kiddos every other day for one trimester, so I have to pick and choose important points to cover

**KimberlySL:** I don't know the curriculum that well - but did know that it was going into the middle

**KimberlySL:** every other day - hmhhh

**LaraO:** all pre engineering concepts - basically applied math and science, critical thinking and problem solving

**KimberlySL:** BTW - you might be interested in some of the work we've done with the Middle School Portal

**LaraO:** I bookmarked a lot of that after the other evening

**KimberlySL:** [http://msteacher.org/science\\_pubs.aspx](http://msteacher.org/science_pubs.aspx) - we have a couple of engineering type Explore in Depth publications

**KimberlySL:** Great - we do have the two blogs - Middle School Math and Science and Connecting News - I'm always looking for topics to blog on

**BJB2** looks at the clock on the wall. Kimberly, do you know if the next Polar Bears session will be October 2?

**KimberlySL:** <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/middle-school-math-science/> and <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/connectingnews/>

**LaraO:** I had not stumbled upon that - thank you so much - they look very promising

**BJB2:** Lara, you might want to talk to your teachers and see if they would like to participate in Tapped In discussions

**KimberlySL:** you know what - Jessica and I will be in DC - can we make it the following Thurs - Oct 9?

**BJB2** . o O ( it would be lovely if they would get CEUs for participation )

**BJB2:** that works...thanks, Kimberly.

**BJB2:** please tell Jessica I hope she's feeling better

**KimberlySL:** Will do

**KimberlySL:** October 7 works for the Middle School Portal discussion

**BJB2:** yep. Already have that date marked down

**LaraO:** I am preparing to present a great deal of information at an upcoming pdc and plan on introducing Tapped In as well as other items then

**KimberlySL:** Oh good - I'll send you the topic later

**BJB2:** great, Lara. Thanks again, Kimberly

**LaraO:** Kimberly, have you used voicestream?

**BJB2:** I'm heading for the Next Vista discussion. Should be fun. Rushton is a trip

**KimberlySL:** Is that VOIP? We do webinars

**KimberlySL:** using VOIP

**LaraO:** I don't think I would call it that, I found it on one of the sites last night and joined today

**KimberlySL:** I'll have to look into it - thanks

**LaraO:** you can post pictures, documents etc and then the students can log on and respond to them in a safe locked way - it is pretty cool

**KimberlySL:** I'll have to look into that too!

**KimberlySL:** Well - think I'll log off - thanks for coming! bye