

**Title of Session:** Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears - The Earth's Changing Surface

**Moderator:** Kimberly Lightle

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Room: Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears Group

**KimberlySL:** Patrick - guess its just you and me

**BJB2 . o O ( and me? )**

**KimberlySL:** you were so quiet

**KimberlySL:** I know Patrick has joined us before

**BJB2:** Patrick may be quiet too....he may be lurking

**KimberlySL:** You want me to start with what I had planned?

**BJB2:** sure, Kim.

**PatrickRC:** Hey.

**BJB2 . o O ( I love to see what you're presenting )**

**KimberlySL:** Oh good - Patrick's back

**PatrickRC:** sorry, I was posting something elsewhere, didn't realize we had started

**KimberlySL:** Tonight's discussion is on Earth's changing surface

**KimberlySL:** Earth's surface is always changing, and the polar regions are no exception. Glaciers slowly scour the landscape, while the fierce katabatic winds of Antarctica create unusual rock sculptures. Just off the coast of Antarctica, Mt. Erebus erupts almost daily.

**KimberlySL:** I don't think most people think anything evens happens in Antarctica

**BJB2 . o O ( especially volcanoes! )**

**PatrickRC:** yeah, I pretty much learned that it was a barren land that was super cold

**KimberlySL:** In the Dec issue of BPPB we highlight lessons in which students model the forces that shape and change Earth.

**KimberlySL** nods to Patrick

**KimberlySL:** Let's go to the December issue - You'll see that we have five departments and then columns within each department. By the way - all issues are laid out the same way. <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=December2008>

**BJB2:** and there's a photo of the volcano!

**KimberlySL:** Let's first go to the department - Professional Learning - and click on the Science Content Knowledge link - you'll get to the article "The Forces that Change the Face of Earth" <http://tinyurl.com/5dzwoj>

**KimberlySL:** Even though the hot magma and lava of volcanoes and the ice of the polar regions seem incompatible, there's quite a bit volcanic activity in the Arctic and Antarctica.

**KimberlySL:** Scroll down to the Volcanoes section - look at the last two images in this section. Aren't they amazing?

**PatrickRC:** (sorry, loading slow)

**BJB2:** hardly even looks cold

**KimberlySL:** Sorry about that Patrick

**PatrickRC:** it's fine, slow connection today.

**KimberlySL:** The section on wind is quite amazing too

**PatrickRC:** it's cool seeing the plucking and abrasion too - thinking about what I was taught formed the Great Lakes

**KimberlySL:** Katabatic winds in Antarctica and Greenland are intensely cold and fast, often reaching hurricane speed. You can hear these fierce winds in this YouTube video <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4YHNNqaIyxM>

**BJB2:** yep...ventrifacts are interesting

**KimberlySL:** Some of the eroded rocks are as big as a house

**KimberlySL:** ventrifacts

**KimberlySL** nods

**KimberlySL:** Go back to the issue page - <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=December2008> - and look at the other columns we have under Professional Learning. We'll come back to the Literacy

Content Knowledge in a few minutes.

**BJB2:** oh, brrrrr!!!!

**KimberlySL:** Now let's click on the column "Lessons and Activities" in the department Science and Literacy. Spend a few minutes looking at the breadth of activities – then report back on one that you find interesting - <http://tinyurl.com/6ph7ow>

**KimberlySL:** brrrrrr is right!

**BJB2:** looks at Across the Curriculum

**KimberlySL:** You'll see that literacy activities are suggested right along with the science activities

**PatrickRC:** these map lessons are cool - I've got a little girl who will be interested in these in a few years.

**KimberlySL:** great

**KimberlySL:** We also have a bookshelf in the Science and Literacy department - <http://tinyurl.com/6j5hyv> - with activity books and teacher's guides in case you need more ideas. Are you familiar with any of these titles?

**BJB2:** I like the Earthshakes poetry book. Cool to introduce non-fiction poetry

**KimberlySL** nods

**KimberlySL:** I bet your little girl would like some of these titles too

**PatrickRC:** yeah :) they look cool - the Glaciers by Nadeau looks familiar

**BJB2:** I just read somewhere that January 19 is Penguin day...I'll have to see if I can find that info!

**KimberlySL:** No kidding - I'll share that with Jessica

**KimberlySL:** We also write our own informational texts for K-1, 2-3, and 4-5 students that go along with the theme of each issue of the magazine. They come in text, illustrated, and electronic versions.

**KimberlySL:** The feature story in this issue is all about Mt. Erebus. When you click on the Feature Story link - <http://tinyurl.com/5lch9f> - and scroll through the document, you'll see the text of the feature story, illustrated and printable versions, and then electronic versions of the story.

**KimberlySL:** I don't know if your computer can handle it Patrick but click on one of the electronic books - they have audio and you can turn the pages

**PatrickRC:** wow - all for free?

**PatrickRC:** We looked at some of these in my education classes

**PatrickRC:** interactive e-books. I can suggest these to my professor

**KimberlySL:** Free!

**PatrickRC:** awesome!

**KimberlySL:** That would be great

**KimberlySL:** Below the electronic versions are literacy strategies and templates that can be used with the books. The entire article on the literacy strategies is under the Professional Learning – Literacy Content Knowledge - <http://tinyurl.com/5b4mv6>

**PatrickRC:** the definitions for the words are great - it will help students get used to learning what a word means rather than just reading over it.

**KimberlySL:** Below the electronic versions are literacy strategies and templates that can be used with the books. The entire article on the literacy strategies is under the Professional Learning – Literacy Content Knowledge - <http://tinyurl.com/5b4mv6>

**KimberlySL:** so there are literacy strategies, templates etc. that go along with each book

**KimberlySL:** All the informational texts can be found by clicking on the link in the header – Stories for Students - click on the link and look at the different topics. Which ones sound interesting to you?  
<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/information.php?topic=stories>

**BJB2:** <http://www.holidayinsights.com/other/penguinawareness.htm>

**PatrickRC:** The Aurora sounds interesting

**BJB2:** . o O ( I was off a day...it's January 20 )

**PatrickRC:** always liked "Northern lights"

**KimberlySL:** Great - I'll make sure Jessica knows

**KimberlySL:** <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/information.php?topic=archive> - click on the archive link and look at the image for the third issue

**BJB2:** gorgeous. I like the auroras also

**KimberlySL:** We pick six main images for each issue - one for the issue page and then one for each department

**KimberlySL:** Do you like the pink polar bear?

**PatrickRC:** I used to go to NASA and look through a picture a day or so

**PatrickRC:** that's cool

**KimberlySL:** Go back to the December issue page and spend a few minutes looking at the other columns that we didn't go to. You can see that there are quite a few items we didn't cover! Hope you enjoy exploring the rest of the issue.

**KimberlySL:** In addition to writing the books we also write misconception probes - they are in the misconceptions column

**BJB2:** thanks, Kim!

**KimberlySL:** <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/browse/index.php> - you can also see all the articles in all the columns in all the departments

**BJB2:** that's a handy link

**KimberlySL:** Most columns have 8 articles now - really rich

**PatrickRC:** I like the misconceptions articles. - I think students remember better when they find out someone was wrong

**KimberlySL:** we keep adding "header" links to help people navigate all the content

**BJB2** . o O ( especially when the 'someone wrong' wasn't them! )

**KimberlySL:** Stories for Students, Browse Columns, Archive

**PatrickRC:** The navigation for the site is really easy

**KimberlySL:** Well - every issue is laid out the same - just a different science concept and literacy strategy

**KimberlySL:** Some of the probes in the misconception articles are actually interactive sorts

**BJB2:** that's just what I was going to ask!

**KimberlySL:** Sorts sounds weird - they are activities where students are given items and they have to sort them - but they move the items around

**KimberlySL:** by clicking and dragging the items

**BJB2:** interactive is good...especially for an online magazine

**KimberlySL:** The research stories are pretty cool too - biographies

**PatrickRC:** that's cool - I loved the cut and paste exercises in elementary

**KimberlySL:** We are working to get more and more interactive - integrating digital tools

**BJB2:** excellent

**KimberlySL:** We are working towards completing 20 issues - 11 more to go

**BJB2:** wow....the time is flying!

**KimberlySL:** the next issue is Polar Mammals - finally out of the physical and earth sciences

**KimberlySL:** we can get to the life science - mammals, birds, plants

**BJB2** . o O ( now you know why I work a month ahead with the calendar )

**KimberlySL:** then I don't remember

**BJB2** nods

**PatrickRC:** I like any of the sciences

**PatrickRC:** it was nice getting the physical science now from these issues

**PatrickRC:** I've got a inquiry into the earth systems class next semester

**KimberlySL:** You know - physics first!

**KimberlySL:** Even though the magazine says it is for K-5 - most of the content can be used by most grade levels

**PatrickRC:** it's a great base for starting a lesson, I would think

**KimberlySL:** we hope

**PatrickRC:** even in high school - to give the students a common background

**KimberlySL:** Not all high schoolers are strong readers - they might be interested in some of the grade 4-5 books

**PatrickRC:** yeah, especially if they are interactive

**PatrickRC:** definitely great for special education students

**KimberlySL:** That is all I had to cover - you want to call it a night?

**BJB2** nods to Kim. As always, an enjoyable and informative session.

**PatrickRC:** That's fine with me - a lot of information to look at

**KimberlySL:** BTW - the Tapped In Tour (what we just went through) is at <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/polar/2008/12/11/tappedin-tour-earth%e2%80%99s-changing-surface/>

**KimberlySL:** It's a blog post on the Polar blog that we write

**KimberlySL:** you can go back through the tour and see where we went

**PatrickRC:** sweet

**KimberlySL:** I did the same thing last month - <http://expertvoices.nsd.org/polar/2008/11/06/tappedin-tour-planning-a-polar-festival/>

**KimberlySL:** Just an FYI

**PatrickRC:** thanks

**BJB2** waves bye and heads for the Classroom Assessment discussion