

Title of Session: Math Resources K-20+
Moderator: BJ Berquist and Susan Roseman
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Room: Math Resources K-20 Group

NadyaB joined the room.

BJB2: welcome, Nadya

BJB2: here for Math Resources?

NadyaB: yes

BJB2: great. Jeff should be here shortly

NadyaB: ok

NadyaB: exactly what are doing

BJB2: when Jeff gets here, we'll discuss what topics you're interested in

NadyaB: Oh

BJB2: he usually tries to match his resources to the needs of the participants

NadyaB: ok

AnnPa joined the room.

BJB2 glues Ann's shoes to the virtual floor

AnnPa: haha hopefully that works

BJB2: fortunately, Ann, Jeff isn't here yet.

AnnPa: that works out well

BJB2: He should be here shortly...

BJB2: but if he's not, I'll show you around

BJB2: Let's start with some simple stuff...

AnnPa: I'm ready

NadyaB: So am I

BJB2: go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select Larger Text

BJB2: that will make it easier for you to read the chat and still see the screen above this chat

NadyaB: I don't see it

AnnPa: nice and big now

NadyaB: Ok

BJB2: above this chat you should see a welcome to math resources note

BJB2: . o O (Ann, if you are concerned you will lose your connection, don't do this)

AnnPa: okay I think I'll skip it

NadyaB: I see it

BJB2: the directions will be in your transcript so you can try later

BJB2: if you scroll down on that welcome note you see the sentence This is the group room for Math Resources K-20+

BJB2: there is a green i in that sentence

BJB2: click on the green i

BJB2: Nadya, you should then see the group ID page

BJB2: at the top of the page is Join this group

BJB2: select that, please

BJB2: when you have successfully joined the group select Room View at the top of your screen

BJB2: room view will bring you back to the welcome screen you saw when you entered the room

BJB2: joining the group does a couple things...

BJB2: the group is added to the drop down favorite places menu in the top right of your screen next to the Go! button

NadyaB: I am done joining the group

BJB2: did you click on room view at the top of your screen then?

NadyaB: yes I am back to the welcome page

BJB2: great.

BJB2: now look at the drop down menu in the top right next to the Go button

BJB2: you will see that this group has automatically been added to that menu

NadyaB: yes

BJB2: joining a group also allows you to communicate with all the members of the group by using the threaded discussion board...

SusanR joined the room.

BJB2: so if you had a question or concern and didn't want to wait until the next real time text chat, you could post your q to the discussion board

BJB2: Hi, Sue!

SusanR : Hi Bj

SusanR : Hi Nadya

BJB2: no Jeff. I was just showing Nadya and Ann how to join the group

NadyaB: Hi Susan

BJB2: we haven't even done introductions yet

BJB2: guess we should start there!

BJB2: please tell Sue and me where you are located and what you teach

SusanR : I am Sue from Ottawa, ON. I moderate the K to 3+ great resources sessions here

BJB2: I'm a retired teacher in Pennsylvania

SusanR . o O (also retired but still sub)

AnnPa: I'm from NY. I'm currently working on my Masters in Education. Not teaching just yet.

NadyaB: I am a bachelor graduate on Middle Math and Social Studies, taking my masters, not teaching yet

NadyaB: from Ohio, Cleveland

BJB2: what grades do you hope to teach, Ann?

AnnPa: high school, most likely

SusanR: do you have any particular favourite math resources?

AnnPa: I don't think I know any. Anyone else?

SusanR: either in print or web based

BJB2: well, you've hit the mother load here in this group room

NadyaB: I am not sure what are math resources, how are they different from other resources

SusanR: any reources that can support or extend or enhance your students' learning or your teaching

BJB2: Usually, in Tapped in we focus on using online resources to engage students in applying math.

BJB2 . o O (and what Sue said)

SusanR: thanks Bj

NadyaB: This is my first time in Tapped In, part of a class

BJB2: what I recommend you do is look in this room at the Featured Items

SusanR: well welcome

BJB2 . o O (you can do this too, Ann)

AnnPa: how about brainpop.com? is that considered a math resource?

BJB2: I'm going to put this in your transcript

BJB2: <http://www.univie.ac.at/future.media/moe/index.html>

SusanR: absolutely

BJB2: I've gone through some of Jeff's resources and that one works and looks interesting

AnnPa: interesting, lots of stuff here

BJB2 looks at some transcripts for some other resources. Since you're taking classes, are you taking classes that show you how to integrate tech into the curriculum?

AnnPa: I have one class right now that is all about that

NadyaB: not this semester, I did general course in tech last semester but not math specific

BJB2: a no frills site, which is excellent for math problem solving... this is a "no fun" site: <http://www.mathway.com>

SusanR: I am curious. What's the current thoughts about tech integration?

BJB2: mathway gives you step by step problem solving all the way up to calculus

BJB2: www.hotmath.com also solves problems for students

NadyaB: I like that I just took my math Praxis and this seems to be a great resource even for me as a teacher

BJB2: <http://www.coolmath.com/> has some fun stuff

SusanR: Ann, Nadya... we have been talking about tech infusion for the last 10 years ..what are your views

BJB2: from the transcript: sometimes I go to coolmath before I present an Alg II lesson for some additional ideas on how to present a lesson-

SusanR: or the perceptions of your profs

NadyaB: mostly positive, but must be directed and closely watched by the teacher to make sure that the resources are age appropriate.

BJB2: one suggestion in using the tech is to use the online resources to reinforce lessons....

BJB2: perhaps assign a group of sites to different groups or teams and have them report back on their usefulness

NadyaB: Also, I have recently learned that many areas that have student communication sites, my space, is not engaging students but it seems that those are the sites they are using

BJB2 cheers for the persistent Ann

SusanR: I am concerned about the increased use of advertising on many sites

NadyaB: yes, they do not seem to be age regulated

BJB2: real life problems...renting an apartment, cooking a meal, planning a menu, buying groceries can all be great lessons

NadyaB: also more concerned with fashion not moral or education

BJB2 . o O (if the students are really engaged in the assignment, one hopes they will focus on the work and not on the ads...but I do understand what you face)

NadyaB: I agree it seems that today's children have no clue how to do simple things such as cooking or taking care of them selves

BJB2: working a budget, buying clothes, etc

SusanR: they are talking about introducing financial literacy

SusanR: into the school system

BJB2: yes, they are, Sue! Especially after this banking crisis

SusanR: indeed

NadyaB: however, the accounting classes we used to have should be appropriate too, so are they going to take financing through the internet seriously

BJB2: I'm not sure I understand your comment, Nadya?

NadyaB: sorry, it just seems that this is not a new problem

BJB2: financial literacy has to come from the schools

NadyaB: When I was in school we had several classes in accounting, budgeting and marketing

BJB2: I'm not sure how many schools include that any more in their curriculum

NadyaB: if we are not making the right impression in the schools how are we going to reach them better through the internet

BJB2: and if it is offered, is it done in a way that engages the students and is real to them?

NadyaB: oh, that is a shame

BJB2: the only advantage to using online resources is that it tends to engage the students more effectively...it's not the internet, it's the lessons

BJB2: I think you bring up an important discussion topic, Nadya

BJB2: you can't just plug kids into a computer and expect them to learn

NadyaB: I see, it just seems that as long as this kids are in the internet that is the only way they can learn

SusanR: <http://www.coolmath-games.com/0-poolgeometry/index.html> .. how does this one fit ..it was presented and discussed last week

NadyaB: what happened to communicating with each other, group work, parental support

NadyaB: I like that site, it is fun but math related

BJB2: that is needed more than ever, Nadya...but the kids have to be taught how to collaborate as a group

SusanR: I do see a lot of collaborating and pen and pencil tasks as well

SusanR: with the use of rubrics etc

NadyaB: sorry I am very opinionated

BJB2 nods...maybe a newsletter written by the students on the "state of the classroom"

BJB2: opinions are good ;-)

BJB2: or "state of the school"have the students publish something...

SusanR: collaborating along with solitary quiet assignments

NadyaB: interesting and engaging

BJB2: need an editor, publisher, someone to sell ads, someone to take photos

SusanR: just one minute .. I have something

NadyaB: it uses multimedia tools and forces them to be involved

BJB2: token economy...include salaries

BJB2: or a global project based lesson

BJB2: collaborate between two schools

BJB2 waits for Sue

NadyaB: yes, I want to try that one it seemed extremely involving for students and they can see for them selves how other views can be beneficial

BJB2: yep. You might want to participate in the next Global Project Based Learning discussion

BJB2 . o O (May 28)

SusanR:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxYhLDHC1VM&feature=player_embedded

SusanR: let me know what you think

BJB2: cute

NadyaB: very cute and thought provoking

SusanR: what grade would she be in?

NadyaB: 3rd I think

SusanR: yes I thought so

NadyaB: it is hard to place them, these kids grow up so fast emotionally and physically

BJB2: this one is good also in that it illustrates that technology is more than computers

BJB2: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39Up1f0lmOA&feature=related>

NadyaB: I cannot open it

BJB2: have you minimized a screen?

NadyaB: no it is in a different tab

BJB2: you tube has a ton of 21st Century Learning videos.

BJB2: part of the purpose of using tech is that the students take ownership of their own learning...and become a participant

BJB2: are you starting to get an idea of what Tapped In members try to do in this community?

NadyaB: I think it is important for a teacher to keep focused on the present way students learn and interact, not keep in the past when that teacher was a learner in school

BJB2: very true!

BJB2: and how do students learn?

NadyaB: through various strategies, resources, hands on activities, personally relevant materials and peer interaction

BJB2: excellent list, Nadya.

NadyaB: thanks, but I hope I keep that list in mind when I am teaching

SusanR: well said

BJB2: and what are employers looking for from new employees?

BJB2: or communities looking for from their citizens?

NadyaB: a teacher that can hook the students, be computer proficient, and make the test results

BJB2: and what about team work, independent learner, collaborative, socially proficient

BJB2: . o O (problem solvers)

BJB2: good citizen

BJB2: shuts up

BJB2: I just wanted to point out that the issue is much deeper than it appears. We are preparing young people to be the leaders of our country.

NadyaB: It seems to be the things such as those are viewed as given, but when does the teacher have the time, reinforcement, and the funds to put into affect when all they see is if the students can pass the state tests

BJB2 nods sadly....we try to avoid discussing the state tests...for two reasons...

BJB2: one, we've been through it before...the cycle of education...

NadyaB: oh yes

BJB2: and two, some educators are learning that you can "teach to the test" in new and different ways. You don't have to have work sheets. There are other creative solutions

NadyaB: ok, how about what are we trying to teach our students in a nation that is a service country without any real jobs, the sad things is they don't seem to care as long as the fashion, and comfort is still here

SusanR: The creative teacher can work around these challenges

BJB2: I think Sue and I have seen it all in our years with working with educators in Tapped In...

BJB2: if the teacher can engage the kids, they'll do the learning. A great example is the Learning From Lyrics discussions

NadyaB: I am trying to learn about those new strategies and activities, but I fear that practice will make those sessions more affective, I guess I just want to be teaching students not just covering material

BJB2: the guy who leads Learning from Lyrics uses popular song lyrics to have his kids discuss social issues and develop values

NadyaB: I am thought from the old way from my country, memorization was the key, I am not too creative in my own.

BJB2: stick with us, Nadya! I've learned so much by participating in the Tapped In discussions

BJB2: well, I think the Math Resources discussion is finished, Nadya. I hope you found some of the information we shared of value to you.

NadyaB: Thanks it was interesting and fun, I will try to take the session you suggested earlier for May 28

BJB2: Ann had some connection problems. Nadya has been a trooper

SusanR: an intimate session

NadyaB: they have been very nice and troopers themselves

JeffC: the FWISD people are having to deal with TAKS testing in math... I'll have them guest speak next month perhaps.

NadyaB: sorry about the testing reference, I know never to mention it in Tapped In

BJB2 grins...just never in front of Jeff!

NadyaB: I will keep that in mind

BJB2: any questions, Nadya?

BJB2 . o O (you know how to look at the calendar?)

JeffC: nah... mention it all you wish... I (along with most) just hate them!

NadyaB: No thanks again have a good week, I hope you feel better later Jeff

SusanR: here is what is making the rounds in our neck of the woods

SusanR:

<http://www.ottawacitizen.com/news/High+school+teachers+sound+alarm+over+policies/1551137/story.html>

JeffC: thanks Nadya

SusanR: in terms of education

NadyaB: bye, thanks Susan

SusanR: check out the no fail policy

NadyaB: what

SusanR: beside photo