

Title of Session: Math Resources K-20

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

Title of File: 20090707math

Date: July 7, 2009

Room: Math Resources K-20 Group

JeffC: We basically start with intros... why don't you tell me a bit about yourselves.

SusanaNC: Hi Jeff

JeffC: I'm on Tapped In Helpdesk and facilitate this group. I'm in Forest Grove Oregon, not a math teacher, but gather up what I can.

SusanaNC: Architect and teacher from Argentina

KatherineT: Hi I'm Kat. I am in grad school in Virginia getting my Masters of Education.

JeffC: what do (and will) both of you teach?

KatherineT: Elementary

SusanaNC: Because of the A Flu, schools are closed and we look for tools to use with our kids

SusanaNC: secondary

JeffC: ok... great!

JeffC: before I get you both to a few sites... I'd like to direct you to the top frame.

JeffC: at the end of the "Welcome" box is a little "i" in a green circle next to the link for this group.

JeffC: click either one of those to pull up this group's profile, then click the link to "join this group."

SusanaNC: I love Escher !!!

JeffC: that way you'll be able to post to Discussion, etc.

JeffC: yup!

JeffC: Escher is my favorite... very good for math and art too!

SusanR joined the room.

KatherineT: Okay great

JeffC: once you join the group, click the "Room View" button to return to the Welcome screen.

JeffC: scroll that down and I'll direct you to a link on the Whiteboard.

JeffC: tomorrow there's going to be a discussion on Elluminate on "Where's Math and Web 2.0"

JeffC: <http://sn.im/math2.0> is the link. if/when you click on links in chat here, be sure to *hold the Ctrl key down* or your popup blocker will log you out.

JeffC: you may also accept popups from Tapped In (best) or turn off your popup blocker.

SusanaNC: I clicked on the link and it opened another window

JeffC: Steve Hargadon will be leading a discussion on Elluminate tomorrow at 8p.m. Eastern. Great Susana... are you looking at the page too Katherine?

KatherineT: Yup

JeffC: the Elluminate login will be <http://tinyurl.com/futureofed>

SusanaNC: it's a Ning page

JeffC: yup

JeffC: there are a number of ning groups worth joining... Steve's Classroom 2.0 being one of them.

JeffC: and if I was omnipotent I'd have Steve here now to give you a preview.

JeffC: but for now... I'll just leave it at giving you that page.

JeffC: the next thing is to show you a few other sites... several of which are under "Featured Items: Links" in the top frame.

SusanaNC: thanks.

SusanR . o O (and you can follow her tweets at <http://twitter.com/MariaDroujkova>)

JeffC: one is <http://www.mathway.com> (currently not featured, but I'll have to change

that!).

JeffC: it allows students to put in math questions from simple addition up to calculus and receive step by step solutions.

KatherineT: Woww

SusanaNC: Great !!

JeffC gives Katherine and Susana a few minutes to play with mathway as well as review the "Where is Math 2.0" site.

SusanaNC: It's loading.

JeffC: no problem... take a few minutes.

KatherineT: That's pretty cool, but if students use this site, doesn't it just do their homework for them?

JeffC: I've had teachers argue that.

SusanR: my exact thoughts; the nature of homework will have to be modified

JeffC: the hope is that they will perhaps copy a few, but then start to see the light.

KatherineT: Yeah, it seems like one of those things that is great, if it's used correctly

JeffC: even copying the process will be an enlightenment... and... btw... kids copy each other's homework all the time.

JeffC: you have to modify how you teach.

KatherineT: True

JeffC: my son is bugging me to play catch with him now... but I have him going to mathway instead (for the moment anyway!).

JeffC: he's going into 4th grade next year.

KatherineT: Lol Does he use this site?

JeffC: tapped in? not yet

KatherineT: It would be great for catching up if he had to miss a day or two from school

KatherineT: Oh no I mean mathway

JeffC: or it would be one way to assign homework.

JeffC: forget about the packets

JeffC: send them to some cool math sites to do stuff.

JeffC: ever use <http://www.funbrain.com> ?

SusanaNC: yes

JeffC: ever give kids credit for it?

SusanaNC: is strongly visual for kids

JeffC: how about you Katherine?

SusanaNC: I'm having some troubles to open Mathway

KatherineT: I've never seen that before

KatherineT: But I love math games - MathBlaster used to be one of my faves

JeffC: try funbrain with your kids some time... and <http://www.yucky.com> for science.

SusanR . o O (recalls having her grade 2s play MathBlaster)

JeffC: btw... Susan here runs the K to 3+ Resources group, which is a must see (and join) for you Katherine.

SusanaNC: Do you think it's a good way to our students to check their solutions?

JeffC: she has a lot more math resources for the younger grades there than i have here.

JeffC: mathway? definitely

KatherineT: Oh yeah I joined K-3+ Resources when I first joined Tapped In

JeffC: great

KatherineT: Uhhh boys would certainly love yucky.com!

SusanaNC: Yeah

JeffC: yup! well... some girls too!

SusanaNC: but when I tried to ask a question, Wendel said he was too busy...

SusanaNC: hi there!

SusanaNC: "You've all been so busy sending me interesting questions that I can't keep up.

SusanaNC: So, if you don't mind, hold on to your question and come back another day to enter here."

SusanaNC: This is the message I got

KatherineT: Must be a popular site

JeffC: it happens

SusanR: btw Jeff, from NECC I learned that the arcademic series of games has a web 2.0 component

JeffC: cool

JeffC: link?

SusanR: <http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/>

SusanR: try any of the games and you can play with anyone online

JeffC: thanks Susan

JeffC: I had a lot of fun with the "A Plethora of Polyhedra" (first featured link) too.

SusanaNC: <http://center.uoregon.edu/> ISTE/NECC2009. This is NECC link

JeffC: great

SusanaNC: I've also used "A Plethora of Polyhedra". It's really funny

JeffC: cool

JeffC: I think Steve's discussion tomorrow will be very interesting.

JeffC: And like you saw with Mathway... teachers need to rethink how they approach math.

JeffC: I think for too long teachers hand out the textbook, start with page one and go as far as they can for the school year.

SusanaNC: of course

KatherineT: Yeah, technology integration really shakes things up

JeffC: as it should

SusanaNC: and our flu...is an opportunity to change several things at school

SusanaNC: 8:00 pm Eastern...what time in Buenos Aires?

JeffC: ok... a couple other sites and I'll call it a night for this group.

JeffC: I think 9 your time Susana

JeffC: <http://mathforum.org/mathtools/register.html> ...this is the link to join the Math Tools site.

JeffC: they put out a monthly newsletter with excellent resources.

JeffC: it's part of <http://mathforum.org> math forum

SusanaNC: I was playing with arcademics...It's great !!! A new way to practice fractions and have fun

JeffC is showing his 8 year old parabolas on math forum.

JeffC: now my 14 year old is showing him powers.

SusanaNC: I registered in Mathforum

JeffC: think about this for a minute... you can show kids math stuff beyond their current "standard" and get them to "see it."

JeffC: instead of giving them daily worksheets... give them something to shoot for.

KatherineT: Very cool

SusanaNC: I want to be a student again.!!! It's a completely different way of learning

JeffC: I remember doing Cartesian coordinates in 3rd grade... now they don't even make it a standard until 6th.

JeffC: and no one site/technique/etc. will work with all students.

JeffC: yet... they've been doing math the same old way for years.

SusanaNC: totally agree

JeffC: why not give them a variety of directions to explore in math, rather than all repeating the same drills?

KatherineT: It will certainly keep students engaged - usually a difficulty with math

JeffC: yup

SusanaNC: We could have a wiki where they could share their discoveries

JeffC: or a tapped in classroom!

JeffC: we have several teachers with K-12 math classrooms here.

JeffC: join up with them, then... if you're really motivated... get two smartboards and have them work with each other (internationally even!) on problem solving using some of these sites.

KatherineT: That'd be awesome!

JeffC: you could use a webcam and <http://www.wiziq.com> or <http://www.yugma.com> to hook up.

SusanaNC: GREAT !!!!

JeffC: this is the kind of thing I try to get started in schools, and I'm sure Steve will address it during his session tomorrow.

SusanaNC: Ok. I have to say good bye. It was fantastic. Thanks Jeff !!!

JeffC: the thing is... teachers (in the U.S. anyway) are so stressed about addressing standards and tests mandated by NCLB that they don't get a chance to think outside the box and figure out ways to make learning happen.

JeffC: yw Susana

SusanaNC: Bye everybody

KatherineT: Bye!

SusanR: Alan November suggested students research the links and resources for the math strands students would be exposed to throughout the year. In teams or groups..This would be set up at the beginning of the year

SusanaNC left the room (signed off).

JeffC . o O (or during the summer)

JeffC: anyhow... if you'd like to create your own K-12 class, Katherine, I do that on Saturdays.

JeffC: I could help you hook up with other classes...

KatherineT: Okay cool

JeffC: that pretty much wraps it up here for today... Science Resources is in 10 minutes if you'd like to join that.

KatherineT: Yeah I was thinking of doing that :]

JeffC: unless you have any questions/comments.

KatherineT: I'm good - just going to explore these cool sites!

JeffC: great... I'm heading over to Science Resources now then... thanks BJB and Susan.

BJB2 nods and follows Jeff

JeffC left the room.