Title of Session: Embedding Digital Storytelling into Teaching and Learning
Moderator: Carole McCulloch
Title of File: digitalstorytelling
Date: July 25, 2007

Room: The Art of Storytelling Group

CaroleMc: BTW I've put some text on the whiteboard - something I learned to do yesterday.

CaroleMc: I've prepared a wikispace for the keynote today and I'd like to introduce the audience to that early in the presentation

CaroleMc: http://digitales.wikispaces.com/Keynote_Embedding_DST

CaroleMc: I'll plan to introduce it after my welcome and introductions

CaroleMc: Yes, so I'll be pointing out only 3 or 4 for them to view today

CaroleMc: I've highlighted these as DST Tour Stops - bolded and underscored in the wiki page, do you see them?

CaroleMc: What I would rather have happen is that they choose the links from the wiki page - scrolling down to each DST Tour Stop as I designate them.

KeikoS: Let me see the wiki page...

CaroleMc: http://digitales.wikispaces.com/Keynote_Embedding_DST

CaroleMc: I have also begun a discussion topic for you, and you'd be very welcome to add something there while you're waiting, and certainly after the event.

CaroleMc: Hello all, this is definitely the right place for digital storytelling today.

DianneA: Ok I think we are ready to go ...

DianneA: so let me make my formal introduction ..

CaroleMc: Yes I'm ready

DianneA: Welcome to Festival 2007, Playing to Learn.   This session is being led by one of our international members Carole MCulloch from Australia.   Carole is calling her session "Embedding Digital Storytelling into Teaching and Learning" and it is one of our keynote events.   Enough from me, for now.   Over to you Carole….

CaroleMc: Thanks Dianne, and what a pleasure to be here today.

CaroleMc: My name is Carole McCulloch and I am an independent elearning consultant. The major part of my role is in coaching and mentoring teachers and managers of our TAFE colleges and community centres....

CaroleMc: I work from home mostly but do enjoy traveling widely to facilitate digital storytelling (DST) workshops for teachers and learners in all types of educational facilities....

CaroleMc: The DST phenomenon has become really popular amongst our primary, secondary and tertiary education teachers ....

CaroleMc: Question for everyone: please describe what education sector you are from?

BJB2 . o O (DST = Digital Story Telling)

DianneA: I am in 'professional development' Carole

DoloresG: Elementary K-8

DorethiaM: I teach middle school resource(special ed students)

ChristinS4: Elementary Special Education Teacher in a 5th Grade Inclusion Class

SherryC1: I teach 8th grade English and Social Studies

SusanLC: Secondary English Language Arts

RitaSo: Elementary K-4

KarenAro: Private language consultant

ShayneTr: visual arts and computer teacher, studying special ed last two summers

DianeKR: public high school, intensive reading

CelesteR: 10-12 history

CaroleMc: Thanks for your responses, I see quite a few in the elementary and secondary system. Is anyone from higher ed- community colleges etc?

DianneA: quite a range!

VickiLM : higher ed - technology trainer and adjunct for education department

SherylM: Teacher; Professional Development, parent, Science, Elem Sped

DianneA: I fluff around in higher ed

SusanLC: LOL

CaroleMc: Excellent, I think I will have something for everyone today. IMHO

CaroleMc: IMHO = in my humble opinion

DianneA: university, pre-service teachers and more recently masters by course work

CaroleMc: Question 2 for everyone: what experience have you had with digital storytelling in your teaching or learning so far?

ChristinS4: none

DianeKR: not much, but very interested

DoloresG: none

KarenAro: none

RitaSo: some

DianneA: storytelling I understand, I am not sure about the 'digital' appellation

CelesteR: not much, but interested

SherryC1: none

VickiLM: I began using it with pre-service teachers last year

CaroleMc: Okay, then I should begin with a definition of DST and how it can be used in teaching. Would that be okay?

DianneA: with the recent masters folk it was 'narrative research'

SusanLC: Took a writing project workshop, Made it a project in Creative writing. Took a PhilWP workshop, made it a project in creative writing

CaroleMc: okay I'll just point you to my Digital Storytelling Network where you can see part of that definition.....

CaroleMc: http://www.groups.edna.edu.au/course/view.php?id=107

CaroleMc: okay the definition that we use is on the left side of that Moodle web site....

CaroleMc: Digital storytelling is an engaging process for telling personal narratives, building learning materials; communicating with networks; adding value and media to portfolios; as well as a captivating tool for capturing and sharing project, team and organisational knowledge.

CaroleMc: This web site is one of a few that I'll take you to today - so I hope you're prepared for multi tasking - she says with a smile

ChristinS4: I can multi-task away... the toddler is sleeping :)

CaroleMc: I believe that DST is a wonderful tool for teaching and today I'll explore the reasons why with you ....

CaroleMc: Today I'm planning to take you on a journey to explore ways in which you can embed the practice of DST into your teaching.....

CaroleMc: I've attached some files for you to browse in the Files section .....

CaroleMc: and I have created a space for you to explore in the Digitales wikispace at: ....

CaroleMc: http://digitales.wikispaces.com/Keynote_Embedding_DST

CaroleMc: take a minute to open up that new wiki page and let me know if you can see it by saying YES here

ChristinS4: Yes

DianeKR: yes

SusanLC: yes

RitaSo: y

ScottLy: yes

DoloresG: yes

ShayneTr: yes

KarenAro: yes

CaroleMc: Scroll down a little and you'll see a diagram of my journey in DST

so far....

CaroleMc: Let me explain some of those milestones for you....

CaroleMc: 2003 - first DST conference held in Cardiff, Wales, where I was born ...

CaroleMc: 2004 - began a PD program for teachers in DST at the Australian Centre for Moving Image, funded by my then employer TAFE frontiers...

CaroleMc: 2005 - created the first DST Network for Aussie teachers funded by the Aust Flexible Learning Framework....

CaroleMc: 2006 - coordinated a program for the use of DST in rural Victoria for learners in a basic ICT course...

CaroleMc: 2007 - participated in a funded research project called Embedding innovative practices

RitaSo: what's VET

CaroleMc: Good question Rita VET here in Australia is Vocational Education and Training

CaroleMc: Is there anything in that intro that doesn't make sense for you? OR Would you like me to expand on any of those milestones?

SusanLC: A swiftly growing movement!

SherylM: Like this nation wide emphasis

CaroleMc: For instance you may not be familiar with TAFE - this stands for Technical and Further Education - these colleges operate like USA community colleges.

CaroleMc: Yes Sheryl, that is my focus right now - as DST has become a popular method across Australia

CaroleMc: I wonder if you've all seen a digital story or two before? Can you describe it for me? Perhaps some example from Rusthton's session.

CaroleMc: For those who have not yet immersed themselves in DST, I'll take you to a few for viewing today.

SusanLC: great!

CelesteR: Okay, Rushton's session...and I saw a super presentation...sort of like a Scrapbook on Mark Twain...and that is what I think of with Digital Storytelling.

RitaSo: personal narratives

CaroleMc: Yes, Rushton, actually described the process of creating a digital story (a movie) using software called MovieMaker 2 and iMovie.

SusanLC: My students illustrated poems about family and place and narrated

CaroleMc: Exactly the sort of thing I mean Susan and Rita

CaroleMc: What do you think is the power of these digital stories?

SusanLC: they become sensual and intimate on many levels

ShayneTr: Combination of technology tools and personal connection

RitaSo: The images and the weaving of text to tell a story

CamiC: I think it gives students who might not write well, or who don't like to speak in front of people an outlet and way to have a voice

SusanLC: They learned economy and simplicity in editing for great impact

CaroleMc: absolutely, I agree with all of the above...

SusanLC: And they had a product they could keep

ShayneTr: or share

RitaSo: And be proud of

CaroleMc: have you also considered its power to inspire, motivate and encapsulate cultural issues?

SusanLC: I gave them each little zip drives with their work

SusanLC: explain. I think so

CaroleMc: this is the effect of the first example I'll show you today .....

CaroleMc: The next stop for us on our tour is highlighted for you in the wiki as DST Tour Stop 1 ....

CaroleMc: http://www.fraynework.com.au/02_productions/video/desert.html

DianneA: Stories allow for connections to be made with other experience

DianneA: and prompt new ideas for me

CaroleMc: Take a moment to visit this site and listen to the voice that should start straight away, the visuals may take a little longer to load...

SusanLC: sensual and intimate: magnetic, straight to the heart!

CaroleMc: come back and let me know if you could see and hear how this DST is emphasizing the Reconciliation issues.

SusanLC: I watched it earlier to prep. ouch

CaroleMc: good on you Susan, any other comments you'd make about its impact on you?

ScottLy: it sounds and looks great.

VickiLM: Very well done.

CaroleMc: There are many stories in this Fraynework site - and they all focus on the issues faced by our indigenous peoples.

SusanLC: I know "reconciliation" thru Quakers and systems of justice. Is that what you are speaking of?

CaroleMc: Can you see how these could be used in education activities for learners in elementary or secondary schools?

ScottLy: very powerful

SusanLC: Telling stories of ourselves is the beginning of every civil rights progress

ShayneTr: They would certainly enrich the curriculum!

CaroleMc: Yes, it is a social justice issue for our aboriginal people in Australia - one that has huge impact on their ability to feel safe once more on their own land.

SusanLC: Finding voice, people hearing/seeing/pausing

CaroleMc: Thanks for the feedback, I hope you are beginning to see just how powerful the use of DST can be in education. Let's move on....

CelesteR: This reminds me of a video presented by another Australian to Atlanta children last year, can't remember where it is in my bookmarks

DoloresG: Wow, I just finished it.

SusanLC: Two of my students might testify to that as well, it happened without planning it to happen because they said what they wanted from their own locations

CaroleMc: Please scroll down further in the wiki page to read a little more about the stories of the indigenous peoples....

VickiLM: Reminds me of some of the slave narratives, but most of those are audio only. So much more impact with the video as well.

SusanLC: Course, getting computer lab time and teaching time was not the easiest. . . .

CaroleMc: Let's take another DST Tour Stop, scroll down a little more and you'll find a link to our Designing Elearning site at: .....

SusanLC: . . . but some hear also run the Labs!

CaroleMc: http://designing.flexiblelearning.net.au/learning_design/learning_sequences.htm

CaroleMc: Let me know when you can see this site and please scroll to select a specific example you'd like to view..

SusanLC: yes

ShayneTr: yes

DoloresG: yes

ChristinS4: yes

VickiLM: yes

CaroleMc: In each example you'll notice that there is some text and a story and a map...

KarenAro: yes, selected e-learning

CaroleMc: Okay, after you've selected the sample, click on the story icon...

ScottLy: computer information

CaroleMc: these may take a while to load properly, but they each have their own control buttons

CamiC: got it

CaroleMc: You may wish to explore these in depth on conclusion of the presentation....

KarenAro: really interesting that you have the story, the map and the transcript!

CelesteR: I love all of the examples. I feel like a child.."how can I do this as a teacher?" I wonder

CaroleMc: the reason I'm showing you this site is to give you a picture of how we're actually embedding the digital story into the learning environment.

CaroleMc: This particular resource was developed 2 years ago by some of my colleagues at TAFE frontiers and is continually being refined.

CaroleMc: do you have any other comments you'd like to make about this resource?

ChristinS4: If they can do it... we can do it

CaroleMc: Yes, Celeste, it is enticing and engaging.

CelesteR: I'm envious

CaroleMc: Yes Christine, it is not difficult to do

CelesteR: all those eeee's

DianneA wonders about the time involved

CaroleMc: Okay, let's come back to the wiki page when you've finished exploring the designing elearning site....

CelesteR Two years?

CaroleMc: Hmmm, time taken to produce this whole site was 12 months, time taken to produce each story would have been a few days.

CamiC: are these resources available to us at any time. I like the elearning, as I am helping to develop courses for our district

CaroleMc: You can produce a digital story yourself with easy to use free software in a matter of hours.

CamiC: online hs

CaroleMc: Yes, Cami we'd be delighted for you to make use of the Desiging Elearning site any time.

CelesteR sigh, Did I hear free software?

DianneA: yes Cami, you should be able to access this from the transcript and then from adding it to your favourites

CamiC: ty

CaroleMc: Yes, the whole thrust for our embedding of innovative practices was to ensure that the software being advocated was free....

VickiLM : yeah!

DoloresG: good

CaroleMc: Photo Story 3 a Microsoft product is a free download and teachers really love it here in Aust.

DianneA: excellent strategy ... makes things that much more accessible

ChristinS4: My co-worker created a digital story project with the students @ her elementary school http://www.herricks.org/webpages/tms/family.cfm?subpage=8261

CaroleMc: This is certainly a strong criteria for considering if an innovation can be embedded in your teaching practice - its free - its easy.

ChristinS4: You can check it out later

CaroleMc: Thanks for sharing that one Christine, let's take a moment to visit that site.

CaroleMc: I've loaded the one about Michelles necklace - I love the voice

CaroleMc: what age is Michelle?

ChristinS4: I think these are 4th or 5th grade students

CaroleMc: This is a great example to show how powerful a DST can be to empower young students to express themselves.

ShayneTr: her family must have loved seeing that!

CamiC: wow and I am looking at Margarets Great Grandfather, what an awesome job!

CaroleMc: This sort of DST methodology is being adopted in our Aust primary schools too

CaroleMc: learners from grade 3 - grade 6 are using DST for their eportfolios...

CaroleMc: they can use their finished DSTs as part of their own learning journey to reflect on

ChristinS4: http://www.powertolearn.com/teachers/teachnet_grant_program.shtml

CaroleMc: Thanks Dianne - let's move on a little.

CaroleMc: Would you go back to the wiki space and scroll a little more please ....

CelesteR I'm in awe and inspired.

CaroleMc: I've put in some extra information there about the research that we did in 2006..

CelesteR: So once we download Microsoft, I can easily embed videos to my website, am I thinking right?

CaroleMc: Yes, Celeste, you're absolutely right. Look for Photo story 3 at the microsoft site.

CelesteR Hugging you

CaroleMc: Last year I participated in this research called embedding innovative practices...

CaroleMc: and those eight key findings came out of it, among other things....

CaroleMc: Which one of those eight key finding resonate for you?

ChristinS4: purposeful use of technology is a core competency in a knowledge society

ShayneTr: purposeful use of technology is a core competency in a knowledge society - I try to teach this in my computer class and even art class

CaroleMc: yes Christine, and how many of our teachers include it in their teaching I wonder? what percentage do you think

ChristinS4: This is the comment we make over and over again to parents as to why we want their students to use the computer at home and in school

VickiLM : At this time very few are using it in our area.

ChristinS4: 15% b/c the teachers are scared of the technology

ShayneTr: There are teachers at my school who are actually proud of never missing a computer. Young teachers. I don't get it??

CaroleMc: what strategies could enhance the % of teachers using technology?

ChristinS4: I teach teachers in my district and they are afraid

CelesteR: Achievement through technology is part of our school's mission statement...but I am on crutches.

DoloresG: Purposeful use of technology is a core competency in a knowledge society - I, too, teach this in computer class -

CelesteR: Only one computer in the classroom for 32 students

VickiLM : I agree - what are their students going to do without computer knowledge in the "real" world?

CamiC: It takes a lot more work to use technology effectively to support your curriculum, not just for the sake of using it

DavidWek . o O (crutches are technology)

CaroleMc: Here in Australia we have a national funding framework that provides thousands of dollars for professional development in the use of elearning, mlearning and social networking tools.

ShayneTr: I think that they would need to see "product" and be impressed. DST would certainly make an impact.

ChristinS4: I wouldn't know what to do anymore w/out technology

VickiLM : I agree

KarenAro : I know the strategy I have used with my folks at age 70 to learn computer skills - perceived benefit

ChristinS4: The teachers need to play to learn... but they are scared and they have limited time

CaroleMc: Yes, I note the barriers and challenges that still exist for teachers - and we have those too, we have moved beyond them to push the technology usage with our Australian teachers, it has become an essential skill set that all must aspire to

SusanLC: Economically, this is going to make who is prepped for higher ed and the work force limited to systems that provide?

ChristinS4: What do you bribe them with? LOL

KarenAro: available time and competing priorities are limiting factors for engaging with e-learning innovations ring a bell for me - I wish the day had at least 30 hours

SusanLC: And yet w/o tech, learning still happens

CamiC: Our whole building is getting smart boards and projectors, but I cringe at the people who don't use it effectively

CaroleMc: Exactly Christine - it is all about play to learn - I'm beginning to substitute the word 'research' for play - just to be more accountable to the bean counters - she says with a sigh

DoloresG: I will remember that word - research.

DianneA: Carole, put play back in ... about time the researchers remembered what they really do!

CaroleMc: Thanks for the ideas here about

CamiC: But it is all about training and being open minded when it comes to training.

SusanLC: research/play is a concept that I teach in class, students think I'mcrazy

CaroleMc: bribery, effective communications, attitudes, and pushing the boundaries

CaroleMc: Let's move on a little further, shall we?

CaroleMc: I've also provided a set of tools that you may find useful for embedding DST into your teaching....

CaroleMc: Please scroll a little more in the wiki space and you'll see that I've highlighted these 3 documents for Part A, B and C of the research....

SusanLC: the URL?

ShayneTr: Is that what is listed in the resources for the discussion?

ChristinS4 joined the room.

CaroleMc: Yes, this same trio of documents are located in the files featured in this room.

SusanLC: where's the WIKI?

CaroleMc: Please do help yourself to these when convenient and use them to consider the key questions required for the embedding process to take place.

CaroleMc: http://digitales.wikispaces.com/Keynote_Embedding_DST

SusanLC: thanks

DianneA: Good strategy again, Carole

CaroleMc: What I'd like to do for the remaining 10 minutes is ask one or two of the questions from Part A that might resonate for you. that okay?

DianneA: lovely to see you using Tapped In this way

ChristinS4: aok

CaroleMc: oh are we at the end of our time already?

DianneA: then you can spend time with those who want to stay some more ... time goes so quickly when we are having fun

DianneA: just about ...

DianneA: Thanks for being here for today's session on Embedding Digital Storytelling into Teaching and Learning.

DianneA: Thanks, Carole, for a great presentation and lots of juicy resources.

DianneA: If you are interested in learning more about digital storytelling consider joining this group.   To join the group, click on the green I icon beside the group name The Art of Storytelling, in the welcome box up the top of the welcome page, and then click on the Join this Group option.

CelesteR bows to Carole

BJB2: The Art of Storytelling is a monthly feature on the Tapped In calendar.

DianneA: thanks BJ

CelesteR: I will need more time to absorb the material. I am indebted.

CaroleMc: yes, it's the beginning of your journey and you do need to allow some time

CamiC: As with all new things....thank you very much

CaroleMc: remember I've been on this road for a few years now and know where I'm going

DavidWek admires Carole's compass

CaroleMc: maybe at this point it would be best to take questions from you

VickiLM : Thanks so much for all the info and resources

CaroleMc: you can explore more of the wiki and links later perhaps... ask away.

SusanLC: Maybe just one of the Part A questions?

KarenAro : Thank you - really inspiring, not only for my consultancy services, but also for my volunteer time with an NGO.

ChristinS4: Do you use an online photo bank to store your pics? FLickr?

CaroleMc: Okay Susan which one?

SusanLC: You choose!

CaroleMc: Yes Christine I do use Flickr but I also purchase images from iStockphoto.com

CaroleMc: Okay, let's look at this one>>.

CaroleMc: an innovation like digital storytelling that is adaptable to a range of contexts, easy to use, costs little, places small demands on the infrastructure, and demonstrates immediate benefits - is a FORMULA for successful embedding.

CaroleMc: would you agree with this and why?

ShayneTr: Thanks Carole

SusanLC: Yes

ScottLy : Thank you for the information!

CaroleMc: you are most welcome, glad you could join me.

DavidWek: Great discussion, Carole. Well done

CelesteR: I would agree because it leaves space for other needed materials and time-consuming issues

SusanR: A truly "enjoyable" session

SusanLC: if you add teacher time to pre-plan, great stretches of diverse learning take place and lots of pride

CelesteR: Thanks so much to all for sharing!

CaroleMc: I did want to add that there is a discussion forum here in the room to continue at your leisure and another in the wiki space

BJB2: you have been most gracious with your presentation, Carole! Thanks so much for your rich resources.

ChristinS4: Thanks for the resources

CaroleMc: Yes, Susan I agree with that comment - ownership of the process is important

SusanLC: I think we're supposed to switch to humor and stress, but I am enjoying the politics of your choices in this short session!

CaroleMc: thanks Bj - it was a pleasure and it has helped me to prepare for another set of workshops I'll be delivering across Australia later this year

BJB2: cool, Carole. You know I offer you this opportunity as often as you would like ;-)

SusanLC: For you, it is not teaching/learning if it is not empowering

CelesteR: Carole, I will be at a future session. I have to organize my materials and ideas.

CaroleMc: thanks - I do hope that members will continue to talk about DST and the potential for embedding it in their teaching practices

SusanLC: I suspect that you also teach students how to market their wares, something I have no familiarity with!

CaroleMc: Okay, everyone, time to do, its top of the hour and other sessions are beckoning.

SusanLC: yes, thanks, thanks!

CaroleMc: Yes, Susan, that is indeed part of what several of our indigenous artists projects are doing - teaching them how to market their wares

KarenAro: Humor will have to wait until next festival, sigh... Thanks again! Bye!

CaroleMc: bye

BJB2 waves bye

SusanLC: I should let you go! I'll look on your pages for the marketing. :hugs