Title of Session: Online Teaching and Learning
Moderator: Roger Goodson
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Room: Online Teaching and Learning Group

BJB2: Welcome, everyone, to today's Online Teaching and Learning discussion.

KimY: Thanks, this is also my first chat

BJB2: we usually start all Tapped In discussions with introductions. Please tell Roger, the discussion leader, where you are located and what interests you in the topic.

ChristinS4: Hi! I'm Christine, a fifth grade inclusion teacher from NY. :D

BJB2: I teach communication in Pennsylvania and am always interested in Roger's discussions ;-)

RogerMG: In doing intros. give us some idea of what your interest is in OL

GeorgeK: I am in Geneva, IL and want to be a better hybrid-method teacher.

SharonME: Oceanside CA I am taking 2 online classes right now and I would like to learn more

VanessaG: I am Vanessa from Texas A&M University-Kingsville

RaulRe: I am Raul Reyes, I am currently a student at Texas A&M University at Kingsville Texas

VanessaG: I'm majoring in Math 4-8

OscarM: I am Oscar also from Texas A&M Kingsville

KevinE: I am from the Milwaukee WI area 5th grade teacher, finishing a technology class.

KimY: I'm a fourth grade teacher in Menomonee Falls Wisconsin, I am taking a technology in the classroom course this summer

ChristinS4: I want to be able to access my special education students from home after school. A different type of online learning.

RogerMG: Roger Goodson, Professor, Notre Dame de Namur University, Belmont, CA. Interested in all areas where tech. can better facilitate learning.

JoeR: I am from WI and I am a fifth grade teacher

ChristinS4: Fifth grade rocks! LOL

JoeR: This is all very new to me...

BJB2: Christine, you need to come to a Saturday tour of the K-12 Student Campus

RaulRe: I love the 5th grade

VanessaG: My mother teaches fifth grade and absolutely loves it

BJB2 hands the virtual floor over to Roger unless there are any other intros?

RogerMG: Thanks BJ, stands, (brushes crumbs from sandwich out of his beard) and says . .

SharonME grins

VanessaG: Welcome Roger

RogerMG: Let's begin by finding out what each of you is interested in learning about teaching and learning online.

RogerMG: I know George is interested in hybrid/blended learning.

ChristinS4: what is hybrid learning?

VanessaG: I'm curious as well

JoeR: thanks for asking...you beat me to it

RogerMG: Good question . . .George I'll let you explain.

BJB2: I'm interested in the effectiveness of text chats

GeorgeK: mixed online and classroom

OscarM: oh cool

ChristinS4: I would be interested in text chats too.

GeorgeK: Text chats are at the heart of it

ChristinS4: My students would LOVE that!

RogerMG: hybrid/blended learning usually trades off in-class time for online time.

ChristinS4: Are there any other school safe programs besides aim?

BJB2: Tapped In!

VanessaG: How much time is usually necessary or recommended for online learning in the classroom

BJB2: good question, Vanessa

ChristinS4: online time for research? or connecting to other students? or teachers?

RaulRe: and at what age is it appropriate to introduce the concept of online learning to the student?

ChristinS4: Our 5th graders are appropriate... they're 9, 10, 11.

RogerMG: 75 in class/ 25 online is popular, but it depends on the class, how often it would usually meet. The %s could be shorter or longer in either direction.

GeorgeK: Who has read: The Diamond Age? That novel answers the question of how old very well. Want to explain, Roger?

BJB2: I think one of the most important aspects of online learning is that the learner has to be in control of his/her own learning...and the earlier you can teach this the better

BJB2 listens to Roger

VanessaG: Oh okay, that's interesting. I'll look into that book

SharonME: Does the K-12 online take place mostly at home or at school

ChristinS4: Me too.

GeorgeK: Heaven help you...long book but so good you can't put it down.

OscarM: lol

VanessaG: Good tidbit George...thanks :)

ChristinS4: Do you think they have it on cd? LOL

ChristinS4: I'm a commuter.

BJB2 . o O (Roger is probably busy typing away...please be patient.)

KevinE: I would like to know more about webquests, and sites other than myprojectpages.com

BJB2 . o O (or he went to the kitchen to get a drink)

RogerMG: If you haven't read The Diamond Age by Neal Stephenson, I strongly recommend it. It focuses primarily on a type of virtual reality that is so encompassing that it appears VERY real. . . teachers become more guides then authorities, are virtual in and of themselves and can be called on at any times.

KimY: Good question Kevin, I'm with you.

VanessaG: Wow

RogerMG: In the book, students direct their own learning on a JIT basis.

ChristinS4: I like student blogging too.

JoeR: JIT basis?

RogerMG: Just In Time

OscarM: wow that's interesting

JoeR: I could see that style of learning to be difficult for younger elementary learners, but also very worthwhile

RogerMG: The subtitle of the book is: A Young Lady's Primer.

VanessaG: Thank you

ChristinS4: Online Teaching & Learning just encompasses online access to webquests and online learning tools?

RogerMG: Keep in mind Joe, that technology is becoming available for VERY young children to use. They are going to be growing up in a different reality than what we grew up in.

ChristinS4: My brain was else where... I'm thinking teachers podcasting the steps to a specific type of math problem and the students having access to the podcasts @ home.

ChristinS4: Or using the SmartBoard recorder to do the same and uploading it on a website.

VanessaG: That would be neat

ChristinS4: I'm outside the box... but I like it.

ChristinS4: Perhaps an online chat with my students who are having difficulty with an assignment.

RogerMG: Good idea Christine

KevinE: That would be interesting

JoeR: I completely understand that Roger. I am looking forward to learning about new technology. I do worry however that children are spending a lot of time with technology and many do not socialize - face to face as well as they have in the past.

RaulRe: the manner in which something is presented to students, 5th graders for example, has to be eye-catching, if it is not, more than likely it's purpose will go unfulfilled. how would you make teaching with technology something that the student will WANT the teacher to utilize?

SharonME: Roger is this an open discussion or are you going to teach us (respectfully)

VanessaG: Christine, that's a really great idea. I think students would feel very comfortable having access to their teacher online rather than calling them or having to struggle the entire night with their problem

BJB2: Roger is leading the discussion

GeorgeK: Usually we teach each other

BJB2 . o O (as soon as he logs back in)

RaulRe: did Roger leave the room?

OscarM: yup

BJB2: but, as George said, it's a collaborative dialogue

OscarM: yeah I agree with Vanessa

GeorgeK: Perhaps, for introverted children, the technology affords an opportunity for socializing?

JoeR: I agree George

OscarM: why? shouldn't teacher availability be important?

GeorgeK: Sure, but who do we really learn from?

BJB2: something worth checking out for K-12 in addition to the TI K-12 Student campus is the K12 Teachers Wiki that lets you upload podcasts

ChristinS4: That is super.

RogerMG joined the room.

BJB2: there is a K-12 Teachers Wiki group room in Tapped In

BJB2: welcome back, Roger

ChristinS4: Hi Roger. :D

RaulRe: hey roger

RogerMG: I don't know whether my last message made it . . .it was about LMSs as enhancing communications with students.

ChristinS4: What are LMSs?

RogerMG: An LMS is a Learning Management System.

BJB2: nope...last thing we saw was Good idea Christine ;-)

RogerMG: Popular ones are Blackboard, WebCT (costly), Moodle (Free)

VanessaG: We utilize WebCT at our university

RaulRe: we use webCT at Kingsville

JoeR: what can they do for students?

ChristinS4: I've heard of Moodle, but I've never used it before.

RaulRe: it allows for online discussions

ChristinS4: Real-time like this? or a message board?

RogerMG: Students can work in wikis, blogs, set up group meetings, chats, and more.

ChristinS4: WOW

VanessaG: allow the student to contact that professor, send classmates emails, do online tests or quizzes from the professor, chat for online discussions directed by the teacher, calendar, things of that nature

RaulRe: and it also allows for the students to communicate with the teacher in a virtual classroom-type scenario

ChristinS4: That is super.

RaulRe: webCT rocks

KimY: Do districts have restrictions on where students can venture to?

VanessaG: Online classes and graduate courses depend on WebCT for classwork

SharonME: You have to have a pretty good computer set up to use it especially webct6

RogerMG: We have just switched to Moodle in my School.

ChristinS4: Moodle sounds more appropriate for elementary? Am I right?

RaulRe: Dr. Goodson, what do you teach at Norte Dame?

KimY: Please explain Moodle

SharonME: Back to an old question--does it all take place in a computer lab with everyone in front of their own screen?

RogerMG: Moodle can be used on all levels, and has a very intuitive interface. Students and teachers have little problem understanding it and using it.

BJB2: http://moodle.org/

KimY: thank you, for the information

RogerMG: Moodle is open source, so it is free. Thanks BJ . . .you took my fingers right off the keyboard

GeorgeK: These things work best in a "distributed" environment

ChristinS4: I'm going to play with it this summer.. especially if it is free.
:)

GeorgeK: i.e. people all over the place, not in the same room

RogerMG: That's how we got started Christine

ChristinS4: Playing = Learning

VanessaG: That's awesome....I'll look into Moodle

VanessaG: Would be very affordable for low-income school districts

BJB2 . o O (theme of the Tapped In Festival 2007 is "Playing to Learn")

BJB2: July 25

BJB2 . o O (plug over)

ChristinS4: Do the students only have access to themselves? or a broader audience if the teacher chooses?

KevinE: I'll check out moodle too

SharonME smiles

RogerMG: As George is saying . . .distributed works well . . .imagine how kids in summer school could use it so they would not have to go to the school every day.

ChristinS4: Plug taken :D

RaulRe: Moodle is sophisticated software for use in the classroom - is it user-friendly for the students

RogerMG: They could be at camp, traveling, etc. and still participate.

RogerMG: My students in a pilot Moodle course reported in the course evals that it was easy.

ChristinS4: But do they only have access to their own class or other classes as well?

SharonME: Does the teacher write all the curriculum and download it

RogerMG: Christine, it depends who you want to import into the class . . .you could have several groups involved from several different classes all in one course.

GeorgeK: Some, but "evolutionary" (developing as you go along) approaches often work best

RogerMG: Sharon. The teacher creates the course.

VanessaG: that would be neat for subject teams..such as a group participation from all the English classes or classes in and around the town to communicate

ChristinS4: I was just wondering if you had the ability to collaborate with other classes from around the world. But this sounds self-contained. However, this is good also.

SharonME nods

ChristinS4: I concur Vanessa.

OscarM: yup

RogerMG: Moodle, as reviewed by educators, is seen as being more pedagogically sound than are Blackboard and WebCT. Moodle places the accent on the learners, whereas the other, older LMSs place it on the teacher.

ChristinS4: I can't wait to check it out.

SharonME: interesting

RaulRe: I'll have to look into moodle

RogerMG: Christine. The Open University in the UK uses Moodle and they have 200,000 student + scattered all over the globe.

SharonME wow

ChristinS4: See... even though they're in fifth grade... my kids LOVE an audience.

RogerMG: Moodle does offer possibilities for integrating across courses.

ChristinS4: You should see the map on the bottom of our blog page. My how they loved to watch it grow.

VanessaG: Now that's a neat feature

VanessaG: that will definitely give the students extra confidence that they need

ChristinS4: Kids don't want us as an audience... they want to connect to other kids... but we need to find a way to do it safely

RogerMG: How do your school admins. and boards relate to blogging by students?

RaulRe: could Moodle be compared to an educational MySpace?

ChristinS4: We're (my co-teacher and I) have been well received by our principal and administrators

RogerMG: It could be, or Face Book,

KevinE: As of the moment the district I work in is very secure and don't allow it.

KimY: The same for our district

ChristinS4: But we're one of the only classes in our elementary school who do it.

VanessaG: Oh I see

SharonME listens

RogerMG: Moodle entry is password protected . . .blogs can be used only within the course, or they can be distributed world wide.

ChristinS4: We've even offered to teach the other teachers, but some are very hesitant

ChristinS4: I can understand.

ChristinS4: But we're blogging and HAVING A BLAST.

BJB2 smiles...Christine, the Faculty Resistance to Online Learning discussion that follows this is perfect for you

RogerMG: I think blogging is great . . .but wikis are even better.

VanessaG: How much time do you allow for your students to communicate?

KevinE: Password protected is another plus for moodle

RaulRe: but not all wiki pages contain true info

BJB2 agrees about wikis

ChristinS4: We gave blogging assignments in school and for homework.

VanessaG: That's neat

SharonME: Roger can you say more about last comment about wikis?

RaulRe: some wiki information is false

ChristinS4: Then we had students who just kept blogging and blogging and blogging about whatever they wanted.

OscarM: wow, I never heard about blogging until I got to college

ChristinS4: I'm practicing with wikis this summer

RogerMG: Paul. You're thinking of wikipedia I think. I am referring to the ability to set up a class wiki for use only with that class.

RaulRe: oh...wrong wiki...sorry

RaulRe: *^_^*

VanessaG: What exactly is a wiki?

ChristinS4: I watched the wikis in plain English video and it was helpful to me. It is posted above.

RogerMG: sorry that was for Raul

RogerMG: wiki working:-)

RogerMG: George has some info. on how wikis were used in teaching English.

BJB2: here's a wiki set up by Michael Misovec for the festival
http://snipurl.com/TIFestivalWiki

BJB2 . o O (Michael leads the A K12 Teacher Wiki discussions)

VanessaG: Oh wow, thank you for that link.

RogerMG: Gosh . . .fingers stumbling over the keyboard again. Thx. BJ

VanessaG: that will become very helpful for me in the near future

OscarM: yeah I tried that out yesterday, it was pretty neat!

RaulRe: I agree with Vanessa

GeorgeK: Actually, I got the info at a WASC conference. The California Maratime Academy came up with the methodology

ChristinS4: Thanks for sharing.

RogerMG: Of course . . .what we're talking about here, is just the technology.. .how it can be used 'constructively' by teachers as guides is where the real action is.

VanessaG: thank you BJ

ChristinS4: What have you used wikis for?

BJB2: for that matter you can use MySpace constructively...and youtube.

RogerMG: The ones I'm setting up have two aims . . .the creation of individual student learning journals, and group wikis for students to discuss research, discoveries, etc.

RaulRe: hey Oscar...how was your experience with wiki

RogerMG: The thing about a wiki is . . . unlike a blog, anyone in the wiki can edit any of the pages.

VanessaG: I'd like to visit the discussion on wikis in the future in order to really get a feel for the opportunities it opens for educators and students

SharonME: so the wiki is or can be exclusive unlike wikipedia Roger?

OscarM: well it has an easy to use editor and it seems like almost anybody can use it

ChristinS4: My friend Kelly set up a wiki for teachers to practice with these types of web tools this summer. You're welcome to join. http://teach20.pbwiki.com. But I haven't set up a wiki with my students yet.

OscarM: it was really fun Raul

RogerMG: Thank you Christine

ChristinS4: You're welcome. :)

ChristinS4: Before school let out... we were practicing with skype in the classroom.

VanessaG: skype?

RaulRe: what exactly did you do during your session

OscarM: well I created one, and then practiced linking to other pages, I even saw a way a math problem was integrated into the page

SharonME listens

VanessaG: Maybe you could show me that sometime...after your trip from Germany!

OscarM : haha sure I will

ChristinS4: We just talked and brainstormed ideas to use it in the classroom. I.e. debates, e-pals, research presentations, etc.

RaulRe: what was your page about?

ChristinS4: Mostly, we were just shocked we were skyping in the classroom.

SharonME: interesting Christine

RaulRe: were you using your wiki to give a lesson?

KimY: why were you shocked?

OscarM: more of displaying information, not really a one on one basis like chat, more like a bulletin board

ChristinS4: We skyped a conference call between some teachers and we just chatted while sitting in our classroom. It was cool. But weird.

ChristinS4: You don't normally make conference calls from your classroom. LOL

RaulRe: oh..so you mean to say that by posting a bulletin on wiki, you can have people read your bulletin, comment on it, and leave a link for supporting information regarding your inquiry?

OscarM : nah not really

RogerMG: Check out this link for some wiki basics. http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-dnL00TdmLY

VanessaG: thanks

SharonME nods

RaulRe: where can I find your wiki?

RogerMG: re running out of time. So . . .I hope this has been useful. This discussion forum will be back online on the last Thurs. of July, same time, same station. Until then, hang in there, teach and learn.

JoeR: thanks Roger.

SharonME: youtube intro looks great Thanks

ChristinS4: Thanks Roger! :D

GeorgeK: Thanks Roger and everyone.

KimY: Thanks

VanessaG: Thanks for the different links

KevinE: Thanks

BJB2: July 26

ChristinS4: Thanks everyone! This was great for my first time. :)

RaulRe: they will be very helpful in my future

SharonME: Thanks Roger

SharonME waves goodbye to everyone