

Title of Session: Targeting Librarians! Tech and Storytelling

Moderator: Lesley Farmer

Title of File: 20040721targlib

Date: July 21, 2004

Room: Hot Tub Conference Room

LesleyF: greetings! What a nice crowd here!

ElizabethH: If you haven't done so already, please read the "10 Steps" note above.

LesleyF: Are you all set to discuss technology and booktalking?

DianneCM: yes

LesleyF: and storytelling...

ElizabethH: Lesley--I'd like to introduce you--I think we have 3 min. to wait.

ElizabethH: Do you want to also let people give a short intro to themselves?

ElizabethH: OK--let's get started?

ElizabethH: Lesley works for CSU, Long Beach, School of Ed, and she coordinates the Library & Media Teacher Services Credentialing Program.

LesleyF: What kinds of technology do you use right now in terms of storytelling?

ElizabethH: And I understand you do a monthly chat here at TI also, Lesley

LesleyF: thanks for the info, Elizabeth.

LesleyF: about me...

PeggyKL: story telling itself is hard enough..

LesleyF: I hear you -- sometimes technology can actually help you out...

PeggyKL: interactive story telling???

ElizabethH: I work more with adults, and just heard about some interesting sites in another session.

LesleyF: such as?

ElizabethH: The Learning Page of the Library of Congress

PeggyKL: any specific about ST?

LesleyF: Sure, Peggy, if you mean storytelling = ST

ElizabethH: I think others are more interested in the lower grades?

LSueGst7: yes, I am

LesleyF: Let's start with the low-tech and work up, OK?

PeggyKL: yeap, this is a new field for me. how exactly can one integrate technology into ST?

DoloresG: Sounds good to me.

LesleyF: You can make an audiotape of a story so kids can hear it independently.

LesleyF: You can videotape your own storytelling as a way to reach out remotely, broadcast in house or on public access TV

DianneCM: now with tech you can make a CD instead of an audio cassette

PeggyKL: can ST takes up the constructivist approach?

LesleyF: That's right, Dianne.

DianneCM: or even a DVD instead of VHS

LesleyF: Yes, we'll get into the part where students do the storytelling too -- is that of interest?

DianneCM: yes

LesleyF: See, you're not as low-tech as you thought...

LSueGst7: yes

ElizabethH: Definitely

LesleyF: You can use software too, such as a developing a concept map using Inspiration (inspiration.com) as the story develops.

KathyBu joined the room.

LesleyF: PowerPoint, KidPix, and HyperStudio have been used for years to help tell stories too.

PeggyKL: Lesley, on the continuum of epistemology, where would you place ST?

DianneCM: my son uses stop gap video editing to create his own 'animated stories'

LesleyF: Trick question, Peggy, it depends on the objective and the process...

LesleyF: yes, Dianne, iMovie and the like are also ways to tell stories.

PeggyKL: how can one take a constructivist spin on ST? Help me!

LesleyF: Last month we had talked about digital storytelling, with an emphasis on creating one's own stories.

ElizabethH: Everyone has a story in him.

ElizabethH: or her

PeggyKL: what is digital ST?

LesleyF: Choosing the main issue to talk about, creating content -- including text, graphics, sound, video -- and then putting it together all require critical thinking.

LesleyF: A good place to start in terms of digital storytelling is www.storycenter.org

LesleyF: Why don't you folks click on that URL and explore it a bit? I'll regroup us in about 5 minutes, ok?

PeggyKL: would the story outcome differ depends on reader's input/interaction w/ the story?

DianneCM: that looks great - somewhere to explore further

LesleyF: Peggy -- that's really a packed question. It depends on the objective of the storytelling, it depends on if the story will be told as a group, it depends on how it is to be revised -- and why...

LesleyF: What role does the audience play? That also impacts the story communication and outcome...

BenjaminG: Of course I have to download realplayer to see anything....;-)

ElizabethH: . o O (RealPlayer is the best...)

LesleyF: The session is archivable, Benjamin, so you can look later if need be...

LesleyF: BJ has details.

JohnLi: It's well worth the download, Benjamin, in my opinion.

PeggyKL: I am back, great links,

BenjaminG: Just to give you a sense of where we're at - if the kids create anything for us (in Seattle), their counterparts in South Africa won't have the ability to know them or have them present their own works -

LSueGst7: I am also back. What I saw looked great.

LesleyF: So let's start with a easy approach -- bookfomercials.

BjB: Benjamin, you will also get a transcript when you log out...it will have all the urls discussed

LesleyF: Ready for that site? No Real Player needed.

BenjaminG left the room (signed off).

PeggyKL: Lesley, do u see a place for ST in the public sector?

LesleyF: yes, Peggy, as a program for kids it can be great. I'll get to that, ok?

LesleyF: so ready for the bookfomercial URL?

PeggyKL: what about the adult?

KarenGar: I am curious about using story telling for cultural representations....

LesleyF: yes, all ages, I think, Peggy. Just wait...

LesleyF: great, Karen, I'll show that too

LesleyF: first, though, <http://www.ri.net/vidcon/KK/Bookfomercials.htm>

KarenGar: thanks...

DianneCM: That looks fun!

LesleyF: both in public and school libraries, you can have kids create bookformercials -- as part of a lesson or as a library club kind of thing

DianneCM: and everything is there for you to use

LesleyF: Since the idea of cultural perspectives was raised, let me show you a very rich site that includes both teachers and students' stories as well as process. I'm going to give you 10 minutes because it requires some delving.

KarenGar: ready

BenjaminG: real player download needed no web...

LesleyF: <http://www.scott.k12.ky.us/technology/digitalstorytelling/ds.html>

LesleyF: click on the URL and explore!

VickieR: Is a book talk just a "jazzier" name for sharing a book? I work with children in the age group of 6-8yrs old. This seems to be geared for middle-high schoolers.

DianneCM: my understanding is that booktalking is way of promoting a book - talking it up' so kids are enthused to read it

LesleyF: yes, Vickie and Dianne

DianneCM: my browser isn't finding the last url

LesleyF: traditionally, a booktalk hooks the listener/viewer -- so you often don't tell the ending. Just whet the appetite. Like a movie trailer...

LesleyF: give it a try again, Dianne. I pasted it live...

<http://www.scott.k12.ky.us/technology/digitalstorytelling/ds.html>

KarenGar: can we do this with free software?

LesleyF: Vickie, if you've seen Reading Rainbow, you'll have seen kids do little booktalks -- the Vanna White approach...

ElizabethH: I clicked on "Our students created their stories," and the first one is by a 3rd grader.

LesleyF: good, Elizabeth.

ElizabethH: So that's almost there, Vickie.

LesleyF: Yes, Karen, there is free software. I think at www.storycenter.org they give ideas of free sites/tools.

ElizabethH: You do need to have QuickTime as your video player here.

LesleyF: if it's not one plug-in, it's another...

DianneCM: but that's what makes it so dynamic!

ElizabethH: Mac has iMovie. Isn't there an equivalent in the windows Media files?

KarenGar: can you say more about that? about the free software and how to do it?

DianneCM: yes they do have an equivalent - is it called pinnacle?

LesleyF: This is a good site for such items -- take a look:

<http://www.brown.edu/Departments/IESE/MCI/digital-storytelling.html>

VickieR: Thanks. I took a quick look at it. It would be nice to have all the technology at our school and media person to assist too.

KarenGar sits at the edge of her chair and looks for details

BenjaminG: I love that the first one has his mom acting in it.

LesleyF: Karen, there's a really simple fun site where you can tell limited stories with online props. I got it off www.bored.com. Want to see?

KarenGar: you bet...

BenjaminG: when you are done with bored.com, can you download the stuff you worked on?

BenjaminG: because you wouldn't send students there, I think.

LesleyF: The site stores the story so others can see. I'm going to show you mine right now...

LesleyF: <http://www.digitalfilms.com/play.php?id=433597>

LesleyF: click away!

KarenGar: wow.... a blog like kind of thing....

LSueGst7: Lesley, what part on www.bored.com?

LesleyF: I just gave you the direct URL:

<http://www.digitalfilms.com/play.php?id=433597>

LesleyF: the program is www.digitalfilms.com

KarenGar: can you say more about the <http://www.bored.com/>

LesleyF: Sure, bored.com is really geared to kids/teens, and has a variety of fun and goofy programs and files.

KarenGar: looks somewhat commercial

LesleyF: rather uneven -- it's more of a home URL than a library link one...

KarenGar: but I guess you need subsidies

LesleyF: but once in a while there's something interesting.

DianneCM: I just found dancing bush - very funny and very clever but not a story!

LesleyF: Can you imagine how kids might use this kind of online film template to tell a story?

KarenGar: wow <http://www.digitalfilms.com/>

ElizabethH: Lesley--I didn't seem to get anything out of the php address above?

KarenGar: loading.....

ElizabethH: Just "please wait while your movie loads" and I do have Flash

KarenGar: I did, Elizabeth

LesleyF: hmm works for me. Here it is again

<http://www.digitalfilms.com/play.php?id=433597>

DianneCM: I have the same probs as Elizabeth

KarenGar: what hardware do you have?

DianneCM: do we need to click on anything?

KarenGar: I didn't

LesleyF: You can always just go to the main site, www.digitalfilms.com, and see what is involved.

KarenGar: can you tell us?

DianneCM: I have a Mac G3 with everything (plus chips)

KarenGar: how about a story Lesley?

VickieR: After the movie loads 100%, then what?

LesleyF: I have a PC. The software uses Flash 5, which you can download.

LesleyF: Karen, can you give me more of an idea what you're interested in?

LesleyF: theoretically, Vickie, the movie should appear.

LesleyF: Again, you have the URL so you can see it later...

KarenGar: Well, I am trying to get a "how to" guide to getting these done

LesleyF: glad you asked -- I have a web site for that as well...

KarenGar: so I wonder about content and process

KarenGar is amazed

KarenGar: and waits patiently

LesleyF: <http://www.techlearning.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=18700328>

LesleyF: This talks about using multimedia in the classroom; click on the sample lesson to see the process in detail.

LesleyF: also gives content

KarenGar: runs to see

LesleyF: let me know when you're ready for one more take on process

RenataS: impressive article

DianneCM: love it! - now I need to convert the rest of the staff!

KarenGar: that is Good!

LesleyF: it's pretty straightforward and easy to follow

ElizabethH: It also has a nice intro talking about how video technologies can address multiple intelligences.

ElizabethH: Was this what you were interested in Peggy?

LesleyF: Here's another one -- their main message, which I think is VERY important, is that the storytelling is the focus, not the production.

LesleyF: so here's the site:

<http://www.infotoday.com/MMSchools/jan02/banaszewski.htm>

LesleyF: did you get that, Cynthia?

<http://www.infotoday.com/MMSchools/jan02/banaszewski.htm>

KarenGar: I don't know how ST compares to oral histories

KarenGar: but culturally we rely on the later

JohnLi: The curriculum and standards should drive the use of technology, not vice versa, right, Lesley?

LesleyF: right, John...

DianneCM: I think at the beginning of the process the process has to be the focus for learning how to - but then after the first time the story should be the focus...or not?

LesleyF: oral stories can use technology for the recording of them: audio and video...

LesleyF: yes, Dianne, you DO need to learn the tools. Like piano playing...

KathyBu: I got here late. Have you mentioned Apple's Learning Exchange? An excellent example is a student re-telling of a Miwok story at http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/lesson_ideas/miwok.html

KarenGar: how would oral stories become story telling?

LesleyF: Thanks, Kathy, yes, Apple is very big in this area because of their suite of software -- iMovie, GarageBand, etc.

LesleyF: One thing we haven't mentioned is the use of music for storytelling.

ElizabethH: The infotoday has a nice step-by-by step for using iMovie.

RenataS: Kathy's miwok link doesn't work

KathyBu: Sorry. I'll re-check and get back to you.

LesleyF: Kids can have music behind their telling, they can have it playing in the background of a multimedia story, or they can create music using technology

KarenGar: try typing the whole url

LesleyF: I think it's a spacebar issue

ElizabethH: http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/lesson_ideas/miwok.html

LesleyF: this is the umbrella URL: http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/ilife.html

KathyBu: Yes, Lesley. No space should come between lesson and ideas.

LesleyF: it's an underscore

ElizabethH: http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/li.php

LesleyF: Sometimes you can start students out on storytelling by having them find pictures on the Internet on a theme, and then creating a story from them.

ElizabethH: I think it's actually easier to click on the link from the main URL.

LesleyF: So it can be a story "prompt"

DianneCM: the story of wek wek is great! The girls presenting were very confident!

LesleyF: Other times you can have them start with the story, and then have them storyboard it out -- with text and image. and THEN mount it using technology

KathyBu: Personally, I am excited about the use of music to tell stories in music videos. I was addicted to MTV etc. for about a year. Students really respond to music videos. They know all the words and moves from their favorites.

DianneCM: I did storytelling with yr 6 - but just traditional story telling -I think they would really get into this!

LesleyF: think of Jaws -- it wouldn't be the same with ballet music behind it...

DianneCM: dadadadada

LesleyF: which also brings up the fact that we should also think about music literacy...

LesleyF: DAdaDAda as opposed to daDAdaDAdaDA

DianneCM: sorry - I am not music literate

LesleyF: but I'll be you understand the eerie music in a mystery or horror movie and what that means.

KathyBu: Say more about learning to be musically literate.

LesleyF: Hi, Mike, we're discussing tech and storytelling.

DianneCM: oh yes - the screeching violins in psycho

KarenGar: or DadaDadaaa

JohnLi: How much music can one use in a movie without getting into copyright issues, Lesley?

LesleyF: well, the idea of the connotations of music -- minor key connoting sadness, tempo reflecting speed, etc.

DianneCM: make your own using garageband?

MikeSo: HI, Lesley. I'm just trying to get the feel of the site.

ElizabethH: Students can create their own music.

LesleyF: good question, John. I like Elizabeth's answer...

LesleyF: Actually, in a classroom, kids can usually do less than 30 seconds, less than 10%, one time only, no broadcasting, without much fear.

LesleyF: there are lots of public domain pieces of music too.

KathyBu: Their own raps in their personal styles.

LesleyF: good learning opportunity to learn about copyright

ElizabethH: Also SFX--like leaves rustling (paper), or thunder and rain (heels bouncing on the floor), etc.

LesleyF: I think that a session on technology and music / music literacy would be a good topic for next month, What do you think?

DianneCM: yes

ElizabethH: Yes--when?

LesleyF: Yes, sound effects can be VERY effective

KathyBu: Sounds great!

LesleyF: 3rd Wed. of Aug. same time...

DianneCM: radio plays used excellent sound effects - not like we are reinventing the wheel

LesleyF: Let me show you one more site and idea. It's the concept of collaborative storytelling.

ElizabethH: Karen asked earlier about movie making--most digital cameras will make 15 sec movies, and their own software will help you export it to QuickTime, I believe.

LesleyF: Remember when kids would write one line, then pass it on to another, etc.

LesleyF: good point, Elizabeth. And some VHS cameras can plug into computers -- Macs more easily than PCs.

LesleyF: There are also webcams that can serve the purpose if yo don't mind graininess.

LesleyF: so for the final approach for the day, let me show you how kids can give input into Harry Potter and storytelling. Interested?

CynthiaSA: yes

DianneCM: yes

LesleyF: it's a way to connect with kids around the world focusing on the same story -- and adding to it.

LSueGst7: sure

LesleyF: OK www.ThePotterProject.com

LesleyF: it transfers you to another place.

LesleyF: Remember that kids (and adults) can tell stories online using blogs. That's become very popular. Personally, I prefer that kids tell imaginative stories than their personal stories online...

KathyBu: How do we access the archives for past Targeting Librarians?

LesleyF: BJ can give you details...

JohnLi: telling a lot of personal information on-line can expose students to some risk, in my opinion, from on-line predators. Better to focus, I think, on the imaginary, unless one takes care to protect identities.

BjB: www.tappedin.org/transcripts

LesleyF: exactly, John...

KathyBu: Has any one used their school web sites to post students' stories or movies?

LesleyF: Yes, that's been done -- you can create a digirati / literati group with postings on the library web portal.

DianneCM: no -we have a few political problems with our school web site

DoloresG: Just some computer art work, with no names

LesleyF: It usually works better with shorter stories or booktalks/testimonials

LesleyF: it's safer to do as an Intranet

DianneCM: I like the idea of digital booktalks

LesleyF: it can be text, graphics and text, powerpoints saved as web pages, streamed video, ...

KarenGar wonders where she has been

KathyBu: Great idea- we have an Intranet in Sacramento City Unified! I'm going to look into that.

LesleyF: So it looks as if we focused on the students doing the booktalking/storytelling rather than the adults. That's cool!

LesleyF: One VERY low-tech little technique: make a color transparency of a foreign scene, project it using an overhead -- angle it at about 45 degrees -- and the student can tell their story in front of the image -- a lit backdrop, so to speak.

DianneCM: we use an imager to share books - similar technique but with the fuss

DianneCM: without the fuss!

LesleyF: And one phone-centric way -- tell a short story as a phone message...

DianneCM: text messaging?

DianneCM: they had a poetry comp in HK using text messaging

LesleyF: No, the old type of phone with a message when you're not there...

DianneCM: Oh - ok - that works too

LesleyF: SO, what will be your next step after this discussion -- how can you apply what we've shared?

DianneCM: we are coming up to our annual bookweek - theme of Doorways - I would like to do something digital to culminate the lead up to the bookweek....need to think a bit for the different ages

KathyBu: I'm going back thru the URL's especially where iMovie is covered. I'm also going to check on putting student work on our Intranet.

LesleyF: ooooh -- I opened the door, and saw....

DianneCM: maybe to start some booktalks - digital of course!

ElizabethH: One of the greeting card co's online was doing phone messages=>voice mail recently. that's a good way to start a story.

RenataS: did it slide? or was it on hinges?

DianneCM: yes...out through the door came...(Monsters Inc is all about doorways!)

LesleyF: it occurred to me that one could use phone text messaging or IM as a way to create a round robin story too.

LesleyF: Having a single story prompt is a good way to tie in the event.

DianneCM: Monsters inc is as digital story as you can get!

LesleyF: you get to imagine the door as well, as Renata points out -- Alice in Wonderland, etc.

LesleyF: now Librarians, inc?

DianneCM: Lion witch and wardrobe, 40 thieves,

ElizabethH: I had my grad students collect oral narratives and then analyze the structure of "stories" in general as part of a sociolinguistics course. This might work as an activity for high school students, too.

LesleyF: absolutely, Elizabeth

ElizabethH: Really gets into narrative, whether in movies or in novels.

LesleyF: also is a way to get at genre conventions

CynthiaSA: My city is looking for student work for the 75th anniversary. maybe some digital stories for their website?

LesleyF: yes, and students could record local oral histories.

DianneCM: over so soon boo hoo

LesleyF: Sunnyvale Public Library used to have some of their oral histories posted online.

LesleyF: Yes, we've covered a lot of ground!

ElizabethH: In CA we are looking at ways to bring technology and school/literacy to the homes of immigrants.

LesleyF: where in CA? I'm in Long Beach

ElizabethH: Collecting oral histories from the family is a good start--and the kids learn to respect their family stories.

DianneCM: there is a site on the Queensland state library which has digital images of people telling their story - regarding immigration to Queensland

LesleyF: Australia's doing some good projects.

ElizabethH: Like Kathy, I'm in Sacramento (home of the Olympic Track and Field Trials)

JohnLi: if you're not in 'room view' you may need to click on that icon at the top of the page to find the Certificate link. FYI.

ElizabethH: John--you can close the window on the Detached Chat to return to the Hot Tub main space.

LesleyF: I'm writing a book on digital inclusion focusing on teens on the fringes, including immigrants/homeless/transients...

ElizabethH: . o O (Lesley--good project!)

LesleyF: Thanks, folks, are participating.

DianneCM: There is also picture Australia - not stories, but digital images - good for a base of a story

ElizabethH: Thank you, Lesley for a very informative talk.

LesleyF: yep, tech can be the prompt and be the sharing vehicle

ElizabethH: I think some people want to ask you further questions, but we may have to vacate this room.

RenataS: thank you very much for all the wonderful links

RenataS: and the great presentation

KathyBu: Thanks, Lesley! The new book sounds fascinating.

LSueGst7: Thanks everyone for a great session. I have to go to another one. Thanks Lesley. I learned a lot.

LSueGst7: Thanks everyone. I need to go now to another session.