

Title of Session: Arts and Literacy - Dog Days of Summer

Moderator: BJ Berquist

Title of File: 20060807artslitdogdays

Date: August 7, 2006

Room: ArtsSites Group

BjB: Fred, since Jeff is new, can we start with in introductions?

JeffreyRH: Hi Fred. I apologize

BjB: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania.

JeffreyRH: I neither teach art nor K-12, I do adult corporate stuff. But this looked interesting

FredK: I tutor for the Pushmataha County Literacy Council in SE Oklahoma

BjB: grown ups also need a variety of media to keep their attention

JeffreyRH: Yes indeed

FredK: True

BjB: so...what the discussion is about today is integrating the arts as a literacy tool

FredK: sounds good

BjB: can be used as an 'ice breaker' for a group...no pun intended for The Dog Days of Summer

SusanR joined the room.

JeffreyRH: not sure what that means, but I liked your Sirius intro

SusanR: greetings

JeffreyRH: Hi Susan

BjB: the first site I have on the agenda is an article in the NY Daily news by David Hinckley

BjB waves hi to Sue. Glad you could join us!

SusanR: Hi Jeffrey

SusanR: my pleasure Bj

BjB: the article has some ideas on keeping cool and started me brainstorming additional ways

BjB: <http://www.nydailynews.com/front/story/436021p-367232c.html>

FredK: Hi Susan

BjB: which is what you could do with a group of adults or students

BjB: the article suggests you play dead and take a trip to the morgue, which I found a little macabre

FredK: Finally got loaded. Some of them are free.

BjB: but I added some alternatives...museums, libraries, bowling

BjB: right, Fred

JeffreyRH: Expensive movies!

BjB: and I added two ways to make ice cream

BjB: . o O (Tin Can Ice cream is very cool)

FredK is drooling

BjB: Jeff, I should have suggested you go to the pull down actions menu in the top right of your chat window and click on larger text

SusanR: some COOL ideas there

BjB: if you would like to follow along with the sites, click on Tracks under featured items

BjB: and then go to the dog days of summer arts and literacy track

JeffreyRH: "Tracks under featured items"?

BjB: yes

BjB: see that folder?

JeffreyRH: Ahhh, gotcha

BjB . o O (Trackstar files)

BjB: we've just looked at the article by David Hinckley

SusanR: got it

JeffreyRH: OK

BjB: the next track is to dream up a unique holiday

BjB: <http://www.prflux.com/52596.php>

BjB: the holiday they suggest on the site isn't that relevant to our topic, but it gave me the idea of creating National Ice Pups Day

BjB: and selling popsicles

BjB: or national Take your dog swimming day

BjB: and fill a wading pool with water and ice and invite all the neighborhood dogs for a swim

JeffreyRH: I'd be tempted to jump in with them..

BjB Laughs...of course!

BjB: that's half the fun

BjB: any other ideas for a holiday to keep cool?

JeffreyRH: Road trip to the mountains from here, not that creative...

BjB . o O (Christmas in August?)

SusanR: cycling. kayaking

BjB: or a virtual trip to the mountains....build a powerpoint of snow covered mountain scenes

BjB: or a photo of a blizzard

SusanR: check out Mount Everest on Google Earth

BjB: swimming in a fountain, Sue?

BjB: ahhh...good idea, Sue!

JeffreyRH: Ah, I like that, too

BjB: starting to feel cooler?

JeffreyRH: I wasn't that bad to begin with so I've had trouble getting in the swing

BjB nods to Jeffrey. Where are you located?

JeffreyRH: Denver - it's been cool lately

JeffreyRH: But I get the idea

BjB nods. Hot in the north east!

BjB: ok...on to track 3

SusanR: not bad today in Ontario, Canada

BjB: there is a crossword puzzle using phrases from the dog days of summer

BjB: and at the top of the frame is a link to create your own crossword puzzles

FredK joined the room.

BjB: <http://www.infoplease.com/xwords/dogdays.html>

BjB: <http://www.puzzle-maker.com/CW/>

BjB: welcome back, Fred!

BjB: we're on track 3

FredK: Sorry, my antivirus restarted the computer

FredK: I'll be there in a bit

JeffreyRH: Sorry Bj, I'm not quite with you yet. What's track 3?

BjB: we're all familiar with phrases like "the hair of the dog" or dog tired....try track 4 for some other phrases related to dogs

BjB: track 3 is the crossword puzzle

JeffreyRH: I'm there, but I don't know why you call it track 3

FredK: I don't find the dog days file in this room

BjB: on the left of the Trackstar screen is a list of the tracks if you're viewing in frames

BjB: Fred, go to Trackstar Files under featured items

FredK: I'm at links

JeffreyRH: I'm in the Trackstar Files folder, and the links are listed, but I see no numbers. Having fun Bj?

FredK: It's comin

BjB smiles. Let me just show you the urls and then you can look at the track later

JeffreyRH: I'm tracking with that...

BjB: <http://www.infoplease.com/xwords/dogdays.html>

BjB: <http://www.puzzle-maker.com/CW/>

BjB: two crossword puzzle links

BjB . o O (the urls will be in your transcript)

FredK: You've got ten links on your track, right?

BjB: right

FredK: I'm with you

BjB: next one is phrases related to dogs

BjB: <http://www.puppygal.com/dogphrases.html>

BjB: for the younger set, drawing pictures to go with those phrases would be fun...they interpret so literally!

SusanR . o O (a wonderful idea)

JeffreyRH: Popular lately: who let the dogs out; even tshirts

BjB nods

FredK: You can, too, teach an old dog new tricks

BjB smiles. Righto, Fred!

BjB: There are several children's books that are dog themed

BjB: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4506027>

BjB: Daniel Pinkwater has a couple

BjB: Stories for your Dog also gives me another idea...

BjB: kids love to read to dogs...

BjB: dogs have been used as therapy animals to help children learn to read

BjB . o O (the dogs are non-judgmental and never interrupt)

FredK: You must have pretty calm dogs

BjB smiles. Depends on the dog, obviously

BjB: <http://www.tdi-dog.org/childrenreadingtodogs.htm>

BjB . o O (you thought I was kidding?)

JeffreyRH: That's great! I'm sitting here trying to figure out how I work dogs into my stuff for adults more. Non-threatening, fun, friendly...

JeffreyRH: Very un-corporate. Need some of that

BjB: one thing that prisons do is raise puppies that will be therapy dogs and guide dogs

BjB: might be a nice corporate activity to sponsor too

JeffreyRH: Bring your dog to work day

BjB: absolutely

BjB: the wordless picture book A Day, A Dog is another wonderful book

BjB: <http://childrensbooks.about.com/cs/picturebooks/fr/adayadog.htm>

SusanR: some interesting material here that can be used
<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/dogs/>

BjB: thanks, Sue.

BjB: wordless books allow for so much personal interpretation...very revealing

FredK: Wordless pictures are a great literacy prompt

BjB: a terrific book connecting dogs and poetry is Love that Dog by Sharon Creech

BjB: <http://www.sharoncreech.com/novels/01.asp>

BjB: exactly, Fred

BjB: you can also create your own wordless picture books and add the words using ArtsConnectEd

BjB: www.artsconnected.org

BjB: <http://snipurl.com/artsconnected1>

BjB: write a story to go with the End of the Hunt

BjB: or Woman with Two Dogs <http://snipurl.com/artsconnected2>

BjB: or this deceptively simple Two Doors <http://snipurl.com/doorway>

JeffreyRH: Oh, that'

JeffreyRH: good

BjB: or find your own images and create your own gallery. For more information about how to do that, participate in one of Kevan Nitzberg's ArtConnectEd discussions in Tapped In

SusanR . o O (thanks Bj. I have to slip out!)

BjB: another gallery creation site that I've recently found is The Art Gallery of New South Wales

BjB waves bye to Sue

SusanR left the room (signed off).

BjB: <http://www.artgallery.nsw.gov.au/ed/welcome>

BjB: looks like the site is down right now

BjB . o O (try later)

JeffreyRH: I'm there...

BjB . o O (likes you better)

JeffreyRH: of course

BjB: Last but not least, I'm sure you're familiar with Van Gogh's Starry Night

BjB . o O (tying in the dog days with the constellation)

BjB: <http://www.ibiblio.org/wm/paint/auth/gogh/starry-night/>

JeffreyRH: sure - there's Sirius!

BjB: Vincent was written about Van Gogh and Starry Night. Josh Groban's recording is at <http://music.yahoo.com/track/2004698>

BjB: the lyrics can be found at [http://www.lyrics007.com/Don%20McLean%20Lyrics/Vincent%20\(Starry,%20Starry%20ONight\)%20Lyrics.html](http://www.lyrics007.com/Don%20McLean%20Lyrics/Vincent%20(Starry,%20Starry%20ONight)%20Lyrics.html)

BjB: another good way to tie in poetry as well as music

BjB: the url for my trackstar page is <http://snipurl.com/dogdaysliteracy>

BjB: Jeff, the one I did for dog days of summer/arts and astronomy is <http://snipurl.com/artscience>

BjB: any questions? Comments? additions?

JeffreyRH: Oh, I was looking in your TappedIn Trackstar Files. I see this finally. Thanks

FredK: Sorry about the mechanical problems here

BjB: not your fault, Fred...happens to us all

JeffreyRH: This was good, Bj. A nice guide of association and imagination. I had some problems, too, Fred. Just cut me out...

JeffreyRH: Gotta go. Bye all!

FredK: Bj's sessions are great help

BjB waves bye to Jeff. Thanks for joining the discussion

BjB hugs Fred. Thanks!

JeffreyRH bye