

Title of Session: Language Arts Forum

Moderator: Susan Roseman, BJ Berquist, Donna Hendry

Title of File: 20040218la

Date: February 18, 2004

Room: After School Online

BjB: While we wait for Donna, let's start with introductions

BjB . o O (and a suggestion that you click on the Actions menu in the top right of your screen and detach)

BjB: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

VickiAB: I am a preservice teacher at University of Houston

CyndiJ: I am a Business Teacher in Minnesota

JoannaO: I'm Joanna, I am a preservice teacher at the University of Houston

CristinaG: Hi my name is Cristina, I attend UH in Houston

DellaS: I am Della a Pre-Service Teacher from the University of Houston

CyndiJ: It looks like Houston is well represented here

BjB: great...lots of eager learners!

VickiAB: I agree!

VickiAB smiles

DellaS: Learning is a ongoing process and it is really enjoyable.

SusanR joined the room.

BjB: Hi, Sue.

SusanR: Hi Bj

SusanR: Am I correct? Is this the Language Arts forum?

JoannaO: yes

VelvetteM joined the room.

BjB: it looks like Donna isn't going to make it tonight...

BjB: so Sue and I are going to answer questions

VickiAB: okay

VelvetteM smiles

DellaS: okay

CyndiJ: OK

BjB: what did you hope to see when you joined this discussion tonight?

VickiAB: I would like information about language arts in the elementary classroom

CristinaG: BJ do you know what Donna was going to discuss tonight?

CristinaG: me too

BjB: no, I didn't get a topic from her

BjB . o O (she may be sick...lots of bugs going around)

CristinaG: I've never attended a lecture in Tapped-In before

VickiAB: I know because I am sick here

SusanR: Why don't we take a look at the READ * Write* Think site..

CyndiJ: I have never attended one either. I was hoping to see just how it works

BjB: good idea, Sue

VickiAB: that sounds good sue

SusanR: It's an all purpose LA resource!

DellaS: Good idea

VelvetteM: well how about we create our own discussion!

BjB: Velvette, that's what we're going to do...

SusanR: Here goes <http://www.readwritethink.org/>

CristinaG: just click on it?

BjB: Sue has suggested a site...click on that url to open a new window

CristinaG: and what meet back in a few minutes?

VickiAB: ok

DellaS: ok

CyndiJ: ok

VickiAB: what do you want us to focus on at this site?

SusanR: It's a superlative language arts site!!

DellaS: Maybe lessons

SusanR: Get an overview...then we will focus on a few areas

CristinaG: what's a superlative art site?

SusanR: Take a look at the calendar.

SusanR: Lots of topical ideas here...<http://www.readwritethink.org/calendar/>

BryceM: Wow. There are a load of lessons! The calendar is a great resource.

SusanR: I personally like the Leap Year activity...

VelvetteM: I like how it does it monthly...and gives us great ideas on what we can focus on with our lessons!

SusanR: exactly, Velvette

CyndiJ: This looks like an excellent resource -- and could be used in many areas

CristinaG: The lessons also give you room to elaborate

BjB: Are any of you planning activities for Read Across America Day on March 2?

VelvetteM: I'm bookmarking this site!

DellaS: These are great Black History topics

SusanR: Student Materials

SusanR: ReadWriteThink also offers a collection of online Student Materials to support literacy learning

SusanR: There are some great graphic organizers here

..http://www.readwritethink.org/student_mat/index.asp

JoannaO: The Read Across America lesson look great!!

VickiAB: yes there are some great organizers

VickiAB: you are right Joanna

CristinaG: This would have been a great tool when I was in school

DellaS: There are a lot of web sites that we can use as beginning teachers.

SusanR: and every month they feature or highlight new lessons, Della

JoannaO: I love the way technology is integrated into the student materials

CristinaG: I was thinking the same thing

VickiAB: yeah Joanna that is a great observation

DellaS: We can look at the TEKS and create a lesson to teach while in PUMA.

VelvetteM: here is another great site: <http://www.reading.org/>

SusanR: ...and if you are looking for particular lesson ideas you can narrow your search here http://www.marcopolosearch.org/mpsearch/basic_search.asp?orgn_id=9

VelvetteM: the site I just posted is from the international reading association

SusanR: Thanks Velvette

VelvetteM smiles

DellaS: Under the tab student material there is a link to creating a time line.

VickiAB: oh cool

JoannaO: that's really interesting

SusanR: Anyone else want to jump in and share a personal favourite LA site!!

VelvetteM: can we talk about why things are interesting to us...or how we can use it...perhaps this will help people realize why these sites are so useful to us?

CristinaG: I was hoping to gather good web resources from this discussion, sorry I don't have any to offer

SusanR: Absolutely. Velvette. Please share ways you would find these sites practical. I know i Like the Choice Booklists

VickiAB: I was actually hoping to get ideas on integrating language arts with other subjects in primary grades

BjB: Sure, Velvette. From the information about Read Across America I've developed a lesson that uses My Many Colored Days to promote visual literacy and understand how color influences our lives

CristinaG: BJ, that sounds like an interesting lesson

VelvetteM: huh...interesting

CristinaG: can you share more with us

BjB: it's fun. There is a video that goes with the book, too

DellaS: The calendar has a lot of information, but I have not found anything there that could tie back into science or math.

SusanR: Perhaps you may be interested in the K to 3+ Resources session...next Tuesday.

VickiAB: I do plan on sitting in on that one

CristinaG: yes. hopefully I'll be able to "tapp in"

VelvetteM: and you can stretch that to possible other cultures as well...since everyone is a different 'color'/ race... there by learning about the people around us

BjB: Della, what about women's history month and women in sports?

DellaS: I will sit in there also.

VelvetteM: so we could touch base with social studies with that one lesson as well

BjB: sports has a lot of math connections

VelvetteM: what do you think Susan?.... or would that not be a practical stretch of a lesson?

DellaS: Thanks **BjB**

SusanR: I agree

VelvetteM: as well

VelvetteM smiles

BjB: there are lots of ways to integrate topics into social studies too...

BjB: multicultural topic is always good

VickiAB: Thanks Bj

BjB: maps are also good...and neighborhoods/community

DonnaH joined the room.

SusanR: Welcome Donna

BjB cheers wildly...Hi, Donna!

DonnaH: *chuckles and humbly apologizes.*

SusanR: clap..clap..clap..

DellaS: Hello Donna

JoannaO: Hello Donna

VelvetteM: hello

CyndiJ: hi Donna

KarenL joined the room.

DonnaH: Hi guys. I'm really sorry for being so late....I had my dates mixed up.

BjB: we've been talking about reading across the curriculum, Donna

DonnaH: So tell me, what did you do without me?

DonnaH: (reads my mind, she does)

BjB smiles

VelvetteM: lol

SusanR: We projected a number of useful sites, Donna.

KarenL: Well, I just got here, so I missed quite a bit. I'll get the transcript.

DellaS: That the good part of having a right hand person.

DonnaH: I'll get the transcript, thanks Sue:)

VelvetteM: we've been looking at some sites and giving our opinions about them...and how we find them useful

KarenL: So true and BJ is the one!

DonnaH: (bj is all that and a bag of chips.)

KarenL nods in agreement.

BjB . o O (Sue and I were tag teaming tonight)

DellaS: The information I we have received has been very helpful.

DonnaH: Thanks guys. I appreciate it.

DonnaH: (I actually have a great session planned too...so it'll have to hold for next month:))

SusanR: We looked at the READ*WRITE*THINK site, Donna.

DonnaH: That is a great site. Been there.

KarenL: I think I've seen the site before. It is a good one.

DellaS: I book marked it

SusanR: and Velvette mentioned <http://www.reading.org/>

JoannaO: We were interested in the integration of language arts for the primary grades

JoannaO: the websites were very helpful

SusanR: we were discussing ways to integrate social studies and LA, Donna

BjB . o O (and math/science)

DonnaH: Any particular SS subjects?

DellaS: **BjB** touched on it and shared how we could integrate some of the things on the calendar in social studies, math, and language arts.

JoannaO: perhaps community and citizenship

DonnaH: Oh, there's a great great book I use for community...

VickiAB: maybe even economics

DellaS: Culture as well

BjB: March is Women's History month...a good link to lots of disciplines

VickiAB: saving, spending and earning money for the little ones

BjB: and Read Across America on March 2 offers a lot of opportunities too

DonnaH: Its called ummm My window

CristinaG: Donna, what book do you use for communities
DonnaH: looks at a block, and how it changes every 10 years, through the history of the place, and the different cultural immigrations.
DonnaH: But it is Australian, so I was having trouble finding it (why it took me so long to finish my answer)
CristinaG: Oh, the title is My window
DonnaH: Another one for immigration is called "Who Belongs Here"
DonnaH: http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/tg/detail/-/0884481697/qid=1077155775/sr=1-1/ref=sr_1_1/002-3703053-7718400?v=glance&s=books
DonnaH: (Margy Burns Knight)
DellaS: What age group does these books target.
CristinaG: Thanks for the suggestion
DonnaH: My window, you could do from 3rd up...
VickiAB: thanks Donna
DonnaH: Who Belongs Here...I'd say no lower than a mature 4th grade.
JoannaO: how about for the little ones?
DellaS: Any suggestions for 1-2 grades?
DonnaH: *thinks*
CristinaG: This has been a great discussion. Thanks for the resourceful sites and literature suggestions
DonnaH: "not off the top of my head...
BjB: Thanks everyone for contributing to the discussion!
CristinaG: Good night
DonnaH: but if it is something you need, feel free to email me..
DonnaH: I can pull out my community resources.
VelvetteM: thank you for all the great web sources
VickiAB: that would be great Donna
DonnaH: (techforteachers@yahoo.com)
CyndiJ: interesting discussion - thanks
SusanR: Thanks everyone!
BjB: Thanks for your help, Sue
SusanR: Great contributions and comments
DellaS: Can I e-mail you for further information?
VickiAB: thanks to all of you for a great discussion
DonnaH: Absolutely!
DellaS: Thanks
VickiAB: good night
JoannaO: Thanks for your help