

Title of Session: Beyond Penguins and Polar Bears - Polar Oceans

Moderator: Kimberly Lightle

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KimberlySL: Toni - why don't you tell us a little bit about yourself?

KimberlySL: I'm a science educator at Ohio State University - I work with K-12 preservice and inservice science teachers

BJB2: I'm on Tapped In helpdesk and always enjoy Kimberly's discussions. I ALWAYS learn lots of new things! I'm in Pennsylvania

KimberlySL: Aw shucks

ToniM: The magazine looks wonderful. I'm finishing my masters degree in el. ed. I got a BA in Biology in 1972.

KimberlySL: wonderful - this is definitely for you

KimberlySL: Well - let's get started

<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=May2009> - this is going to be home base

ToniM: I am currently living in Northern VA.

KimberlySL: most of the URLs are so large it's easier just to go to the homepage and click from there

BJB2: Toni, you may need to hold down the ctrl key when you click on the url

BJB2 . o O (ctrl overrides pop up blockers)

KimberlySL: Polar Oceans is our 14th issue - each one has its own science theme and literacy strategy

KimberlySL: there are five departments with the same columns in each department

KimberlySL: I thought we would first look at the science content knowledge article under the professional learning department

KimberlySL: Click on the article and look at the titles that describe the Arctic and Antarctica

KimberlySL: What's the biggest difference between the two areas?

CarolineH joined the room.

BJB2: hi, Caroline. Welcome

CarolineH: Hi folks. I'm Caroline Hall with the ComPADRE digital library.

KimberlySL: Hi Caroline - glad you could join us!

KimberlySL: The question is what is [the biggest] difference between Arctic Ocean and the Southern Oceans

BJB2: I never thought of the Arctic ocean as being surrounded by land

KimberlySL: me either!

KimberlySL: The term Southern Ocean was new to me also

KimberlySL: In the science content knowledge article there is a beautiful image that looks like a marble

KimberlySL: It shows the currents that flow in the Southern Ocean

BJB2: interesting how the currents/flow is so different

KimberlySL: the energy that is generated in the storms in the Southern Ocean are storms that hit the US

BJB2: how are you doing, Toni? Did you catch up, Caroline?

CarolineH: It took me awhile to get into the right magazine issue. I'm there now.

ToniM: Where is the image of the Southern Ocean's currents ? I see the Arctic ocean currents>

KimberlySL: Sorry Caroline - we are at the current issue and looking at the science content knowledge article

KimberlySL: Look at the blue marble image - second image from the bottom

BJB2: keep scrolling down, Toni

CarolineH: I'm there.

KimberlySL: So we have the Arctic Ocean - water surrounded by land and the Southern Ocean water surrounding land

KimberlySL: actually a continent

KimberlySL: they are very different

BJB2: remarkable!

ToniM: got it

KimberlySL: I thought we could next look at misconceptions that students (and people) have of oceans

BJB2 . o O (I'd like to know how storms in the southern oceans effect the US?)

KimberlySL: Go back to the home page
<http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/issue/index.php?date=May2009> and click on the article Misconceptions

KimberlySL: (they affect us a lot!)

KimberlySL: scroll down to the tables and look at both columns - do you have any of the same thoughts?

KimberlySL: I can see where people get lots of these ideas - it's from all those images drawn in textbooks

BJB2: I usually don't think of all the oceans as being one big system

ToniM: Why is blue light scattered the most?

BJB2 . o O (short rays?)

CarolineH: I didn't know ocean salinity varied so much.

KimberlySL: Caroline can probably answer this better than me - but blue does have the shortest wavelength

KimberlySL: sounds like a question for Ask Jeeves

BJB2 . o O (duh...wavelength was the word I meant...not rays)

KimberlySL: made sense to me!

KimberlySL: every issue covers the misconceptions that students might have and then

provides ideas for uncovering those misconceptions

KimberlySL: before we go to another department let's go back to the homepage and click on literacy content knowledge

KimberlySL: the strategy for this issue is active engagement of students - covert and overt

KimberlySL: this literacy strategy is highlighted throughout the issue and is usually paired with the feature story

KimberlySL: I'm not a English/language arts person but even this makes sense to me!

BJB2 smiles. As a classroom teacher, what do you think, Toni?

KimberlySL: I thought we would go ahead and look at this month's feature story - A Whale of an Ocean

ToniM: I'm already there.

KimberlySL: We write informational text for grades K-1, 2-3, and 4-5 for each issue

KimberlySL: Glad you came back!

KimberlySL: Go ahead and click on Feature Story or Whale of a Tale

CarolineH: Yes, Kim, blue has the shortest wavelength of the colors on the visible spectrum.

KimberlySL: Scroll down on the page - you'll first see the text, then the printable book files, and then the ebook files. click on one of the ebooks and let the computer read it to you

BJB2: really nice for struggling readers

CarolineH: Yep. I'm there. This is a fabulous resource!

KimberlySL: I sure hope so!

KimberlySL: I clicked on the k-1 book - I can click on the fish icon to turn the pages and the play button to have the computer read it to me

CarolineH: I believe this is the type of resource that is highly engaging to students. I taught middle school. Is there an elementary school teacher who could weigh in on this?

BJB2 looks at Toni

KimberlySL: Caroline - we've had lots of elementary teachers piloting the materials and they have been very positive

ToniM: I clicked on k-1 but don't see fish icon or anyway to play audio

KimberlySL: the book for the last issue was really gross - bot flies laying eggs in the noses of caribou

BJB2: I like that the child has control over how fast to turn the pages and listen to the audio again if needed

BJB2: Toni, did you click on the electronic version? There is a play button in the top right

KimberlySL: good point - the glossary words can also be read and repeated

ToniM: dah! got it

BJB2: and the fish is at the bottom right (or left if you want to go back)

BJB2: I want to be born again and start school all over! This is so cool!

CarolineH: Would a typical elementary school classroom have sufficient internet connectivity to allow kids to do this in class?

KimberlySL: the 2-3 books don't have a fish - they have a something else - and the 4-5 books have another logo

KimberlySL: but they are laid out the same

ToniM: This is very cool.

KimberlySL: sticking with literature - lets go back to the home page and click on Virtual Bookshelf

KimberlySL: we recommend children's books that you can get in your school library

KimberlySL: In the department Science and Literacy you'll see a department call Lessons and Activities - there are lots of activities to do with the feature story and the children's stories

BJB2 checks to see if Caroline and Toni found the bookshelf?

ToniM: I'm there

KimberlySL: we've had teachers take these lists to their media specialists and asked

them to buy the books for their libraries too

CarolineH: Yeah, and it looks like a great bibliography. Am I supposed to be able to click on the book and actually see it online? I guess I was thinking so, but I can't seem to do it.

KimberlySL: no - these are just the book covers

KimberlySL: they are all print books

KimberlySL: You can see that we've skipped lots of articles... but lets click on Researcher Stories

ToniM: Oh, that this was available for science topics!!

ToniM: make that ALL science topics

CarolineH: I am impressed with how comprehensive this magazine is.

KimberlySL: That would be great - we got funded to do 20 issues (from NSF) - I'm hoping that they fund us to do more too

KimberlySL: if you click on the header link that says Archive - you'll be able to see all the issues

ToniM: Is there anything one can do to promote this?

BJB2: send your colleagues to the monthly TI Beyond Polar Bears and Penguins discussions!

KimberlySL: that too!

KimberlySL: we are doing everything we can to get the word out - do you have any colleagues that you could share it with?

KimberlySL: I wanted to point out that the magazine is available in 12 languages (in the header)

BJB2: Caroline, how did you learn about Penguins and Polar Bears?

KimberlySL: and that podcasts are amazing

CarolineH: I can share it with a few folks at BEN. Maybe they could highlight it in some way. I will also make sure that Cathy Ezrailson and John Stewart know about it for their preservice teachers in Arkansas and S.D.

KimberlySL: and that all the feature stories are available in the header link - Stories for Students

KimberlySL: Caroline - that would be wonderful

ToniM: Yes I do. Also know 2 science methods professors at George Mason Univ. that I think would be extremely interested.

CarolineH: Oh, to answer the question: I am one of the editors of The Physics Front digital library collection for teachers of physical science and high school physics. I have known about MS Portal for some time.....you might say I've been an admirer from afar.

KimberlySL: Wonderful - you can always get in touch with me at lightle.16@osu.edu

BJB2: cool, Caroline

ToniM: I didn't notice, but can a classroom access more than one language for ESL students?

BJB2: Kimberly leads a monthly discussion for MSP too...

BJB2 . o O (Monday, May 11)

KimberlySL: yes - go to the change language link click on it - pick a language and then click the return to Beyond Penguins

CarolineH: OK, guys, I have to relieve a babysitter. This was so much fun! I will share it with the people mentioned and any more I can think of. Ciao.

BJB2 waves bye...thanks, Caroline

KimberlySL: Thanks Caroline - talk to you very soon!

CarolineH left the room (signed off).

BJB2: Kimberly, do you want to schedule for June?

BJB2 . o O (first Wednesday is June 3)

KimberlySL: Sure - June 3 will work just fine

BJB2: great. Thanks

ToniM: Pardon the ignorance, but what is msp?

KimberlySL: Toni - the feature stories aren't translated because they are on a different

server but we hope that we will get funded to do that

BJB2: Middle School Portal

KimberlySL: It's my other project!

KimberlySL: msteacher2.org

BJB2 . o O (and in her spare time she eats and sleeps)

KimberlySL: we've just started a social network for middle school math and science teachers

KimberlySL: and we have lots of resources, blogs, wiki pages, Diigo lists, etc

BJB2: it's a ning, right?

KimberlySL: We even twitter - msportal2

KimberlySL: yes - it's a ning

ToniM: ok, what's a ning?

KimberlySL: it's a social networking platform that is free

KimberlySL: ELGG is another platform - LearnCentral is another

ToniM: and how can I access all your resources?

BJB2 . o O (Toni is a glutton for punishment!)

ToniM: Oh oh

KimberlySL: the middle school portal right now has resources spread across two websites - <http://msteacher.org> and <http://msteacher2.org>

BJB2: it's really difficult to keep up with EVERYTHING, Toni!

KimberlySL: you can get to everything from either one - eventually we'll get back to just one website

ToniM: This is too good to be true. You guys have done a lot of work here.

KimberlySL: thanks for saying that!

KimberlySL: I am trying to remember what the next issue of Beyond Penguins is but I

can't remember!

ToniM: When will the next issue be out?

KimberlySL: August 1 - right before teachers go back to school

KimberlySL: People of the Arctic is November's - I think

ToniM: Great! Will you be doing more of these TI sessions?

KimberlySL: we have a Beyond Penguins the first Thursday of every month and MSP is the second Monday of every month

BJB2: June 3 is the next one, Toni. And May 11 is the middle school portal

KimberlySL: MSP is next Monday at 7pm

ToniM: There's already so much here to look over. It's kind of overwhelming

KimberlySL: one thing is good - each issue is laid out the very same so pick an issue that you are interested in and go exploring!

KimberlySL: looks like it's time to wrap up

KimberlySL: any last questions?

BJB2: Thanks, Kimberly! Nice discussion

ToniM: Sounds like a good plan. Thanks again. Bye

KimberlySL: Bye - and please contact me if you have any questions or ideas for dissemination

KimberlySL: or outreach

KimberlySL: See you next month!

ToniM: see you then