

Title of Session: K-3+ Resources - Back to School/Language Arts and Literacy

Moderator: Susan Roseman

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Room: Comfy Conference Room

BrookeM: how is everyone doing?

BrookeM: I have a new link for you Susan

BrookeM: www.brainchild.com for reading assessment practice

SusanR: I am recycling my tracks..

BrookeM: so do we have any newcomers lately?

SusanR: not too many

SusanR: Open House this month

LisaER joined the room.

BJB2 waves to Lisa

BrookeM: Hi Lisa

SusanR: Have you heard of the Urban Dictionary

BrookeM: no

LisaER: Hi

SusanR: It's been around for a couple of years, but it has sure grown since then! Urban Dictionary is an open source Wiki, so the latest words come from all over the world.

LisaER: no, I haven't

LisaER: Lisa waves back!

SusanR: excuse the Word of the Day

SusanR: <http://www.urbandictionary.com/>

SusanR: "The online repository of every piece of slang, jargon and cultural flotsam not listed in the library copy of Webster's."

SusanR: "If you get sued for "bad language," go to the urban dictionary to save the day. Sounds silly? It actually came to play in a court case relating to rap lyrics. The judge in the case referred to the Urban Dictionary to get the meaning of slang words. The case was dismissed. Parents who can't understand their teens' talk can use this to find out what they're up to when they use slang."

BrookeM: whoa cool

LisaER: I just looked up the word SLANG.... interesting definitions!

SusanR: what is the definition, Lisa

LisaER: da current definition of this word is to sell drugs in the song white tees by Dem Franchise boyz uses this term: "I slang in my white tee"

LisaER: Source: michele, Dec 24, 2004

LisaER: It said the current definition means to sell drugs

LisaER: wow

SusanR: why don't we head up to the K to 3+ Room

SusanR: Jeff would like to profile the Discussion and Passageways features up in the K to 3+ Resource Room..he has a few moments while his kids are at swimming

SusanR: Helen, can I guide you to the K to 3+ Resource Room

SusanR: Helen, click the online tab once

DavidWe joined the room.

SusanR: David, would you send anyone up too the K to 3+ Resource Room

SusanR: away I go on my broom

SusanR left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: K to 3 Resource Room

LisaER: we indirectly teach the kids, they are home with a learning coach, usually a parent, that is their direct instructor.. It is homeschooling with a serious twist.. We are an accredited, public school in Ohio

SusanR: Can we start with some quick intros

ChrisMF joined the room.

ChrisMF: hi

BrookeM: Howdy folks! I m Brooke and I teach 3rd grade in MD

DavidWe: Hi, Chris. Welcome

SusanR: Welcome to the K to 3+ Resource Room, Chris

ChrisMF: I teach high school biology in No. VA

ChrisMF: I know I am in the wrong room.

DavidWe: I teach teachers about technology and help people find their way in Tapped In. I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

DavidWe encourages Chris to join in

SusanR: You are welcome to stay Chris

JeffC is back. I volunteer on Helpdesk here... in Forest Grove Oregon.

ChrisMF: thanks.

BrookeM: My name is Brooke and I am addicted to Tapped In

LisaER: I teach at Ohio Connections Academy, fourth grade, a virtual school. I live in Marysville, Ohio... TOTALLY NEW TO TAPPED IN

SusanR: K to 8 Occasional Teacher from Ontario, Canada and facilitator of this GREAT group

SusanR: Tonight's Agenda may get turned around because of Jeff's schedule

JeffC: I'm back Susan... it's ok.

HelenK: I am in Quesnel, BC, Canada and work in ABE with adults but assist with k-12 for my district

SusanR: a fellow Canadian

HelenK: indeed

SusanR: where is Quesnel

SusanR: I know Vancouver, Tofino, Kamloops, Whistler and Panorama Ski Mountain

LisaER: Wow! I just would like to be in Canada right now.. it is so beautiful there!

HelenK: it is in the interior of BC about 700 km form Vancouver

SusanR: Here is the schedule...for tonight

SusanR: This is the general format of most discussions

SusanR: First 10 minutes ..introductions, current sites of interest to educators and beginning of the year challenges and successes

SusanR: Next 20 minutes: THE POWER OF FIVE.....K to 3+ Great Back to School Language Arts and Literacy Resources to kickstart your school year.

SusanR: The bulk of the session consists of a visit to the newly renovated and still dusty K to 3+ Resource Room!!

SusanR . o O (still under construction)

SusanR: On hand will be our resident Tapped In expert, Jeff Cooper, to explain the ins and outs of the Discussion threads, Passageways and how you to, as a member, can create your own resource or group room!

JeffC waves

SusanR: We are going to jump over to Jeff, our resident TI guru

DavidWe waves to Jeff

SusanR: over to you..clap..clap

SusanR: Discussions and Passageways..right Jeff

BrookeM gets out her new notebook and pencils

JeffC: We're meeting here real time... and there are only a handful of us here...

JeffC: But this group has hundreds of members... some of whom haven't logged in for quite some time.

BrookeM is virtually here

JeffC: A community is only as active as its members.

SusanR . o O (there may be late arrivals)

JeffC: Question: How do we get people to participate/collaborate/bleeding log in?

JeffC: My answer: Get Discussion threads started and flowing throughout the month between sessions.

BrookeM: snow storms!

LisaER: That is a tough one, many people look at this as EXTRA work not ENRICHING WORK

JeffC: For starters... the Discussion boards here act as mini-listservs. I'm sure you've all received email from this (and/or other) groups at some point.

JeffC: That's **their** problem Lisa!

JeffC: That's what Digest is for.

JeffC: I'll get to that in a minute.

JeffC: Tapped In is a polysynchronous environment... one of the few on the Net.

JeffC: That means in addition to the real time chat, we can also create groups here for asynchronous support.

JeffC: Trouble is... most people don't use the Discussion boards here much... it's not part of their routine.

BrookeM likes when they come right to her email

LisaER: Since I am new, how do most people use this site?

JeffC: It's not high on their agenda to login to Tapped In and post, or read discussions via their email.

JeffC: A variety of ways Lisa. Some members **do** use the Discussion boards (K-12 classes in particular... some... because chat is disabled).

JeffC: Others use it for real time class meetings (some Pepperdine and other University classes use it almost exclusively for that).

JeffC: Now... there are other Discussion boards that are more robust than the one at Tapped In.

JeffC: This one is very basic.

JeffC: No fancy html, no cute little icons, just plain old (or bold/italics) text.

JeffC: Some have told me that is why they don't use Discussion much.

LisaER: Dumb question.. all else don't laugh..

DavidWe: We won't laugh, Lisa. Please ask

LisaER: where are the discussion boards in TAPPED IN.. or in this room for instance

JeffC: My point here is that in order to increase attendance... and get more involvement from the members... that we should encourage people to at least login to Tapped In to check the Discussion board in this (and other) room(s).

LisaER: Just saw them, sorry

JeffC: Putting out a call for help is a good way to get responses. Of course... you want to be careful in your post. Remember... your post (here) goes out to 192 members.

JeffC: Not all the members have current email addresses. Caveat: when you post... you *will receive bounced messages*.

JeffC: They don't bounce back to Tapped In... they bounce back to *you*.

JeffC: That's just an unfortunate state of affairs... because members can't reply to you either when they receive their email.

BrookeM: can someone in TI delete those people?

JeffC: They need to click the link in their email, which will take them to the Discussion forum (after you login). That is one way to get them here.

JeffC: Brooke... people are reaped if they are inactive after a year.

JeffC: Their email addresses won't tell you immediately who they are... and it would take some time to track them down. If you want... I can show you how to do that... but it involves searching out people without knowing their email address.

JeffC: Now... Discussion threads... like anything else, can really clutter up Welcome page if you're not careful. If you Feature discussions... they turn up on your Welcome page.

JeffC: It is for that reason that I created Folders for Discussions... and then Feature the Folder.

JeffC: A little organization goes a long way.

JeffC: One other advantage to featuring folders... I'm helping one K-12 educator who has a "Gaming" folder... that he originally featured on his Welcome page.

JeffC: I moved it inside of another folder... anyone guess why?

LisaER: Unclear subject content?

SusanR . o O (is about to move her Newspaper Unit message into the Language Arts folder)

JeffC: nope

LisaER: Lisa is glad she has not created posts yet...ahh ignorance is bliss

JeffC: You're going to in a minute Lisa!

LisaER: yikes

LisaER: can I tell you I have a broken index finger

JeffC: Any other guesses why you don't want a folder entitled "Gaming" on your Welcome page in a K-12 classroom?

BarbaraMu joined the room.

LisaER: howdy Barbara

JeffC waves to Barbara

BJB2 waves hi to Barbara

BarbaraMu: hi

EmilyW joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Em

LisaER: Is it a sub-topic of a major topic?

SusanR . o O (breathes a sigh of relief..the Newspaper Unit message moved successfully)

JeffC: Well... in this particular case... yes... but suppose it wasn't?

SusanR: Hi Barb and Em..talking about message posting

EmilyW waves hi, sorry I am late

LisaER: clueless

JeffC: Do any of you have Playboys in your classroom (besides David)?

LisaER: loaded question..

JeffC: OK... but the answer is inside that loaded question.

JeffC: If you're teaching a class here... don't you want administrators to *see it at some point*?

LisaER: Gaming could be related to anything..just like I found out tonight that SLANG means to sell drugs to the YOUNGER population

JeffC: What do you think they're going to say/do when they see that there is a discussion going on Gaming on the Welcome screen.

LisaER: Have a cow

LisaER: ding ding

JeffC: exactly

JeffC: So... you put that folder in another folder... and the admins will never see it.

LisaER: gottcha

JeffC: Unless they get really active at Tapped In... and at that point, they should already be hooked.

SusanR: cool idea. Jeff

EmilyW: I am still confused, what are we talking about?

JeffC: Discussion boards here Emily.

JeffC: I'm trying to encourage the members of this group to start being more proactive with their activity here at Tapped In.

JeffC: The *best* way in my opinion is to get people to start posting.

JeffC: OK... here's your assignment:

LisaER: preaching to the choir! he he he

SusanR: That means me too, Emily

LisaER: broken fingerrrrrrrr

SusanR hangs onto every word uttered by Jeff C

JeffC: 1) Scroll down the top frame and click the folder "Personal Introduction"

JeffC: 2) Create a new thread entitled your name-- looking for (whatever)

JeffC: edit note: If I see any threads specifically entitled "your name-- looking for (whatever) I'm going to virtually punch someone.

LisaER: Do I do this by clicking post new topic

JeffC: The point here is that right now... we can send out half a dozen intros... with requests for information/lessons/collaboration/projects/etc.

JeffC: Yes Lisa

JeffC: Now... take your time in posting.

JeffC: Indeed... don't try and do this all at once.

JeffC: Don't even do it now if you don't have some time to put some thought into it.

JeffC: I want thoughtful posts that will engender reactions from those 192 members who will receive it.

EmilyW: another idea , maybe a new folder, is to post something about one of the links that Sue has listed in the group, like how did a certain website help you

LisaER: Yikes... mine was honest, not too thoughtful though...sorry Jeff...

JeffC: OK... Lisa... you get to be the guinea pig. What is right/wrong about her post: "I am new looking for any get tips that you can share!"

SusanR . o O (Jeff, I may have to revise my post)

LisaER: (LISA HIDES IN SHAME)

JeffC: It's ok Lisa

BrookeM: I saw it

BrookeM: good job

JeffC: Well... aside from the typo... what kind of responses do you think it will engender?

BrookeM passes Lisa a sticker from her sticker collection

JeffC: While you're thinking about your answer... one other tip for posting: include your email address if you want a direct reply.

LisaER: sniff sniff...I can take it.. thanks Brooke, a shinny one too

JeffC: Now... that won't bring people in here... but it will facilitate their replying to your question.

LisaER: okay so I seriously suck!

JeffC pats Lisa on the shoulder.

JeffC: The problem with that post is that it's too broad.

SusanR grins

EmilyW: need to be specific

JeffC: Tips about what? Tapped In? K-3 teaching? What is it you want?

JeffC: That's why I suggest putting some time and thought into your post.

JeffC: Something that can open things up.

JeffC: I will make a post later... and tell people how to turn Digest on... because... I want to see at least a dozen or so posts in the next day or so by this group.

SusanR: I think I am going to be up all night!!!

HelenK: sorry everyone, interesting conversation but I have to leave. Will put on my thinking cap regarding getting more people involved. Will certainly post any ideas that I can think up

BrookeM is a guilty lurker

JeffC: It's not likely to happen though. Why? Because this is like a staff development day. The idea(s) seem good... but the next day... you're back to your old routine.

JeffC: Helen... don't log out.

HelenK: bye for now

JeffC: Lurk

JeffC: You'll receive a transcript

JeffC: Of the whole session that way.

JeffC: That's another tip for people.

SusanR: Thanks Jeff

JeffC: If you can't attend a meeting here... although you can get transcripts later... just login and lurk.

LisaER Lisa is tapping in finally

JeffC: You won't logout for at least an hour... long enough for most meetings.

HelenK: sorry - that won't work Jeff. I am on a work computer and heading home. Don't want to be logged in all night

JeffC: Then you can look at the full transcript in your time.

JeffC: Oh... you need to shut your computer down Helen?

HelenK: yes

JeffC: Give me 30 seconds then.

HelenK: k

JeffC: Passageways--Add passageway-- Type name and click Find It!-- Check box (add description optional) Continue -- Check Featured box if you want it on your Welcome page and click Add Passageways-- Click Update Featured Passageways

JeffC: ok... you can go now

DavidWe chuckles

JeffC: The next thing I want to cover is Passageways... another way to really facilitate collaboration here.

HelenK: thanks Jeff BFN

HelenK left the room (signed off).

JeffC: Passageways are a little tricky to create... since there are so many steps.

LisaER: Lisa has been there with Jeff! Very cool

JeffC: BTW... I didn't actually type that... for once... I created a note with the directions.

LisaER: cool

SusanR: If you notice I just added two new passageways..Roseman's Subbies and Substitute Teachers

JeffC: Another tip: If you have something that you want to type a lot here... then create a Note: Me tab-- Notes subtab.

JeffC: Questions/comments?

EmilyW: how are passageways collaboration?

SusanR: However..once mastered...it becomes intuitive to add passageways

BrookeM: I used mine like that

SusanR: passageways

BrookeM: my office is a passage way to my classroom

JeffC: Because if you feature a passageway in your office or group room... you are encouraging people to explore tapped in.

JeffC: Rather than just hang out in their office or reception...

LisaER nods her head

JeffC: How many people have actually explored Tapped In? Looked at a number of rooms?

SusanR: good grief..I hope I added a Passageway to here from my office

BrookeM: me!

EmilyW: are you talking about passageways in this group or in offices?

JeffC: both Emily

EmilyW: ME

DavidWe raises his left hand

BJB2 raises both hands

BrookeM smiles at Emily

JeffC: OK now... how many of you have spent much time in the K-12 campus?

BrookeM: OOo me!

BJB2: Brooke does some wonderful things with her students, Jeff

JeffC: Excellent Brooke!

JeffC: Now... I've just had another member create a K-12 class for ESL students... kind of a Webheads in Action Jr.

SusanR: Jeff, can we save K-12 campus for our next session?

JeffC: The thing is... most people don't know about the ins and outs of K-12 classroom management here.

JeffC: Yes... next time.

DavidWe: BJ and I were having trouble with that earlier, Jeff

SusanR: Back to the tentative agenda

JeffC: What I'm talking about with Passageways... is that it's cool to explore... but for the most part... you'd like to go to a room that someone else finds interesting.

JeffC: Here are the directions again:

BrookeM: you can get to my K12 room from my office

JeffC: Passageways--Add passageway-- Type name and click Find It!-- Check box (add description optional) Continue -- Check Featured box if you want it on your Welcome page and click Add Passageways-- Click Update Featured Passageways

BrookeM: I think I left my k12 room unlocked

JeffC: Members only Brooke...

BrookeM: no I took that up

BrookeM: so that I could give tours of it cause people were asking about it

LisaER lost about locked and unlocked

BrookeM: I will lock it next week when the kids are back in there

DavidWe: locked is when you CAN'T get in, Lisa

BrookeM: one night I took some people in here in there and I had a kid in there

LisaER: preventing students to misuse the room I take it?

SusanR: May I add your office to my Featured Passgeways, Brooke?

BrookeM: she wrote in her back to school writing that TI was her favorite website

BrookeM: sure

DavidWe smiles

SusanR: 4 minutes to wrap up.. I would like to give you the Power of FIVE

DavidWe listens attentively to Susan

JeffC: OK Brooke... the problem is... without a passageway from your office... or this group room... they'll never find it.

SusanR: Five great resources in Language Arts and Literacy to kickstart your school year

JeffC: So... Discussions. Your assignment: 1-2 posts in the next 45 hours here.

BrookeM listens

JeffC: Passageways. Your assignment: Create one or more cool passageways from your office or this group room somewhere else (particularly a K-12 class if you do want visitors).

SusanR: and I want you to find 5 great Literacy/LA resources to use in your classroom within the next few weeks

SusanR: from this track

SusanR:

<http://trackstar.4teachers.org/trackstar/ts/viewTrack.do?number=166204>

SusanR: This is your virtual handout for the session

SusanR: Choose frame or text view

JeffC: OK... any questions or comments on this? I'm hoping to hear from you all in the next couple of days about who you are, and what you are looking for and/or have to offer here.

BarbaraMu: Thanks- looks great!

BrookeM: thank you

SusanR: and If you want to consider one collaborative project this year consider taking on The Flat Stanley project

SusanR: Here's how it works

LisaER: sorry about the first bad post.. I shall try again!

BarbaraMu: Ship these as quickly as possible to new student teaching daughter...would be great if her grad school class came and participated!

SusanR: <http://www.flatstanley.com/how.html>

BrookeM: Flat Stanley is fun...

JeffC: You don't have to post to Personal Introduction if you don't want. There are a number of other folders created here.

SusanR: and lastly if you're planning any read alouds this year with your students consult this list

SusanR: <http://nancykeane.com/rl/#Readalouds>

BrookeM: Thanks guys!

BrookeM: I have to go and get some grading done ...ugh the papers are piling up

DavidWe waves bye to Brooke

BrookeM: have a wonderful night!!!!!!

LisaER: This was great fun.. I am learning, slowly, but learning none the less!

SusanR: do come in and explore ..The K to 3 Resource Room is always ajar

JeffC: Glad you're having fun Lisa.

BarbaraMu: Thank you- great resources as always...g'night all.

DavidWe waves goodnight to Barbara

BarbaraMu left the room (signed off).

SusanR: Thanks Barb

SusanR: will remain here for last minute questions..or if you want to consolidate any of Jeff's tips

LisaER: till we meet again...fare thee well

DavidWe waves

BJB2 waves goodnight