

**Title of Session:** Technology in the Classroom

**Moderator:** Donna Hendry

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Room: ASO

DonnaH: I'll be honest with ya, Sue...I haven't set a topic for tonight...was waiting to see who'd show to see what would be the most topical.

SusanR: It's summer...keep the session light and airy..

AlimGuest1 joined the room.

DonnaH: Hello, Alim:~)

AlimGuest1: hello everyone.

AlimGuest1 waves to everyone

BjB: Donna, Alim is here for your tech in the classroom discussion

AlimGuest1: has the session started yet?

BjB: Alim, Sue is showing us her photos from a trip to Turkey

DonnaH: We've been sorta slacking it:) Sue was sharing her vacation photos:)

DonnaH: (hey, its summer \*giggle\*)

AlimGuest1: cool.... how do you share pix?

SusanR: It's summer and the living is easy.

BjB: <http://homepage.mac.com/troseman/PhotoAlbum11.html>

BjB: click on that hyperlink, Alim

AlimGuest1: ahhhh.... I thought she was sharing them through TI.

SusanR: I am using .Mac...it is Apple's server.. we use iphoto and upload the pics to their server

AlimGuest1: makes a lot of sense

DonnaH: Wow...beautiful pictures:~)

DonnaH: I am really jealous...

SusanR: Thanks...it was quite the trip... could have bought two high-end computers for the cost of that trip.

SusanR: Here is the url, Alim <http://homepage.mac.com/troseman/PhotoAlbum11.html>

DonnaH: I believe it...but you can't replace memories or experiences like that.

BjB: Perhaps Alim can introduce herself (?) to Donna and Sue?

SusanR: True. I would go back there tomorrow.

AlimGuest1: Beautiful pictures.

SusanR: Thank you.

DonnaH: That is our normal procedure; introducing ourselves to everyone \*chuckle\*

AlimGuest1: "himself"... actually.

DonnaH: I'm Donna Hendry, and I'm an educational consultant in Connecticut

BjB . o O ( sorry, Alim )

SusanR: I am Sue Roseman and I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher from Ottawa, Ontario

SusanR: and former Tech Integrator

AlimGuest1: Well, my name is 'Alim. I live in Bolivia right now. I'm an ed tech specialist in a teacher training project here.

DonnaH: Wow! That's really cool!

SusanR: Wow!!!

SusanR: What type of teacher training are you involved in?

DonnaH: Well, since we've got such a small group, why don't you tell us what would be of interest or useful to you:)

SusanR listens intently

DonnaH wonders if we lost Alim?

AlimGuest1: I'm back.

DonnaH: Welcome back!

BjB . o O ( whew! )

DonnaH: Well, since we've got such a small group, why don't you tell us what would be of interest or useful to you:)

AlimGuest1: Well, the project is called CETT. We train first thru third grade teachers to help them improve their teaching of reading and writing.

AlimGuest1: The project is regional. In my region we have 3 participating countries: Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador.

DonnaH: How has that been with the political unrest between Peru and Ecuador?

DonnaH: sorry...political.

AlimGuest1: Well, I'm here primarily to get to know TI better because I'd like to build a similar site in Spanish for teachers in the three countries mentioned.

AlimGuest1: I'm fairly ignorant about the situation in the other two countries.

SusanR hands over the reins to Donna.

DonnaH: \*nods\*

BjB: have you talked with Mark Schlager, Alim?

DonnaH: (I'm just happy that I knew there WAS problems \*chuckle\*)

AlimGuest1: In deed I have spoken to Mark. I'm waiting to hear from him about whether or not TI will be released as open source

BjB nods...I thought I remembered him or you mentioning something about it

DonnaH: is there anything you're curious about, or would like to see in the meantime?

AlimGuest1: that's cool that people are aware about my interest.

AlimGuest1: BTW, for this session I'd like to know about any technology that you know of that has been or is being used to teach reading and or writing to kids.

DonnaH: English or Spanish?

AlimGuest1: should any of you know about integrating tech into rural schools or schools in developing countries, I would love to hear about that too

AlimGuest1: Spanish is more relevant, but I'd like to get an idea about what's out there in English

DonnaH: (that sounds like a very interesting research project...don't have anything currently...but I will DEFINITELY be looking into it.)

SusanR: interesting topic for a TI ASO session

DonnaH: well, one site that I really enjoy is called storyplace...

DonnaH: <http://www.storyplace.org>

DonnaH: They have stories in English and in Spanish...and they are identical...so you could feasibly use them to teach the other language...

DonnaH: they have vocabulary building games to go with the stories as well. (at least with the preschool level...but they are still good)

DonnaH: I've showed you this one before, Sue.

DonnaH: (I'd love to find more sites like this)

AlimGuest1: cool.

SusanR: What about Reading A to Z

SusanR: 30 books for you to download, print and assemble

SusanR: <http://www.readinga-z.com/newfiles/preview.html>

DonnaH: Love you Sue! I haven't seen this one before:)

SusanR: It includes worksheets and games!

AlimGuest1: how do you find out about these sites?

SusanR: There are Read Aloud books too. In Canada we are waiting for the French versions.

DonnaH: Sharing, searching (and more and more searching:))

DonnaH: I spend about 8 hours online a day right now...and about 5 during the school year...

DonnaH: and about half of that is educationally motivated...so really it has to do a lot with time.

DonnaH: (search online children's books, online read alouds, and then search through the mass confusion to find the few that are really worthwhile)

SusanR: I spend a lot of time online as well...searching... mostly for workshops

DonnaH: depends on what I'm doing:)

DonnaH: right now, I'm doing a lot about Harry Potter.

DonnaH: (I've got to update my links:))

SusanR: How does the new Harry Potter book compare to the others?

DonnaH: oh, and summer reading lists.

DonnaH: hmmm.

DonnaH: it's deeper, darker...

DonnaH: I think there is an awful lot of underplot.

DonnaH: and quite a few people really dislike how angry Harry is in this one...I think it fits the adolescent angst...and heck, look at his position...a good dose of self pity is almost to be expected.

DonnaH: so I think she did a good job of portraying him "growing up" without being vulgar.

DonnaH: some hideously funny lines in it too.

SusanR: Does the book take on new meaning with the 3rd reading, Donna?

DonnaH: "Why are you listening to the news" "Well, it changes every day you know"

DonnaH: absolutely!

DonnaH: I keep finding things and saying "AHHA! I bet that means this will happen later! or Man! she was giving a clue, and I totally missed it the first time through!"

SusanR: Is Harry Potter popular in Bolivia, Alim?

DonnaH: (wonders if Alim is wandering the sites we gave him, or if he lost his connection again:)

AlimGuest1: yes. the movies definitely are!!! unfortunately there isn't much of a reading culture in Bolivia. One of the hugest problems we face! But a certain percentage of kids who go to private schools have probably read it.

AlimGuest1: I'm actually juggling several things at once.

SusanR: Alim may find the learn to Read at Starfall useful.. <http://www.starfall.com/>

SusanR: Teachers may request free writing journals for classroom use

AlimGuest1: Right now I'm being called to dinner and shouting back "just a second. be right there"

AlimGuest1: I'm awfully sorry but, alas, I must go.

SusanR: I can identify with Alim.

DonnaH: we all can:)

DonnaH: Good luck with your project:~)!

AlimGuest1: thanks.

BjB waves bye to Alim

AlimGuest1: I'll be on the look out for more such sessions

DonnaH: thanks for stopping by:~)

BjB: Nice seeing you again

DonnaH: You might want to stop in during our Carnival:~)

SusanR: Nice chatting with you.

AlimGuest1 waves back to everyone

AlimGuest1: same here

DonnaH: all day of sessions:~)

AlimGuest1: take care

AlimGuest1: when is the carnival? is that launch event related?

DonnaH: This year it is, but we have one every year:~)

SusanR: I am off. See you later.

BjB: yes, that's the Launch Festival...it's July 16

BjB hugs Sue goodnight

DonnaH hugs Sue too.

AlimGuest1: chao!