

Title of Session: Science Resources

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

Title of File: 20100302science

Date: March 2, 2010

Room: Science Resources Group

JeffC: we can start... let me know a bit about yourselves, what brings you to tonight's session, etc.

KimberlyS: to be honest we need to attend two online sessions and we thought your board looked interesting

SusanR joined the room.

KarlaF: I like Science and thought you might have helpful information for me

JeffC: sounds good Karla.. what types of things are you looking for?

KimberlyS: am I in the right place?

JeffC: yup

KimberlyS: thanks

KarlaF: I really enjoy life science

JeffC: you're both in the right place. I'm on Tapped In Helpdesk and in Forest Grove Oregon. I facilitate this group but I'm not a science teacher. I try and help find resources for others, and get members to post here.

KarlaF: oh great I am not a teacher yet and when I get in the classroom I would like to know new resources for my students

KimberlyS: I am a Grad student at CSI in Staten Island NY for elem

KarlaF: I am a grad student at csi also

JeffC: ok... are both of you aiming towards elementary ed?

KarlaF: yes

KimberlyS: yes

JeffC: great

JeffC: one of your greatest problems will be finding tie to teach science

JeffC: with so much emphasis on math and reading, science often takes a back Bunsen burner

KimberlyS: what do you mean tie?

KimberlyS: k

JeffC: time

JeffC: if you really love science, then you will find ways to incorporate science into both math and reading time

JeffC: teach across the curriculum

KimberlyS: I know I was observing last year and there were not too many ops for sci

KarlaF: Like in Lit?

JeffC: but if you think about it... teaching science will teach both math and English skills

KarlaF: same thing I was thinking

JeffC: I remember in 2nd grade when I did a temperature survey (over time), recorded results, etc.

JeffC: that was pretty basic.. but fun.... and a lot of things about the weather... cloud types, etc.

JeffC: today... there are international projects you can join

JeffC: think outside the box

KimberlyS: I always think of sci as sci

KimberlyS: math as math, etc

JeffC: you could even have elem students do studies of ecosystems in their neighborhoods... and collaborate with others.

KarlaF: yes Kim - but you have to think of incorporating it to other things

KimberlyS: that is a good idea

JeffC: kids respond better when they see the relevance of stuff

KarlaF: won't we have to follow all the NYC protocols?

JeffC: running science fair type experiments I'm sure you could find various NYC boxes to check in math and language arts.

JeffC: I'm convinced that NCLB guidelines and mandates must be transcended by thinking teachers

KimberlyS: when I had to do sci LP's I found it constrictive

JeffC: and most mandates are results oriented, not really process.

JeffC: science LPs?

JeffC: if the lesson plans weren't working for you... then why use them?

KarlaF: maybe it is because you are just producing a mock LP...

JeffC: the trick is to find things that work for you and your students

KimberlyS: well I never had to USE them

KimberlyS: just submit them for a grade...

JeffC: I'm thinking ahead for you

KimberlyS: it is hard to plan w/o actually being in a class

KarlaF: I agree

JeffC: right now you're stuck in grade mentality (as most all students are)... when you teach, you'll likely still be stuck in it until you can get lessons to work for you and your students.. lessons that often go outside the box (hopefully)

KarlaF: I had similar difficulties

JeffC: ok.. let me show you a couple different things in different rooms here to give you some ideas for your respective futures.

JeffC: when I leave here, type `/join JeffC` (starting with the slash).

JeffC left the room.

KarlaF left the room.

KimberlyS left the room.

SusanR left the room.

BjB left the room.

Room: Matzke_Grade2

BjB joined the room.

JeffC waves

KarlaF: coliseum looking

KimberlyS: a den -

JeffC: click the Welcome link on the left of the top frame

JeffC: it's above the "About Us" link etc.

JeffC: tell me what you see

KimberlyS: don't see it

JeffC: ok... do you see a green "add to my favorites" link? click that, then Room View

JeffC: what you should see is a pic of Deep Space, and underneath it a list of "Space Sites"

KimberlyS: sorry - lost

KarlaF: me too

JeffC: I helped my daughter's 2nd grade class do powerpoints on the solar system.. hers "Nora's" is featured... ok... then both of you just refresh (which will briefly log you out and back in).

KimberlyS: oops - added to fav

KarlaF: ok did it

JeffC: I wanted to show you that even kids young as 2nd grade can do powerpoints on space... even learn about the powers of 10... with the right support and facilitation.... ok... after you add to Favorites and then click Room View, you should see a pic of Deep Space... those are galaxies btw, not stars.

JeffC: now.... what boxes would you check off for math and language arts for that one assignment?

KimberlyS: ooh

JeffC: I want to show you another room now.... before we leave here any questions or comments?

KimberlyS: LA - books on Solar Sys

KarlaF: math measurements

JeffC: there ya go

KimberlyS: cool

KarlaF: ohh

JeffC: just some things for you to think about when you become teachers.

JeffC: ok... remember /join **JeffC**

JeffC left the room.

KimberlyS left the room.

KarlaF left the room.

BjB left the room.

Room: NASA_Grp

BjB joined the room.

JeffC: but as you see here, this room is dedicated to K-12 science resources that could be accessed by your own (future) students

KimberlyS: how do students get access?

KarlaF: students?

KimberlyS: do we create a class?

JeffC: indeed... you will want to find ways to collaborate in the future, rather than constantly reinventing the wheel in terms of what is taught and how it's taught.

JeffC: teachers may create their own virtual classrooms here, yes.

JeffC: I help do that on Saturdays

KarlaF: that is cool

KimberlyS: I will have to look into that

JeffC: again... thinking about your future.... you could create classrooms here at any time and begin "decorating" with your own lesson ideas, as i did with the room we were just in.

KimberlyS: but I am assuming we actually need a CLASS?

JeffC: then... when you have your credentials, you could show them to prospective employers.

JeffC: not really.... teaching is a lot easier without students!

KarlaF: smart thinking

KimberlyS: lol

JeffC: like I said.. prep a class here before you're hired.. that will give you an edge on others.... considering that you create a virtual classroom before you even have a job will show them that you're ahead of the game in both tech and curriculum... depending on how you set up your room.

KimberlyS: lesson plan writing seems to be more difficult though

JeffC: yup.... it's killer

JeffC: which is why all districts (indeed the nation) should have a curriculum bank

KimberlyS: oh - ok

KarlaF: sounds good

KarlaF: what is that?

KimberlyS: huh?

JeffC: I don't think teachers should lesson plan for the most part... most teachers aren't dynamite curriculum designers.... instead they should find ways to collaborate and build upon lessons already created.

JeffC: a curriculum bank is where teachers upload their best units/lessons

KimberlyS: ooooh - I like that

KarlaF: but aren't most LP's kind of in the teachers edition books anyway?

JeffC: if you're going to teach out of textbooks, then yes

KimberlyS: I think that is how we have to

KarlaF: I think we are - that is how the schools are - I think

JeffC: one of my favorite lesson plan sites is the New York Times Learning Network. they have a series of lessons on the Haiti Quake now: <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/category/lesson-plans/>

JeffC: hold the Ctrl key down when clicking

JeffC: or accept popups from this site

JeffC: I know that most districts teach out of textbooks... and i also think that teachers need to get beyond 20th (or 19th) Century teaching.

KimberlyS: wow - that is quick

KimberlyS: I agree

KarlaF: me too

JeffC: ok.... I have another room to show

KimberlyS: k

KarlaF: great

JeffC left the room.

KimberlyS left the room.

KarlaF left the room.

BjB left the room.

Room: K-3Resources

BjB joined the room.

JeffC: click the little "i" in the green circle at the end of the Welcome box

KarlaF: what is it?

KimberlyS: how do I actually JOIN?

JeffC: that will pull up the group's profile page.. then click the link to "join this group"

JeffC: once you've joined, click the Room View button to return to the Welcome screen.

KarlaF: oh ok

JeffC: this is the K-3+ Resources room... the best stocked group in Tapped In.

KarlaF: wow

JeffC: you could spend days here just looking at links, discussions, etc. in almost every area imaginable for elementary teachers.

KarlaF: I joined thanks

JeffC: once you've joined you may post to Discussion here.. which acts as a mini-listserv and forwards via email to all the group members... again.. a support network for elementary teachers.

KimberlyS: ok

JeffC: notice that there are several folders for science etc.

KarlaF: yes

JeffC: Earth Care/Environment etc.

KimberlyS: wow - there are a LOT

JeffC: get kids involved in some sort of global project... yes, even little kids!

KarlaF: ok

JeffC: they love learning and they love helping... how can you figure out a way to put all that together?

KimberlyS: I can see that

KimberlyS: I think you have opened my eyes a bit

KarlaF: hands on

JeffC: cool

KimberlyS: def hands on!

KimberlyS: like recycling or something - right?

JeffC: and your students *should* have a lot more computer access in the future....and hopefully not just for NCLB tests!

JeffC: exactly Kim... or local water quality, etc.

KarlaF: I can see how science has the possib to be hands on and integrated into other subjects

SusanR joined the room.

KimberlyS: I think - slowly but surely NYC DoE is getting there

JeffC: eco stuff, population and resources.... lots of possible directions to go

KarlaF: yes

JeffC: this is Susan's group... she's done a lot here.

JeffC waves to Susan

KimberlyS: oh - Hi Susan

JeffC: and when you're ready in the future.... we'll be here to help you with your classrooms

SusanR: Hi gang

KarlaF: hi Susan

KarlaF: thank you

KimberlyS: thanks - I think I am going to take you up on that

JeffC: any really cool science sites you'd like to share for these future elem teachers, Sue?

KimberlyS: if you have some that would be helpful

JeffC passes the virtual ball over to Sue for a minute if she's willing to take it.

KimberlyS: I can see science as being so much fun

KimberlyS: I am just worried about the standards

KimberlyS: I guess I have to really be in there to understand

JeffC: she has 36 links in her science folder here... wasn't sure what her favorites are though.

KimberlyS: now it is all theory

SusanR: Science links ..let me think

JeffC: exactly Kim... it's easy to fall into the trap that is set for you... obey the standards... use the textbook only.... but you're the teacher! you're the one who has to make things work. if you can get to a goal from a different path, why not consider taking it?

SusanR: why don't you peruse the folder and find a link you like

KimberlyS: thanks

KarlaF: I will

KimberlyS: I will Susan - once we have finished with Jeff

JeffC fixes Sue's link to "Ask Dr. Universe" which should be: <http://www.wsu.edu/DrUniverse/>

KarlaF: oh thanks for that

KimberlyS: thanks

SusanR: I like edheads <http://www.edheads.org/>

SusanR: Take a look

KarlaF: ok

JeffC: unfortunately dr. universe isn't available at the moment

BjB: hold down the ctrl key when you click on the url, Kim

BjB: <http://www.edheads.org/>

KarlaF: oh that's why I couldn't do it

JeffC: or accept popups from tapped in

JeffC: or just temporarily turn off your popup blocker

KimberlyS: I am looking into the site

KarlaF: me too

JeffC: great

SusanR: and of course Exploratorium <http://www.exploratorium.edu/> ..tips for new science teachers

JeffC: here is a lesson plan on earthquakes... primarily for older students but could be adapted even for elementary students: <http://learning.blogs.nytimes.com/category/science/> as i mentioned the New York Times Learning Network is an extensive curriculum bank, unfortunately for grades 6-12.... but hey... adapt!

BjB . o O (a reminder that all urls will be in your transcripts)

KimberlyS: don't want to take up too much of your time looking now - so I will look again later

KarlaF: cool

KimberlyS: oh that is right - thanks Bj

KarlaF: great we can go back and see them

JeffC: yup

JeffC: again... there are a lot of links here to look at

JeffC: the thing is to figure out how you could use them in your classrooms *before* you start teaching

KimberlyS: good idea

KarlaF: right

KimberlyS: I know I will be spending time in here

JeffC: because you'll be under a lot of stress to perpetuate the way things are in status quo

KarlaF: yes

KimberlyS: I can only imagine

JeffC: sites like "howtoons" <http://www.instructables.com/group/howtoons/> won't be in any textbooks

KarlaF: that sounds interesting what is how toons?

JeffC: but... if kids can figure out how to build things virtually, and write about the experience, i'm sure you'll find numerous mandated boxes to check off!

JeffC: check it out at some point

KarlaF: I will

JeffC: it's just another one of the great links in the science folder here

KimberlyS: oh - that is great

JeffC: of course the older kids will really love <http://www.yucky.com> ...well... younger too.

JeffC: where boogers come from etc.

KimberlyS: uh - this sounds cool

KarlaF: funny

KarlaF: interesting

KimberlyS: yes I am sure kids of all ages like that one

JeffC: then have the kids write their favorite booger story and voila! language arts done for the day!

KarlaF: my son would love that too

KimberlyS: nice - a paper/ essay on boogers

JeffC: kids love to have fun... and if you make learning fun everyone will be happy.... well... except for those who *don't* think learning should be fun.

KimberlyS: what would the principal say?

JeffC: tough call

KarlaF: I agree they will write about something that interests them

KimberlyS: yup

JeffC: depends on the principal's principles

KimberlyS: that is a definite

JeffC: ok... we're about out of time for today... any questions/comments?

KarlaF: I think that's a good idea

KarlaF: I like the booger idea

KimberlyS: now you have me thinking of a LP on boogers

KarlaF: my son would love that assignment

JeffC: excellent

JeffC: have him help write it!

KarlaF: yes

JeffC: have him visit yucky first and tell you what he thinks

KarlaF: I will his in 5th grade

KimberlyS: Karla - you will have to let me know how that goes...

KarlaF: I will

KimberlyS: Jeff - now where do I find all of those rooms that interested me (Favs)?

JeffC: really glad you could both make it here today

KimberlyS: never mind - just saw it

JeffC: to the left of the Go! button in the top frame

KimberlyS: thanks for your help

KarlaF: thank you for all your help very interesting and I took a lot away from this

KimberlyS: I hope I was not too spazzy

JeffC: cool

JeffC: nope... you were both great... changed rooms at lightning speed!

KarlaF: thanks

JeffC: I hope you weren't overwhelmed.

KarlaF: a little but I caught up eventually

KimberlyS: learned a lot from the Sunday chat I was in

JeffC: basically I try and get stuff into virtual hands as fast as possible... and leave the digesting for later

JeffC: was that Webheads or a tour?

KimberlyS: good strategy

KimberlyS: tour

BjB . o O (Dianne's tour)

KimberlyS: yes

JeffC: yeah.... of course I do cause a good amount of virtual vomiting

KarlaF: me too

KimberlyS: Dianne

JeffC: cool

KimberlyS: I could not think of her name

JeffC: she's great

KimberlyS: although I typed it about 50 times to follow her

KarlaF: she was

KimberlyS: yes she was

KarlaF: thank you for the information and help

JeffC: yw

KimberlyS: appreciate all of your assistance

KarlaF: good night

JeffC: our pleasure

JeffC: gnite

KimberlyS: good night