

Title of Session: Math Transformers - Math and Literature

Moderator: Patricia Chen

Title of File: 20090113mathtranslit

Date: January 13, 2009

Room: Math Transformers Group

TanyaLB: By participating in this event, will I get a transcript emailed to me?

BJB2: yes, you get a transcript emailed to you every time you log in and chat, Tanya

BJB2: and if Pat isn't able to log in (discussion leader) I'll lead the discussion

TanyaLB: Ok great. I need one for my professional development.

BJB2 nods

BJB2: you teach, Tanya?

TanyaLB: Yes, I am a fourth grade teacher.

BJB2: oh, great.

TanyaLB: I teach math, Social Studies and Language Arts.

BJB2: where are you located?

BJB2: whew! lots to cover

TanyaLB: In Virginia.

BJB2: I'm in Pennsylvania

TanyaLB: So we are close then.

BJB2 . o O (better bundle up tonight...some cold stuff moving in!)

PatriciaCh joined the room.

TanyaLB: I wish it would snow! But it doesn't look like we are ever going to get any here!

TanyaLB: Hi Patricia.

PatriciaCh: hello

BJB2: there's the lady of the hour! Hi, Pat!

PatriciaCh: Happy New Year!

BJB2: I'll announce, Pat, and then we can get started

BJB2: Tanya, ignore the announcement...you're in the right place

TanyaLB: Okay.

BJB2: Pat, Tanya teaches 4th grade and is located in Virginia

PatriciaCh: Welcome

PatriciaCh: I teach middle school in Florida

BJB2: I recently posted an article someplace about first graders doing algebra

PatriciaCh: Tanya ..did you get a chance to look at the files

TanyaLB: Oh, great. I have thought about teaching middle school.

TanyaLB: No I didn't. I stumbled upon this discussion.

TanyaLB: This is my first Tapped In experience.

PatriciaCh: while we are waiting ... just look at the files

PatriciaCh: Welcome!

BJB2: Tanya, two tips...above this chat is the welcome screen...

BJB2: scroll down on it and you will see some files and links

BJB2: and go to the Actions drop down menu in the top right of the chat and select Larger Text to make it easier to see this tiny type

TanyaLB: Right now I am on the calendar page

BJB2: click on Room View at the top of the screen

BJB2: Room View brings you back to the Welcome screen

TanyaLB: Okay, I am there now.

PatriciaCh: BJ ...I did email the author ... but she didn't respond to me

BJB2: bummer. Did you get the book?

BJB2: I did...Tanya, we're talking about Tangram Tales

PatriciaCh: I have not ordered it yet ...it was released at the end of December ...plan to do it now

PatriciaCh: yes

TanyaLB: Oh, I have not heard of it before.

BJB2: are you familiar with Tangrams, Tanya?

BJB2: the book uses tangrams for story theater

TanyaLB: Yes, I love tangrams and use them to teach fractions.

BJB2: the author of the book is Dianne de Las Casas

PatriciaCh: It is a good example of using literature in math

TanyaLB: Okay, I will look into it. When you say story theater, do you mean the kids acting something out using the tangram pieces?

PatriciaCh: for us in middle school ... reading teachers or social science uses the concept ...as you said acting out

BJB2: or telling a story and making up characters using the tangram pieces

PatriciaCh: that is what I would do in math ...

PatriciaCh: Math Curse is another good one to use in middle school and high school

TanyaLB: The kids would love that. My son is in 1st grade, and he just brought home a picture made with tangram pieces, and he had to count how many of each attribute he had used.

BJB2: learning the shapes is also part of the lessons

BJB2: Math Curse is a hoot ;_)

TanyaLB: What happens in Math Curse?

PatriciaCh: the kids love it and

PatriciaCh: it is about a kid who had a nightmare about numbers ...

TanyaLB: So the kids can relate... :-)

PatriciaCh: yes ... it is really funnythere is a companion book about science I have never read it ...

PatriciaCh: Shel Silverstein

PatriciaCh: Where the sidewalk ends ...some of the poems are have math concepts

TanyaLB: I LOVE Shel Silverstein

PatriciaCh: If you look or download the file with the literature titles ...you can find stories you can use with your 4th graders

TanyaLB: Great, I will definitely do that. Can I just save it to my computer?

PatriciaCh: I should think so

PatriciaCh: I also annotate with the math benchmarks or strands ...

PatriciaCh: After I read math curse to the students ...they themselves wrote a book paralleling it

TanyaLB: Ok I've got it. Thank you so much!

PatriciaCh: no problem

BJB2: did you want to highlight any other books, Pat?

PatriciaCh: Neuschwander, Cindy

PatriciaCh: she wrote a few books specifically about math concept

PatriciaCh: Pappas, Theoni wrote a few books specifically for elementary students

PatriciaCh: Tanya - do you have any questions

TanyaLB: No, this has been very helpful. It is always nice to have new resources to use. Thanks again.

BJB2: how long have you been teaching, Tanya?

PatriciaCh: no problem ... we meet once a month and usually there is more people here

to interact with

TanyaLB: This is my tenth year. But I am teaching at a new school with a different student population this year. So I am appreciative of some fresh ideas.

PatriciaCh: I forgot ...Greg Tang ...is wonderful too

BJB2 nods

TanyaLB: Well this has been a nice 1st Tapped In experience. I will be back again.

BJB2: good teachers are lifelong learners!

TanyaLB: Definitely. :-)

PatriciaCh: join us again

TanyaLB: Okay thanks!

BJB2: we'll look forward to seeing you again, Tanya

PatriciaCh: have a great week

TanyaLB: You too!

BJB2 . o O (and your ideas are new to us!)

PatriciaCh: definitely

BJB2: Tapped In is a place to collaborate, Tanya

BJB2: btw, Happy New Year to you too, Pat!

TanyaLB: Goodbye!

PatriciaCh: thanks ...

PatriciaCh: bye

BJB2 . o O (was so excited to see you log in I forgot to say that ;-))

BillBe joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Bill!

PatriciaCh: maybe map skills?

PatriciaCh: hello

BillBe: hi BJ!

BJB2: oh, good idea, Pat

PatriciaCh: welcome

BJB2: we're about done here, Bill. The topic was Math and Literature

PatriciaCh: map skills and measurement should be good and write a story that goes with it

BillBe: thank you, sorry to be so late, took me a long time to find my way here too

BJB2: Pat has some information under featured items

PatriciaCh: where do you teach?

BillBe: wanted to see this one too!

BillBe: Patricia, I facilitate at KnowPlace.ca

PatriciaCh: We didn't have that many participants

BillBe: too bad

PatriciaCh: What is KnowPlace?

BillBe: online teaching with Moodle

BillBe: more than a teacher I am a career developer/software guy hybrid

PatriciaCh: today's day chat is about using books to illustrate or model math in the classroom

PatriciaCh: so you are the jack of all trades

BJB2: all the information Pat shared is on featured items...links and files

BJB2: and we also discussed Dianne de Las Casas' book Tangram Tales

PatriciaCh: I like Greg Tang for elementary level kids

PatriciaCh: Shel Silverstein is great for older students

PatriciaCh: A great book to read to the kids is the Math Curse ... and there is a companion book for science as well

BillBe: I am interested in how teaching literary ideas can be applied to supporting job seekers in understanding their own stories--that's the connection

BillBe: I studied math for several years at university

BillBe: it bothers me that people feel they have no aptitude based on difficulties with arithmetic or some other early studies

BillBe: there are so many other areas of mathematics that they might be good at

PatriciaCh: the "I stink at math" syndrome

BillBe: yup

BillBe: is this about that?

BJB2: Usually that attitude is because the teacher isn't differentiating the lessons

PatriciaCh: indirectly we teach the younger kids

BillBe: making it clear that it's geometry or topology or something else?

PatriciaCh: as BJ states ...we try to differentiate

PatriciaCh: we can use other types of illustration to make a concept clearer or allowed them to make the connection

BillBe: how do you do that? is it in the featured items?

BJB2: kind of like what you want to do, Bill...find different ways for people to tell their stories...

BillBe: really important

BJB2: . o O (each person learns in their own way)

BillBe: and different things

BillBe: Pat, are you going to do this one again?

PatriciaCh: Cindy Neuschwander - she writes about math concepts

BillBe: on the 'net?

PatriciaCh: but it is in a story format

PatriciaCh: it is a series of a books

PatriciaCh: I will do this again ...in the fall

BillBe: I'm quite absent-minded, will try to be here for it

PatriciaCh: check the calendar

BJB2: for the next Math Transformers Pat is going to do map skills

BillBe: easy for you to say!

PatriciaCh: everyone learns differently

BJB2: also a good story building topic

BJB2: join this group and Pat will send a reminder about the next meeting

PatriciaCh: and everyone teaches differently ...

BJB2 . o O (hint hint, Pat ;-))

BillBe: I'll see if I can find Neuschwander

PatriciaCh: I need to learn how to do that

PatriciaCh: talking about forgetfulness

PatriciaCh: senioritis

BillBe: I did when I was wandering around

BJB2 hugs Pat. Think healthy thoughts!

BJB2: cool, Bill!

BJB2 . o O (now you HAVE to remember, Pat)

BillBe: hehehe

PatriciaCh: I will ..thanks ..but seriously ... do I just send an email to everyone?

BJB2: all you have to do is log in, come to this room, select DISCUSSION from the blue menu under Welcome

BJB2: and post a new topic

PatriciaCh: ok

BJB2: that post will go to all the members of the group

BillBe: when you say it it sounds easy

PatriciaCh: you got that right

BJB2 . o O (it is when you've done it a couple hundred times!)

BJB2: gotta head for the K-3 discussion

PatriciaCh: good night

BJB2: take care of yourself, Pat...hope you feel better

BillBe: speaking of good thoughts, see happier.com

BillBe: thank you ladies!