

Title of Session: Math Transformers - Math and Literature

Moderator: Patricia Chen

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Room: Math Transformers Group

PatriciaCh: hello

BJB2 waves hi to Sue

SusanR: what a great topic

SusanR waves back

BJB2 agrees...I love the topic.

PatriciaCh: people are always surprised by using children's lit in math

SusanR: I love introducing a topic thro' children's lit

PatriciaCh: I like using it to enhance an activity

PatriciaCh: the students are always surprise by the fact that I love to read

BJB2: we touched on the topic at the last K-12 Language Arts discussion

PatriciaCh: what was discussed

BJB2: one of the participants felt that his kids did better when they could use picture books to learn concepts...he taught 8th grade, I believe

SusanR: visual learners

PatriciaCh: yes ... most people are

BJB2: John, "It's not meant to be. A few days ago I introduced fractions with "Apple Fractions" I forget the author. Text is simple so kids can focus on the idea of whole and parts of a whole, etc..."

PatriciaCh: I taught a concept in Algebra I used a flow chart

PatriciaCh: most teachers use pizza - my son told me that it was very confusing

BJB2: are you going to tell us more about the flow chart, Pat?

SusanR: Flow chart ..interesting

BJB2 nods about the pizza thing....lots of resources with pizza and math

PatriciaCh: the concept was solving system of equation - consistent and inconsistent system

PatriciaCh: it was in the format of an organizational chart ... when we filled in the chart ... we also wrote the attributes

BJB2: I think I am a visual learner with that one!

BJB2: but I can see how a graphic organizer could work...similar to an organizational chart

PatriciaCh: it is very hard to explain ...basically it was one of those ... in this situation - we do this

PatriciaCh: it was very cut and dry

BJB2: maybe you need to write a picture book about it!

PatriciaCh: the hard part of teaching algebra to 7th graders - some cannot deal with abstract

PatriciaCh: well you can illustrate it

PatriciaCh: I only do stick figures

JeffC joined the room.

BJB2 grins. A deal!

PatriciaCh: ok

PatriciaCh: hello Jeff

JeffC: ok... I think we have enough helpdesk here now.

JeffC waves

SusanR nods

BJB2: that's why we're helpdesk, Jeff....we're always learning new things

JeffC wonders if this meeting is about "1984"?

PatriciaCh: how is the weather up north

JeffC: foggy

SusanR: Snowy

PatriciaCh: rainy but warm here

SusanR: and we are about to have a transit strike

PatriciaCh: oh no ..where are you located

SusanR: Ottawa, Ontario

PatriciaCh: I hope it doesn't happen

SusanR: Have you seen <http://sendithome.net/>

BJB2: btw, Pat, the book I emailed you about, Tangram Tales, is listed at Amazon. http://www.amazon.com/Tangram-Tales-Theater-Ancient-Chinese/dp/1591586526/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1228868320&sr=1-1

PatriciaCh: oh yes ..I haven't the chance to check it out

SusanR: I invited the developers of the site to come in and chat

SusanR: However, they are under 18 years of age and are worried coming in to participate in TI

BJB2 laughs...the DEVELOPERS are under 18?!

SusanR: ha ha ..I am laughing too

JeffC: <http://snurl.com/tangram> [www_amazon_com]

SusanR: <http://sendithome.net/blog/index.aspx> their blog

PatriciaCh: I have not seen sendit home

BJB2: Thanks, Jeff. I'm too lazy to snurl the url

JeffC is addicted to snurling.

SusanR: students can send their assignments home to complete..without accessing their

email accounts

BJB2: Pat, I'll bet you could invite Dianne (author of the tangram book) as a guest

BJB2: it's like an online forwarding service, Sue?

PatriciaCh: it sounds like it is

SusanR: It is

PatriciaCh: inviting Dianne sounds like a good idea

BJB2: she's a member of Tapped In...Dianne de la s Casas

PatriciaCh: microsoft workshare is similar in concept too you can save online and work from anywhere

PatriciaCh: I did not know that

BJB2: she hasn't been logged in for almost a year....better get in touch with her soon or she'll lose her account!

PatriciaCh: ok ... I just wrote her name down

BJB2: her email is dianne@storyconnection.net

PatriciaCh: you must be a mind reader

BJB2: she sends out a newsletter <http://www.storyconnection.net>

PatriciaCh: I didn't get to finish the question

BJB2: . o O (one of the requirements of helpdesk, Pat ;-))

PatriciaCh: mind reading ... well I can only spot gum without the culprit chewing

BJB2: chuckles

PatriciaCh: I will contact her ... try to book her for Feb or Mar

BJB2: do you make the culprit swallow the gum?

BJB2: great, Pat!

JeffC: I made a student stand in the corner today and spit out his gum as punishment for being a punk.

PatriciaCh: no ... some do because they are too lazy to get up to spit or lie that they did and get busted again

BJB2: yikes...it's tough being a kid!

PatriciaCh: the other kids just tell them that they are stupid

SusanR: I used to have them put the gum on their nose ..not permitted any longer

SusanR: that was grade two

PatriciaCh: no .. it is not .. some teachers do gum detention ... I think that is more of a punishment for the teacher than the student

SusanR: It is against the law to sell gum in Singapore.

SusanR: or spit or litter on the ground

BJB2: well, Pat, I know you've got lots to do. Although we're all interested in your topic, we can wait till January if that's ok?

SusanR: A spotless city!

SusanR: you can send her a tweet <http://twitter.com/storyconnection>

PatriciaCh: yes ... we can meet again in Jan ... I will email Dianne now and try to get her on the chat

PatriciaCh: or a spotless school

BJB2: January 13

PatriciaCh: I hate gum stuck underneath a desk

PatriciaCh: ok

BJB2 hugs Pat. Take care and relax over Christmas break!

BJB2 . o O (watch funny movies)

BJB2 . o O (chew gum)

PatriciaCh: no gum ... have you ever seen the Librarian?

BJB2 . o O (read joke books)

BJB2: no

SusanR: Take care. Have a great holiday.

PatriciaCh: take care Susan - Happy Holidays

PatriciaCh: Librarian is a satire of Indiana Jones and national treasure ...it was on tv and was amusing

BJB2: I'll have to look it up

PatriciaCh: there are 3 serials

PatriciaCh: Noah Wylie from ER and Bob Newhart is in the movies

BJB2: you can get the 3 dvds from Amazon for \$15.00

PatriciaCh: I should order the tangram book ... I have class adoption money to spent

PatriciaCh: ok...

BJB2: Talk to you in January

PatriciaCh: I am going to log off ...Happy Holidays

PatriciaCh: my winter break is planning for the state test review

BJB2: oh, yay :-)

PatriciaCh: not all the time ... we are going to go see my son in CT

BJB2: oh, good!

PatriciaCh: we are doing things different in school ... planning for the kids success is important

PatriciaCh: it keeps me sane

BJB2: sane is good!

PatriciaCh: oh yes I worry ... the 7th grade scores affect them when they select classes for high school

BJB2: . o O (so I've heard, anyway ;-)

PatriciaCh: so if I have a time line it makes life easy for 9 weeks

BJB2 nods

PatriciaCh: then we go back to the textbooks for our prep ... we have a review book

PatriciaCh: Happy holidays

PatriciaCh: make sure you get what you want for Christmas

BJB2: you too

PatriciaCh: I am working on it

PatriciaCh: good night ..talk to you in January