

Title of Session: Arts and Literacy - Social Studies

Moderator: BJ Berquist

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Room: ArtsSites Group

BJB2: welcome, everyone, to the Arts and Literacy discussion.

BJB2: The topic tonight is Social Studies

BJB2: before we begin, a suggestion to help you follow the chat more easily

CynthiaMF joined the room.

BJB2: go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat window and click on DETACH

BJB2: welcome, Cynthia

CynthiaMF: Thank you

BJB2: we always start discussions in Tapped In with introductions

BJB2: please tell us where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

SusanVa joined the room.

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania

BJB2: Hi, Susan...just in time for introductions

CynthiaMF: 2nd grade happy hill

JustinL: Flagstaff Arizona, secondary art ed

RachellH: I am a student teacher in Texas!

KarenH: I am in Los Angeles, CA. I teach special ed

MyrnaG: Hi, I am in Los Angeles and I am a third grade teacher

AndreaM: I am in Flagstaff, Arizona, Secondary Art ed.

MelissaLM: I am an art education major student at Northern AZ University

BJB2: what a wonderful group! I'm so happy to see you all here tonight!

LydiaJP: Hi I live in Flagstaff, Arizona and I am an Art Education Major.

RebeccaOt: I'm in Odenton, MD, I teach 5th grade

MollyJD: I'm also an art education student at Northern Arizona University

SusanVa: I'm looking at technology and the arts. - more involved in music

BJB2: thanks so much for the introductions...looks like we have a nice variety of disciplines

CynthiaMF: What are some of your interests

BJB2 nods to Susan...I'll keep that in mind

BJB2: Cynthia, the topic tonight is arts and literacy for social studies

BJB2: let's do some brainstorming before we start hurling urls

BJB2: what is literacy?

BJB2 . o O (and are there different kinds of literacy?)

JustinL: What kind?

KarenH: With my kids it's just looking at pictures in books most of the time

RachellH: Literacy is reading, writing and learning from the environment.

BJB2 chuckles...I asked first, Justin

MollyJD: The ability to understand and communicate, usually in writing, but there is also visual, cultural, etc literacy

KarenH: We make up stories about the pictures we see.

MaryMa: finding and using information literacy

MyrnaG: literacy includes all forms of understanding which involves reading and writing

BJB2: excellent...just so you all don't think that literacy is just writing and spelling

BJB2: one literacy that wasn't mentioned...where's the music person?

AndreaM: My last name is Music He..He..

BJB2: how about aural literacy...the ability to listen and understand?

BJB2 laughs...cool, Andrea

SusanVa: Literacy is the ability to read and interpret whether text, visual or audio

RachellH: good one!

BJB2: yes, thanks, Susan

MyrnaG: not just reading and writing but listening and speaking as well (singing)

BJB2 nods to Myrna

BJB2: and the arts can be used to facilitate all those literacies

BJB2: so, any suggestions on how we can do that for social studies?

RachellH: Writing factual books as a whole group.

RebeccaOt: we use a lot of artwork to stimulate discussion in my class

LydiaJP: The arts are a great way to address the needs of our ELL students.

MyrnaG: learning chants about content

KarenH: I need a way to reach my kids with autism. I am supposed to teach them all subjects and social studies is a tuff one.

SusanVa: One of my interests in social studies is the way people lived. We can learn a lot by looking at paintings and listening to the music of the time

BJB2: good, Susan

KarenH: Listening to the music sounds good for my kids who love to sing and listen to music. Thanks.

JustinL: Understanding what images from history we are looking at, who made them, why and if they are accurate

RachellH: I agree Justin.

SusanVa: We can also learn about what people wore - who was worth painting, what kind of homes they lived in....

BJB2: Karen, have you read Thinking in Pictures by Temple Grandin?

KarenH: No, what is it about?

JustinL: I took a class in high school titled History, literature and the arts, it was a History and English class that would weave art through out both disciplines, and both classes would mirror each other, time wise. It was a great way to learn

BJB2: for Karen <http://www.grandin.com/inc/visual.thinking.html>

KarenH: Thanks.

BJB2: I agree, Justin

LydiaJP: Could we also define Social Studies?

BJB2 nods to Lydia...any input from the group?

BJB2: can be family, community, or history

JustinL: traditionally, it's your histories, but could include psych., soc. and philosophy

RebeccaOt: I think of social studies as anything that has to do with people - where we live, how we live or lived, how we interact

AndreaM: Studying different cultures and societies

BJB2: varies from K-12 too

MyrnaG: I agree with everyone

BJB2 nods to Andrea

CynthiaMF: 2nd grade is working on a play pertaining to the underground railroad, the states, and our culture.

MyrnaG: and varies from state to state (standards)

BJB2: cool, Cynthia

BJB2: sounds like you all can lead this discussion as well as I can!

JustinL: don't talk too soon

BJB2: are you ready for some of the sites I have for you?

KarenH: My kids play out how to act in different social situations they face daily

RachellH: Please!

MyrnaG: ready

BJB2: I've tried to cover K-12, but if I don't show you something you need, let me know

BJB2: when I give a url, hold down the ctrl key when you click

BJB2 . o O (or disable your pop up blocker)

SusanVa: You should look at the book Follow the Drinking Gourd. There is also a great unit at Arts Edge re black history

BJB2: coming fresh from the superbowl...here's a look at some ads that might be a reality check for your kids

BJB2: <http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/rbpehtml/>

JustinL: we should be looking at these while we chat?

BJB2: yes, take a moment to look at that page, please

BJB2: at the bottom is a connection link
<http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/collections/capsule/>

BJB2 . o O (a reminder that all the urls will be in your transcript)

BJB2: ready for the next site?

RachellH: ready

KarenH: Sure

JustinL: Okay

BJB2 . o O (or did you want to discuss the LOC site?)

MyrnaG: great stuff, ready

JustinL: I think I would need more time to look at it in order to discuss it

BJB2: Children's Picture books are wonderful ways to make connections to social studies...even for high school level

LydiaJP: I would like to ask what you found most beneficial for you?

SusanVa: I agree here! I admit to collecting them

BJB2: Lydia, it's interesting to see what people are selling through time...it really hasn't changed all that much...health, happiness, wealth

JustinL: manipulation?

BJB2 nods to Justin...can be

LydiaJP: Visual culture seems to have always been there.

BJB2: Me too, Susan. Are you familiar with Carol Hurst?

BJB2: <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/curriculum.html>

SusanVa: I know the site

JustinL: seems to be a full of info

BJB2 nods to Justin

RachellH: It looks like something I could use!

MyrnaG: good suggestions of activities

SusanR: Carol Hurst always makes relevant connections to the curriculum!

LydiaJP: I am surprised at the lack of World History. It seems to be a new discovery point.

BJB2 agrees with Susan

BJB2: Lydia, there are a lot of world history picture books...try searching amazon for Peter Sis

BJB2 . o O (he does some really cool stuff)

LydiaJP: Thank you.

BJB2: folklife is another great way to make connections to history and social studies

BJB2: <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/>

SusanVa: Peter Sis is amazing! There are also great picture books on WW2 from Faithful Elephants to Brundibar and much more

BJB2: anyone especially inspired by the folklife site?

MelissaLM: I like the folklife site, I think it offers a whole new subject for the classroom.....as an elementary and high school student this was never discussed

SusanVa: It would be great to have students interview and make contributions to the preservation of folk life - make a movie, create a podcast - capture music....

BJB2: Here's another one on folklife that I think you'll like too
<http://www.folkstreams.net/>

BJB2 nods to Susan

MyrnaG: this is a useful resource... it touches on many disciplines

JustinL: and visual

BJB2: you can really get lost in the folkstreams site!

BJB2 pulls everyone back

RebeccaOt: I think my students would receive the folkstreams site much better than the previous one - it's more like what they're used to at home - multimedia

BJB2 nods to Rebecca

SusanVa: Good representation of visual art and music

AndreaM: Wow I really got pulled in to that last site. That was interesting

BJB2: one of my favorite media for teaching current events is political cartoons

KarenH: Is there any sites where my kids can just go on and look and listen on their own. They have special needs but they love the computer

RebeccaOt: I am teaching political cartoons tomorrow - great timing!

BJB2: but you can also use political cartoons from the past to learn about what was happening

BJB2: <http://www.indiana.edu/~liblilly/cartoon/civilalbum.html>

BJB2: here's a site for political cartoons post civil war
http://www.authentichistory.com/images/postcivilwar/cartoons/pcw_cartoons01.html

RachellH: I remember having to decipher these every Friday in high school.

BJB2: ohhhhh...that doesn't sound like a happy memory, Rachel!

RachellH: It wasn't at first, but after we got the hang of it, it was fun!

SusanVa: You can also get some good cartoons at Punch - here are some history ones
<http://www.punch.co.uk/galleries/history.html>

LydiaJP: These were actually one of the few things I liked in my History class. I used them in speech and debate as well.

BJB2: this one is my favorite...contemporary political cartoons

BJB2: <http://cagle.msnbc.com/>

JustinL: I love this stuff

BJB2 smiles.

RebeccaOt: I was just on this website a few hours ago looking for examples to show my class. Great site

RachellH: This one is great!

BJB2: Cagle has a newsletter that is excellent

MyrnaG . o O (nods to everyone)

BJB2: it's not a large stretch to move from political cartoons to comic books and graphic novels

BJB2: this is a Canadian site <http://www.collectionscanada.ca/3/3/index-e.html>

JeffC: Is this the "Death to Infidels" site?

BJB2 doesn't think so

JustinL: I need to get up on Captain Canuck

BJB2: good starter for defining a hero

LydiaJP: These subjects seem like they would appeal to the students of today.

BJB2: who are our heroes?

BJB2: right, Lydia

JustinL: our like the whole society?

SusanR welcomes the Canadian contribution

BJB2: are the heroes of today different from the heroes of the past?

RebeccaOt: absolutely - today's heroes are sports stars and movie stars

MyrnaG: in third we study our fore fathers of the US

DustinH: YES!!!

LydiaJP: Yes I believe the morals and focus of problems have changed quite a bit.

JustinL: Yes they are more distant, and we don't even really know them

SusanVa: was just going to say the same thing - stars - not heroes but the kids don't know the difference

BJB2: you've just described a whole lesson on heroes!

RebeccaOt: we just started a project on African American and women achievers, and most of my boys don't understand why they can't research Ray Lewis and Deion Sanders

JustinL: lol

AndreaM: I was thinking that we really don't have a lot of heroes today and I wouldn't count sports stars as heroes

RachellH: Children follow in the footsteps of idols, not heroes these days!

JustinL: The definition of hero is not supported anymore

SusanVa: But that's also because they equate money and flashiness with success.

BJB2: then perhaps we need to define what a hero is to our students.

JustinL: it is fame, money, and being cool, instead of words like integrity

BJB2: and have them think a little less superficially

MyrnaG: I suppose, but that's where we come in... right? Giving them insight.

BJB2: right, Myrna

LydiaJP: This ties back to visual culture. We must make our students literate of what society expects them to ingest.

JeffC: incite to insight?

SusanVa: Children need to learn about people from the past - Clara Barton, Florence Nightingale - these were biographies that touched me as a child

JustinL: the trick is to make them real

DustinH: and make them have high moral

RachellH: and that is in how we as teachers present these people to the students!

JustinL: we need to find how they relate to our students, and make them come alive

BJB2: . o O (character education? values?)

JustinL: what are those? jk

BJB2: another way to teach these ideas is through comic strips

BJB2: <http://services.darkhorse.com/education/>

CynthiaMF: Research the topic, teach the topic, dramatize the topic, and be creative to relive the topic.

LydiaJP: Yes but often people worry about emphasizing values, which other people don't believe in. How do we address this?

BJB2: I think you have to teach the values of many cultures, Lydia

DustinH: Be the example as a teacher

BJB2: and teach respect for other values and cultures

BJB2: nods to Dustin...often teachers are the only positive role models that kids have

LydiaJP: I believe this as well. I just don't want to leave anyone out.

RebeccaOt: I think part of our job is to present information from as many sides as possible and then leave it up to the students as to what they want to do with it

JustinL: teach them how to think, not what...

DustinH: Ya!! YA!!!

BJB2: try this, Lydia <http://www.omega7.com/>

RachellH: Right Rebecca!!

JustinL: That is cool

JustinL: Thanks for all of these links BJ

BJB2: our time is about up already...this has been a wonderful discussion!

BJB2: thank you everyone for participating

BJB2: are there any questions?

LydiaJP: Thank you for everyone's insight.

JustinL: when are we doing this again?

AndreaM: Thanks it's been great

RachellH: Thank you everyone, it was greaat!

BJB2: I do arts and literacy on the first Monday of the month, Justin

MollyJD: Yeah; thanks. The links are very interesting and helpful

DustinH: Sorry I showed up Late I will be on time next time

RebeccaOt: thanks for all the information BJ and everyone else! I'll probably see many of you next month!

DustinH: Thanks BJ

LydiaJP: Thank you BJ

SusanVa: Thanks

SusanR: Thanks Bjb; this was inspiring

BJB2: thanks, Sue.

BJB2 waves goodnight