Title of Session: Global Project Based Learning
Moderator: Linda Ullah
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Room: Hot Tub Conference Room

LindaU: I'm Linda Ullah. Currently I work a Foothill College in the San Francisco Bay Area as Teacher in Residence... I was a K-12 teacher for many years.
LindaU: I got interested in GBPL when I worked in and elementary school
LindaU: I had a wonderful opportunity to do a project on water pollution with my students and students in Sao Paulo Brazil
LindaU: Currently I run a technology integration staff development program for educators
SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional teacher from Ottawa, Ontario. I was a grade 1 and 2 teacher for many years and a former Educational Technology Integrator.
LindaU: Susan... can you explain occasional teacher... It is like a substitute teacher..or ?
MarcB: Marc Bossi former Video production teacher currently in cadre 1 of on line Educational Masters program at Azusa. Sub teaching currently among other jobs
MarcB: that's Educational Technology program
SusanR: That's what they call us here Occasional Teachers instead of Substitute Teachers
CarolB: I'm an ESL teacher in San Diego in adult ed but transitioning to North Carolina and looking into teaching media literacy and or corp training MarcB: neat Carol
LindaU: Do you all have a sense of what Global Project Based Learning is?
CarolB: Me no
MarcB: me maybe
SusanR: sort of
LindaU: People often ask me what is global project based learning? The best definition I've found comes from Kiyomi Hutchings and Mark Standley in their book "Global Project Based Learning."
LindaU: click on this link http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/gpbl/topic01/reading01.html
LindaU: Then scroll down to the definition (about 1/2 way)
LindaU: It begins with this paragraph, What is meant by "Global Project-Based Learning"? Acceding to Mark Standley and Kiyomi Hutchings in their book GLOBAL PROJECT-BASED LEARNING
WITH TECHNOLOGY--A LEADER'S MANUAL, Visions Leadership Series-Visions Technology in Education, 2939 Chade Drive, Suite 200 Eugene, OR 97498, 2000:
LindaU: After you've read this... any thoughts, questions?
CarolB: How does this differ from WebQuests
LindaU: Good Question Carol.
MarcB: good meaning
LindaU: A webquest can be a GPBL webquest... but a global project takes planning and collaboration between teachers in remote locations.
CarolB: perfect for ESL
LindaU: To better answer Carol's question a WebQuest can be designed to induce global collaboration.

LindaU: Not all webquests, however require that students work collaboratively with students in other countries or locations.
CarolB: Ah ha
SusanR: Great way to engage students
MarcB: but Global does require that
LindaU: Yes, Mark... distance learning with a twist.. and that twist requires students to collaborate with each other.
MarcB: are the projects usually preset
MarcB: or open ended
LindaU: No... I encourage teachers, if they are ready to create their own projects.
LindaU: There are many preset projects, though.. and some very good ones.
MarcB: some of the presets
LindaU: It is good to start with a project you can join if you are new to global project based learning.
MarcB: samples
LindaU: coming right up.
MarcB: mind reader
SusanR: Can you give us an example of an exemplary Global PBL, Linda?
LindaU: I'm going to start with the Water pollution project I did several years ago now when I was still in the K12 system
JinaP: a few of us in the room are in the same ed tech class and we just finished creating a global tele-collaborative project. I think it is a great way for students from all parts of the globe to learn.
LindaU: click on http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/brazilus/water.html
LindaU: Jina, is your project on line... after we finish looking at this project, perhaps you could share.
KevinU: Your right Jina it is a great way to bring together students from all over.
LindaU: Notice that we used tapped in for our students to collaborate.
MarcB joined the room.
LindaU: I was fortunate that I was able to go to Israel an be trained with teachers from around the world.
JinaP: here is the address http://eprentice.sdsu.edu/J03CW/park/tlc_majorpark.htm
LindaU: I met my project partner teachers there and we were able to plan together.
MarcB: neat ideas
MarcB: thanks Jina Linda
JinaP: it is a lesson based on how quilts can preserve a part of someone's history
LindaU: Jina.. global quilt projects are wonderful
JinaP: thanks
MarcB: Linda any student based projects
LindaU: One of my favorite to join projects is the Jason project
CarolB: ?
JinaP: what is the Jason project
LindaU: student based... let me back track.. to the water pollution project... this was very student based
MarcB: underwater
MarcB: ok

MarcB: did not read hard

LindaU: if you click on the student activities and projects link you can see some of what the students did

LindaU: You'll notice that we did some projects with the Brazilian students and both groups did some projects within their own classes.

LindaU: the main student collaborations involved the science.. testing of water and sharing results and art

JinaP: cool

LindaU: all global projects should be student oriented.... I believe students should have a LOT of control

LindaU: of what they are learning and how they learn it.

CarolB: But how to balance?

JinaP: I agree but I do believe that there should be balance

CarolB: WE give them a problem or they describe one and then how do we build or scaffold the activities so that there is discovery learning predominant

LindaU: balance is a key issue. As teacher you must decide, based on the students you teach.. how much control you must keep, and how much and when and where you can give control to your students

LindaU: yes scaffolding is the key.

MarcB: well very nice input

JinaP: yes, nice input

LindaU: that is where formative assessment comes into play... (formative assessment is ongoing assessment

LindaU: in contrast with summative assessment or final assessment.

CarolB: ?

CarolB: Ok

LindaU: take a look at http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/gpbl/topic05/reading05.html

KevinU: Is it very difficult creating the same project in the different classrooms? Doesn't a lot of the information get lost in e-translation?

LindaU: ah yes.. translation...

LindaU: This is why it is critical to plan with your partner teachers prior to doing the project.

LindaU: You and your partner teachers must have a mutual feeling of understanding and trust before you can begin the project with your students.

KevinU: Yes, I agree

LindaU: You need to understand each other's curricular constraints

CarolB: negotiation of meaning is a key element to constructivist learning?

LindaU: exactly, Carol

JinaP: LindaU are a currently a teacher

MarcB: how many other teachers on project

LindaU: When I worked with the Brazilian teachers we had to deal with time and language issues..

LindaU: Our school years were different, too.

LindaU: Jina... I now teach teachers.. my job is technology staff development for educators.

JinaP: if so, have you used a telecollaborative lesson. How was it? What was the reaction from students?

LindaU: Jina... I'm not sure what you mean by a telecollaborative lesson... We've used the Internet to do many collaborative projects...

MarcB: Linda what are some of the pitfalls you ran into

LindaU: I've had my students (3-6th graders) work with educators in other states and countries... i.e. experts in the field, etc...

SusanR: This was quite an ambitious project with a strong commitment from both students and teachers

LindaU: one pitfall was planning for two different school years... theirs was Feb.-Dec.

LindaU: Another was language and translation

MarcB: year round schools

MarcB: with trad track could be problem

MarcB: what about tech problems

LindaU: one funny story is the Brazilian students begin our collaboration with emails that ended saying "slugs and holds.

LindaU: My students couldn't understand...and some were offended..

MarcB: kisses and hugs

LindaU: then we realized they meant hugs and kisses... (web translator issue.)

MarcB: LOL

MarcB: I am a translator by sheer luck

LindaU: another pitfall was that some of the Brazilian teachers were laid off due to lack of money for the schools.

MarcB: ouch

LindaU: others went out on strike because of the layoffs.

JinaP: I'm really nervous about the resources I will have. I want to be able to do lessons which involve collaboration with students around the globe but it seems that in many districts, resource is the problem.

MarcB: we are lucky in this country

LindaU: however... commitment is 99% of success, and those of us who were left... I worked with an entire high school that organized curriculum around this theme..

LindaU: were committed to making it work.

KevinU: absolutely, Jina there is no money in San Diego. I think schools will have to get grants

LindaU: Calif... is dealing with teacher lay offs due to budget cuts.

CarolB: That's why I'm moving away

SusanR: Was it challenging to work with the two different age groupings, Linda. The age range is so wide?

JinaP: I have been in classrooms where there were no computers.

LindaU: I loved it... my students knew a lot about multimedia, because we'd been doing a lot of projects... the Brazilian kids were new to technology KevinU: Me too!

MarcB: that computer issue is a problem everywhere

LindaU: The high school kids (Brazil) knew about research and the scientific method...

LindaU: both groups taught each other

SusanR: ..tremendous learning experience.

LindaU: Jina.. yes there are many classroom rooms with no computers.. that is a challenge.
MarcB: do teachnology issues like platforms and software happen
CarolB: I think that limited resources sometimes increases collaboration LindaU: the school in Brazil had only one lab.
JinaP: that's nice to hear
MarcB: makes all work harder
MarcB: and smarter
JinaP: yes
KevinU: How do you think limited resources increase collaboration?
LindaU: My first online (and I use the term loosely) self-planned with the other teachers... project ended up using fax phone and disks being hand ferried between schools.
JinaP: wow
LindaU: Marc... we ran into platform and software issues... they were old pc and we were for the time fairly new mac
MarcB: how did u overcome
LindaU: We learned to deal with the issues... and now the technology is making this less of an issue.
CarolB: If there is one computer, teach one group, they teach the next group etc. One person will be in charge at each stage to do the resources on the Internet another in charge of the communication etc
LindaU: We learned to add the .doc or what ever extension term to the end of our file names.. using the 8:3 method so the pcs could read our files.
MarcB: good
LindaU: we also learned to send small packets of information so we wouldn't crash their computers
LindaU: We really had to use our higher order thinking skills...and the kids did most of the troubleshooting of the issues.
LindaU: the original web site was a mess... it took a kid in Sao Paulo to take control to organize it.
LindaU: we tried many online tools.
LindaU: one was called Zebu... I don't think it still exists..
MarcB: smart kids
LindaU: A good online tool now is http://www.think.com
KevinU: What year were you teaching in Brazil Linda?
LindaU: Oracle has set up this site so that schools can have a safe space for online collaborative projects.
CarolB: looks good
LindaU: oh boy... let me see...c 1998 or so.
LindaU: there are many sites/resources at: http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/gpbl/ feel free to browse.
SusanR: It would be lot easier to implement now.. with the tech gains we have made since '98
LindaU: the site is an online course in gpbl... but it is free for public access and I encourage you to use it.

CarolB: cool!

JinaP: I'm looking at it right now. It seems really cool

LindaU: Exactly, Susan...It is still relatively new as a field... but there are more and more projects to join, and they are getting better organized, too.

KevinU: Linda, how long is the average class project? Time per day as well as total time?

LindaU: Depends... on the curricular issues.

LindaU: This one was a very long on...

LindaU: I'd say it is up to the teachers to make this decision.

LindaU: I have many great project ideas...

SusanR: definitely a year's project

LindaU: I'll be doing another session at tapped in's July Festival... You might want to join that discussion... I think it is at 2 p.m. that day..

BJ . o O (2pm PDT)

LindaU: I also try to do a monthly gpbl session...

JinaP: thanks for all the information. Bye

LindaU: that's right.. PDT... sorry.. I forgot about the time issues..

BJ: The Tapped In Launch Festival is July 16

BJ: it's a 12+ hour day of special events here in Tapped In

LindaU: I have lots more projects to share...

KevinU: Thank you Linda and everyone for all of your info bye

LindaU: there are many great sessions at the festival.

LindaU: I encourage you all to join us that day.

BJ: Teachers can get Certificates of Participation if they register for 3 events

LindaU: bye all...and thanks..

CarolB: Thank you so much! My first chat and very cool!

CarolB: Talk later!

SusanR: Thanks Linda,

LindaU: You are all welcome.. thank you.

MarcB: Linda thanks for all of this

LindaU: good night all...