Title of Session: Global Project Based Learning
Moderator: Linda Ullah
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Room: Global Project Based Learning Group

MitziGst1 joined the room.

BjB: I'm going to announce....but thought you might like this as a pbl...not global, but cool

LindaU: Hi Mitzi.

BjB: we'll get started in a minute, Mitzi.

JeffC joined the room.

BjB waves hi to Jeff.

JeffC waves

JeffC notes there are four of us

LindaU: Hi Jeff.. We are a cozy group.

JeffC: yup

BjB: Mitzi, welcome to this month's GPBL discussion

BjB: we usually start TI events with introductions. Is this your first Tapped In discussion?

MitziGst1: it is

LindaU: Mitzi, I'm Linda Ullah. I started this group several years ago. I currently work with teachers at New Tech High Schools (Small PBL high schools with one computer for every student in every classroom.

BjB . o O (if it is, go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and select Larger Text)

BjB: you can also go to Actions and select DETACH

LindaU: Mitzi, Why don't you tell me a little bit about yourself? Where are you? Are you a teacher or a student? If you teach, what grade level? If you are a student, what are you studying? ...and finally--What interests you about Global Project Based Learning?

BjB: I'm a retired teacher and Linda/GPBL groupie

MitziGst1: I am a teacher at a private school in Los Angeles. I teach 4 and 5 year olds. I am also a student at Cal State Los Angeles and I am working on my teaching credential in special education

JeffC: excellent!

LindaU: Fantastic... I'm a former special education teacher (among other things).

LindaU: What brings you to a discussion on Global Project Based Learning?

MitziGst1: This is for an assignment for my technology class I am currently taking

JeffC: who's your prof?

LindaU: Gotcha...

LindaU: What is it that you want to know about Global Project Based Learning?

MitziGst1: her name is Manisha Javeri

AlejandraO joined the room.

JeffC: not registered here... oh well

JeffC: Hi Alejandra

BjB: good job, Alejandra

LindaU: Hi Alejandra.

AlejandraO: hi all

MitziGst1: That's why I'm here. I'm not sure what global based learning is and the topic was of interest to me

AlejandraO: Hi Mitzi, its Alex

MitziGst1: HI

LindaU: Alejandra, Can you please tell us a little bit about yourself: Where are you? Are you a teacher or a student? If you teach, what grade level? If you are a student, what are you studying? ...and finally--What interests you about Global Project Based Learning?

AlejandraO: I am and instructional aide at a middle school. I work with 7 student who have

autism. I am at CSULA and am studying in the special ed. credential program.

LindaU: Are you and Mitzi in the same class?

LindaU: I taught autistic children for 7 years, many years ago.

JeffC: ever meet in person?

LindaU: Alejandra, What are your needs to know from tonight's GPBL session?

AlejandraO: GPBL I am not really sure what it is but it seems that in this day in age all students need to be aware of the world and how much it impacts us.

AlejandraO: Mitzi and I have had the same classes for the last 4 quarters.

LindaU: Good point. Let's start with what is Project Based Learning.

LindaU: Are you both familiar with project based learning?

JenniferMa joined the room.

JenniferMa: hello everyone

LindaU: Hi Jennifer.

AlejandraO: No not really, but I use the computer to get info.

JenniferMa: what are we talking about

LindaU: Please introduce yourself. We are just beginning to discuss what PBL is.. Where are you? Are you a teacher or a student? If you teach, what grade level? If you are a student, what are you studying? ...and finally--What interests you about Global Project Based Learning?

JenniferMa: Jennifer Maldonado, a school counselor and a grad student

JenniferMa: educational administration

LindaU: Okay Project Based Learning is an instructional approach in which student learn by doing projects.

AlejandraO: What type of projects

LindaU: Teachers map their standards, and consider what kind of project will best help students master those standards.

LindaU: The teacher becomes a facilitator, a guide, and a co-learner.

JenniferMa: is it web based?

LindaU: Generally, a project has three phases.

LindaU: Projects can be, but don't have to be web based.

JenniferMa: I see that you have a lot of great websites

JenniferMa: ok

LindaU: Global projects usually (almost always are) because you are connecting students with students in other places to work together collaboratively.

JenniferMa: So they work on the same project?

LindaU: In the beginning of a project, the teacher usually introduces the project often with an Entry Document that describes the project.

LindaU: Yes, Jennifer.. Students can use the web to collaborate in project teams. It's awesome!

AlejandraO: can you give an example

LindaU: The students, then get into (are put into) collaborative groups... to begin their project.

LindaU: I'll show some examples in a bit.

LindaU: Students then figure out what they know about the topic, and what they need to know or find out.

MitziGst1: they can work with students from all over the world?

JeffC: yup

LindaU: Yes, Mitzi

LindaU: We'll talk about tools for this in a bit.

AlejandraO: that is so cool

MitziGst1: ok

LindaU: Then they begin to do their research--collaboratively

LindaU: The teacher(s) may need to hold workshops to make sure students understand all the content.. and to help them gather the information they need for their project.

LindaU: Phase one (pre-production) usually ends with a rough draft, or a story board, or a mock up of the final product.

LindaU: Phase two (Production) is when student collaborate to create their product. There are all kinds of products possible. Some might be digital, but they don't have to be.

LindaU: In a global project they need to find a web place in which to work collaboratively.

AlejandraO: web place?

LindaU: I once used Tapped In for a project my students did with students in Brazil

LindaU: Today we have Tapped In and many more tools.

LindaU: Skype is free video conferencing... and most IMs have a video conferencing component now, as well.

MitziGst1: to be able to work with the other students in the world, they must have access to computers...how would this work with those who don't have such access to computers?

JeffC: WiZiQ is also an excellent choice for videoconferencing... and there's a community environment there.

LindaU: There are tools you can pay for such as Adobe Connect that allow students to work collaboratively

LindaU: Ah.. good point..

JeffC: but who has money? let alone computers

LindaU: I once worked with a teacher whose students exchange videos with students in South Africa for a collaborative project. It was slow (via mail), but they made it work.

MitziGst1: nice

JeffC: you're right Mitzi, but there are ways to deal with very limited computer access... even with very young students.

LindaU: There are a lot of free online tools now. Google Docs/Sites works very well.

JeffC: assuming one teacher in an area you want to work with has computer access... GPBL can be done

LindaU: I have teachers who use it to do global projects with other schools.

AlejandraO: Have you tried it with Special Ed students?

BjB: SPED students often do especially well with PBL

JeffC: you could start with an autobiographical story with your sped students... have them dictate it, peer review, etc. till it's in a form you could type.

LindaU: Also Oracle has Thinkquest: http://www.thinkquest.org/en/

LindaU: Good idea, Jeff.

AlejandraO: I worked at Oracle 8 years ago

LindaU: Thinkquest provide safe web space for students to work collaboratively on projects.

AlejandraO: Is the process slow

AlejandraO: How do you find other schools to work with?

LindaU: I did projects with Special Ed students, and had some special ed students work on the project I'm going to show you from several years ago.. It was a gifted and talented class, but having taught Sped, I included some Sped students that I felt would benefit from the program.

LindaU: There are many ways to find schools. Let me show you some sites that help broker this.

AlejandraO: I would love to introduce this to my middle school students. It could be a great option

LindaU: The first is ePals: http://www.epals.com/

AlejandraO: thank you I will take a look at it.

MitziGst1: this is great. I will try to do this with my little ones

LindaU: Another site is Global School Net: http://www.globalschoolnet.org/index.cfm

AlejandraO: You gave 2 phases. any more?

LindaU: Right.. we got side tracked, but that's okay.

LindaU: The third phase is finishing the project, editing it, and presenting it in some way--and finally assessing it (notice I said assess not evaluate).. Are you familiar with rubrics.. Projects should have a rubric that defines what is expected, and given to the students at the beginning of the project.

LindaU: It also involves student self-reflection, so they can improve upon their skills.

LindaU: Phase three is called post-production

MitziGst1: that's what our professor gave to us for several of our projects

JeffC: rubistar http://rubistar.4teachers.org/ is an excellent online rubric generator

MitziGst1: that way the students know what is expected of them

LindaU: Okay, I'm going have you go through a powerpoint that a friend of my did on Global PBL. He and another friend are working on the 2nd edition of their Global PBL book

LindaU: Take some time and go through this, then let me know what questions it brings up for you: http://www.mstandley.com/global_project_preso/index.html

AlejandraO: just click it?

BjB: hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard when you click

AlejandraO: no luck

BjB: do you have another window open, Alex?

AlejandraO: this is only thing open

LindaU: You can copy and paste it, but first you have to go to Actions (top right) and select Send to Pasteboard.

BjB: did you detach your chat, Alex?

JeffC: turn off your popup blocker or accept popups from tapped in

LindaU: Are you able to get it, Alejandra?

JeffC: wow... having trouble with my own popup blocker! clicking the link just opened in this tab.

LindaU: Oh boy...

AlejandraO: I allowed pop up could you give me the address again.

BjB: http://www.mstandley.com/global_project_preso/index.html

LindaU: Are the rest of you having problems?

JeffC: I created a redirect: http://snurl.com/mstandley

MitziGst1: so this is also another way of exposing the students and the teachers to other cultures...

LindaU: Yes, Mitzi.. that is one of the reasons to do a global project.

AlejandraO: could not do it. Bummer

AlejandraO: wait, I got it. going to look at it

JeffC: just open a new tab and go to http://snurl.com/mstandley

LindaU: good, Alejandra.. I'd glad you were able to get it opened.

LindaU: Are you all familiar with the Partnership for 21st Century Skills?

MitziGst1: no

LindaU: http://www.p21.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=254&Itemid=120

AlejandraO: Loving this

LindaU: One of their life and career skills is social and cross-cultural skills

JeffC: http://snurl.com/p21org

AlejandraO: we just took a multicultural class and this was the focus

LindaU: The 21st Century skills are the skills that business and industry tell us our students MUST have to live and work in a global society (eg 21st Century).

LindaU: I work with schools--some of which are in tiny communities in NC and Louisiana...

LindaU: Their local industries are dead or dying, and the job markets are drying up, or dried up up--even before the current economic crisis.

LindaU: It is critical that these students (and all students, in my opinion) develop an awareness of the world if we are to revitalize these small communities, and our large cities as well.

AlejandraO: They are starting a new high school and it's a International Bach. school because of the overcrowding in the area. I think they might be doing some of this...I hope

LindaU: Mark Standley and Kiyomi Hutchings (from the PPT) say to think globally, but act locally.... What does this mean to you?

MitziGst1: to be able to have an impact globally we must first start in our own communities

LindaU: Exactly, but we must know how our communities fit into the world.

MitziGst1: to impact those in our communities and hopefully set off a chain reaction

MitziGst1: exactly

AlejandraO: You need to start with one student one school and then the community will be impacted

MitziGst1: I think that most of our students, middle and high school students don't see that picture

LindaU: Alejandra, You'd asked for a project example. If you accessed Mark's PPT you might have seen a couple of slides that showed a project I did with a school in Brazil (I was in San Jose, CA at the time).

AlejandraO: I live in an area that is mainly Hispanic and to let them know that the world large not just the neighborhood. Some of them have never been out of the San Gabriel valley let alone California

LindaU: Here is the link to that project: http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/brazilus/water.html

AlejandraO: Yes I did see it. Thank was wild

LindaU: Right, Alejandra.

LindaU: When I started this project, most of my students assume all Latin Americans spoke Spanish, and loved Mexican Food

LindaU: The culture learning was adjunct to the focus of the project, but it was an important part of the project as well.

LindaU: You'll notice that back in the 1990s we were using Tapped In for our students to be able to work together.

BjB looks at the clock on the wall.

LindaU: Oh my.. BJ--you are a good time keeper..

BjB: The next GPBL discussion will be on April 29

LindaU: Are there any final questions?

JeffC: http://snurl.com/waterproject

AlejandraO: I came from East LA and never really traveled so I can see how intimidating to our youth can also be. Yet they cannot communicate globally. Like facebook this is another resource

MitziGst1: well, this has certainly been an enjoyable discussion

MitziGst1: thank you all

BjB hopes Mitzi will return for more in April!

JeffC: I just want to note that you could all create virtual classrooms *here*

AlejandraO: I will be there April 20, how?

LindaU: Alejandra--do you know Jefferson High School in LA?

JeffC: and use TI to facilitate GPBL in the future

JeffC: or now

AlejandraO: No

BjB . o O (April 29...just log in and helpdesk will get you here)

LindaU: We have a small school--all PBL on that campus..

MitziGst1: wow

AlejandraO: Hope to learn more.

LindaU: It's called Student Empowerment Academy at Jefferson High School

BjB hopes Alex will return also...Linda is a wealth of information!

LindaU: It would be a great place to visit to learn more about PBL

MitziGst1: thank you

MitziGst1: have a good evening everyone.

AlejandraO: I would really like that, thank you for the invitation?

JeffC: Mitzi, you may get a transcript from your peers

LindaU: I hope to see you all again next month

JeffC: they're automatically emailed to members after logout

BjB hugs Linda. Take care.

LindaU: Thank you all.

BjB waves goodnight

LindaU: I will...

AlejandraO: good night

JeffC . o O (membership is free... tours of the K-12 Campus are on Saturday)

LindaU: I have lots of travels between now and April 29.

LindaU: TI is awesome!

BjB nods...be safe!