

Title of Session: Next Vista for Learning - Powerful Tools for MM Projects

Moderator: Rushton Hurley

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Room: Next Vista for Learning Group

SusanR joined the room.

JeffC joined the room.

RushtonH: Hi Susan!

BjB : Hi, Sue and welcome back, Jeff!

SusanR : Hi **BjB** and company

RushtonH: Sue, this may be a free one-to-one tutoring session for you.

RushtonH: That's not a bad thing, of course.

SusanR : oh my gosh

RushtonH: Quality, not quantity.

BjB : ran across a new ning that you may find interesting <http://mcpopmb.ning.com/>

BjB . o O (which is totally off the subject..sorry, Rushton)

RushtonH: Regardless, I'm thinking it's time to present wildly cool material to Susan who may also go by Sue, given BJ's earlier message.

RushtonH: Susan - do you prefer Sue or Susan or Yonder Teacher or what?

SusanR : Sue Susan Suzie ..

RushtonH: Okay Sue Susan Suzie, let's start!

RushtonH: Sue, the last time you were in one of my sessions (I think I'm remembering it right that you have been), what did we cover?

RushtonH: If you don't remember, I won't be offended, by the way. 8^)

SusanR : good gosh are you asking me to remember !!!

RushtonH chuckles

SusanR: I attended your illuminate session as did Bj

RushtonH: Got it! Did you enjoy it?

SusanR: marvelous

BjB: the last Next Vista was in March and you were at CUE

RushtonH bows humbly

RushtonH: Let's launch forward with some stuff I have for today, but if at some point you prefer to concentrate on something specific, just say so.

RushtonH: Sound good to everyone?

BjB: "What I'm going to focus on to begin with is how to effectively grab and cite copyright-friendly pictures for projects."

BjB . o O (from the transcript)

RushtonH: Sue, does that sound good to you?

RushtonH: She may have swooned.

BjB laughs

SusanR: cool and I would love some great interactive sites for K to 3 students

BjB: sounds good to me, Rushton

RushtonH: Cool. I'll launch some prepared stuff, and be thinking about the K-3 idea as we move forward.

RushtonH: My name is Rushton Hurley, and I'm the founder of NextVista.org, an honorable and highly non-profit save-the-world effort. I also teach Japanese language to endlessly interesting teens in Santa Clara, California.

BjB . o O (Sue leads the twice monthly K to 3 Resources in TI, Rushton)

RushtonH: Sue, where are you from? Jeff and BJ, feel free to introduce yourself as well.

JeffC: hmmm... thought we knew each other by now!

BjB: I'm on Tapped In helpdesk and am located in Pennsylvania

SusanR: I am swooning!!

RushtonH laughs

BjB grins...Sue is also an actress!

SusanR: I am in Ottawa, Ontario Canada eh

RushtonH: It's pretty exciting to know someone is in Pennsylvania, after all.

RushtonH: Welcome, O International One.

JeffC: I'm with the CIA, in Langley, and have been infiltrating this site for over 12 years.

SusanR: background performer as a hobby

BjB rolls her eyes

RushtonH: Music background?

SusanR: was on a movie set that was supposed to be located in Pennsylvania

RushtonH: Knowing that we have CIA in the room, we'll know to be careful about all background comments.

RushtonH: Today I want to introduce you to some tools I've created to help people learn on their own to make multimedia pieces, whether that's audio podcasts (slightly redundant thing to say), slideshow videos (videos made solely from still pictures), or simple videos using real footage. For all these things, I'm focusing on using freely available software, as I think it's cool to use tools to which students have easy access.

RushtonH: At the end of this session, if you want to get my multi-page document of cool and free resources (most of them are free, anyway), just go to <http://nextvista.org/newsletter> and fill in a little info for me. The Next Vista newsletter only goes out about once a month or so, and it's info, not discussion, so I promise it won't explode in your inbox.

RushtonH: Also, I should mention I'm a Google Certified Teacher, and they just announced the next Google Teacher Academy, so if that interests you, sign out.

RushtonH: The site which will get us going is one I'm using to build some review resources for a course I'm helping teach for Long Island University, hence the "LIU". My intention is to add more to this page, though when I'll make that happen is anyone's guess. (Like many teachers, I find ways to stay too busy.)

SusanR: for Canadians!!

RushtonH: Anyone around the world can join.

RushtonH: You just have to be able to get yourself to Colorado in early August.

RushtonH: I'd say it's worth it, though. The quality of the discussion on the GCT list is fantastic.

RushtonH: I should say, anyone in the world can apply.

RushtonH: The competition isn't light, but that you're from Canada might well be an advantage.

RushtonH: BJ and Jeff, have you considered the Google thing? You should, if you haven't.

BjB: google thing?

RushtonH: Google Certified Teacher program

JeffC: well... I've looked at it

BjB: ahhh...right. I'm retired so I don't have to learn anything any more!

JeffC: I think it's limited to enrollment... and I'm not a regular classroom teacher anymore.

SusanR: I am going to NECC in June; won't be able to go to Colorado

JeffC: good point Bj!

RushtonH: They're more interested in people who have reach - people who can help other teachers better understand the powerful of Google's and other free tools for teaching and learning.

RushtonH: Some direction - more on the Google thing, or back to copyright-friendly stuff?

BjB: Google tools are pretty powerful....did you want to share more on that?

RushtonH: I certainly can. Sue, do you have a preference?

SusanR: Google tools are fine

RushtonH: What do you already know about Google's applications?

SusanR : Google tools for the K to 3 audience???

RushtonH : I've got a great idea for that (I think it's great, anyway) - get ready for some fast typing on my part.

BjB gets out the bowl of ice water for Rushton's fingers

SusanR : There are too many ..and will they be here forever

RushtonH : I'd suggest having K-3 teachers use the Advanced Search feature off the main Google.com page, and then limit results to a particular filetype (PPT, for example). That way, teachers can find presentations already made and available online for whatever topic interests them. Is this something you'd like to explore now?

SusanR : yes!

RushtonH : Go to: http://www.google.com/advanced_search?hl=en

RushtonH : Sue, next move coming up!

SusanR : yep I am there

SusanR : on the advanced page

RushtonH : Do you see where it says, "File type:"?

RushtonH : There, choose "Microsoft Powerpoint" from the drop down menu that appears.

RushtonH : After that, type, "Taj Mahal" in the "all these words" search field at the top, and click on the "Advanced Search" button.

RushtonH : Are you with me so far?

RushtonH : What you have now is a set of results that point to Power Point files you may download. Note the results may be from a school district, as in the second one (fte.eanes.k12.tx.us/Gallery%20Greats/08-09/3rd%20-%20Moghul%20India.ppt)

BjB nods

RushtonH : <http://fte.eanes.k12.tx.us/Gallery%20Greats/08-09/3rd%20-%20Moghul%20India.ppt>

RushtonH : Click on that one and tell us what happens.

BjB looks at the ppt

RushtonH: It isn't a perfect fit for K-3 in terms of the text, but you do have a PPT that has loads of good pictures for telling stories. You'd just change the text to what fits for you, add a citation at the end, and explain to the kids that someone in Texas made this, and that you want them to know that you were able to borrow it and change it for them. Can't start too early, teaching citation.

RushtonH: Kind of nice to have a good resource with only a few seconds of searching.

RushtonH: Thoughts?

RushtonH: Everyone sees how I knew it was a Texas creation, yes?

BjB nods

RushtonH: I'll move on to a thought on another Google tool when everyone is ready - just let me know!

JeffC: be sure when doing Google searches in K-12 to have the preferences set to "safe search"... it **should** be done on a district IT level (but rarely is).

JeffC thinks we should continue this discussion in the "Google" room here at some point.

SusanR: can't seem to find the drop down menu on the search page

RushtonH: My thinking on this front is that teachers find ready-made resources they like and bring them in. I'm way suspicious of doing any searching in front of students.

RushtonH: Sue, are you at <http://google.com>?

SusanR: sorry got it

SusanR: great tip, Rushton

SusanR: worth attending this session

RushtonH: Next, we'll look at <http://maps.google.com/> and focus in on how detailed it can be. Go there, and type Ontario, Canada, then click on the "Search Maps" button.

SusanR: yes

RushtonH: You can now put "Blackburn and Templeton in Ottawa, ON, Canada" in the search field and you'll see a pretty detailed area. The message to the kids could be that this is useful for learning about the area of town where (for example) a zoo is, but it's not a good idea to put your address on a web site where people might come to your house.

RushtonH: Make sense?

RushtonH: You might have to zoom in to the next to last setting (using '+').

SusanR nods

RushtonH: Sue, are you familiar with Google Docs?

SusanR: yes, I am

SusanR: super tip again

SusanR: I may never go to sleep this evening

RushtonH: Using Presentations to create good resources collaboratively with other K-3 teachers is a great thing for a group to do to create great stuff as part of a team.

SusanR nods and listens intently

RushtonH: Imagine getting a partner teacher in another part of the world to put pictures of something your kids are studying up for you, with their own words describing it.

SusanR: good grief .. I am so excited to share this

RushtonH: You can also use <http://voicethread.com> to do the same thing, but with the teacher's voice (and students' voices, too) telling about it.

SusanR: yes

RushtonH: That would capture kiddos' attention.

RushtonH: They could do the same thing for the partner school, of course.

SusanR: do you have any voicethread examples to share

RushtonH: Give me a sec, and I'll grab one.

SusanR: and will you be doing another elluminate session on this very topic

RushtonH: Go to <http://voicethread.com/share/196527/> and tell me if you can see what some other teachers and I did when we were learning to use this last fall.

SusanR: neat ..watches again

RushtonH: These are easy to do, though the free version has some limitations.

RushtonH: I don't remember exactly what they are, but I think it has to do with how long they can be, and how many you can have - that kind of thing.

SusanR: I did a voicethread ..trying to locate my password

RushtonH: Cool. Sue, we've only got a few more minutes, so let me point you to one more thing to share with your K-3 colleagues.

RushtonH: In terms of sharing cool multimedia, let me also point out what I mentioned at the front end of the session: <http://sites.google.com/site/educationalvideoliu/>

RushtonH: The main page has three links currently, and I'll make more (some day).

SusanR: <http://voicethread.com/?#u17669.b38380.i201394>

RushtonH: Got a message saying I don't have access.

SusanR: hmm

RushtonH: There are options when you make them about who can see them, which would fix that, though.

SusanR: will do

RushtonH: On the <http://sites.google.com/site/educationalvideoliu/> page, the idea is to give my students an assignment, but if you were interested, I could create something similar for folks generally.

RushtonH: The tools are still valuable, I'm hoping.

SusanR: looking for K to 3 applications <http://voicethread4education.wikispaces.com/K-2>

RushtonH: If folks are interested in it, please have them contact me at rh@nextvista.org.

BjB: wow! that was a fast hour, Rushton!

SusanR: will do

SusanR: Will you be presenting at NECC?

RushtonH: Might be a problem, now that I think about it, if people who aren't in the class starting posting responses to my LIU blog. 8^)

RushtonH: I will be at NECC, presenting on video tools and the like.

RushtonH: Have you been to DC before?

BjB: cool....Sue and I will both be there, Rushton!

SusanR: about 10 years ago

BjB: maybe we can meet f2f

RushtonH: BJ, I'm totally jazzed that we can kick back and talk life, the universe and ed-tech together!

SusanR: mm love to meet f2f

RushtonH: Do you guys know what day you'll get in?

BjB: I'll get in on Sunday

RushtonH: More to the point, will you be there Sunday afternoon?

SusanR: on the 28th of June

SusanR: Sunday evening I believe ..booking a flight this weekend or so

BjB: I can work on getting there by Sunday afternoon....will have to get up before my normal 10am time though

RushtonH: That afternoon I'm manning some sort of poster in one of the SIG sessions.

RushtonH: It might be a great time to meet and get our bearings, if you're there early enough.

SusanR: I will be in Montreal until Sunday..so I will drive back to Ottawa and then on to the airport

RushtonH: Contact me via e-mail, and we'll find a time to get together and share thoughts. Is there already something for TI folks in the planning?

BjB: nothing formal being planned yet, but it would be fun!

RushtonH: Gathering around morning coffee, perhaps - that would avoid conflicts with everything happening at night.

RushtonH: Welcome back, Jeff - we were just making fun of you, but in a loving way.

JeffC: anyhow... taking the kids out to dinner... suggests having this group collaborate

with the Google group here.

BjB: gotta get to the Teaching Teachers discussion. Thanks, Rushton. I'll be in touch

RushtonH: Thanks for coming, everyone!