

Title of Session: K to 3+ Resources - Community

Moderator: Susan Roseman

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JenniferA: I'm Jennifer and I'm from NC too and this is for a class assignment

SusanR: This is me

SvetlanaR: I am a student. I am here for my class assignment. I am from Raleigh, NC.

SusanR: http://bp2.blogger.com/_9sdbjRJaPpM/R270-tAUR6I/AAAAAAAAADE/REsb5dLdSU4/S220-h/Suzie.jpg

JenniferA: I'm a first grade teacher

SusanR: I am your facilitator this evening for tonight's discussion; a dedicated classroom teacher and former tech coordinator from Ottawa, Ontario, Canada

AdelaW: I am not a teacher yet in still in school

DwayneD: Hi Dwayne from Tennessee also here for a class assignment

SusanR: Class assignments...welcome

SvetlanaR: Thank you!

AdelaW: thank you

SusanR: what is the nature of the assignment so we can gear the discussion to your needs

SvetlanaR: to participate in a discussion and share about the experience

AdelaW: exactly

SusanR: As school begins our thoughts are about getting the year off to a positive start by "BUILDING A Sense of Community WITHIN THE CLASSROOM"

FelicitaP: Yeah same here

AdelaW: oh yeah

DwayneD: same here

SusanR: That's the topic and it goes hand in hand with the festival activities

AdelaW: ok

SusanR: so we are here to share ideas on how to build a sense of community in our classrooms

ReneeLP: sounds great

SusanR: .anyone have a tried and true method for doing so ..

FelicitaP: I think that's important

SusanR: How do you “BUILD A Sense of Community WITHIN YOUR CLASSROOM”

SusanR: ...would anyone care to share

LisaBG: I teach at a year round school and we are starting our third week of school.

SusanR: or how would you for you teacher wannabes

LisaBG: We talked a lot about being a family and discussed how to treat family

AdelaW: I don't have one yet

FelicitaP: Well I'm not a teacher yet, but I would encourage students in my classroom to build a community

StephaniDC: I develop an environment conducive to all children's learning abilities that invite parents to be part of the learning process

JenniferA: during writer's workshop the Lucy Calkins' way students get excited about writing about their lives and sharing it with others...it lets students get to know each other as well as me

LisaBG: Since I teach first grade they are still pretty sweet and want to please (making my job easy)

SvetlanaR: we made air balloons with the names of countries represented in ESL class and posted them on the board that said " we all landed here to learn!"

FelicitaP: I think it's important because we are together for most of the day depending on what grade level

JenniferA: sometimes when we talk about good citizenship we will role play different

scenarios

AdelaW: yeah I know what that means I work with prek

SusanR: Jennifer mentioned earlier if I can quote her “one thing we are implementing is SIOP and I have my students talk and share a lot with each other as groups and as partners”

ReneeLP: I have my students make a poster with pictures of things they like (food, colors, family trips, photos,) they then get to share their poster with others

AdelaW: but it's hard because they get bored it's a long day for them

LisaBG: I have also recently been trained in SIOP and find that it helps to have the kids talk and discuss more.

SusanR: In an informal conversation earlier Jennifer stated that it “works really well with my ELL students, even if sometimes they are just repeating back what their partner says”

StephaniDC: what is SIOP

JenniferA: my students enjoy sharing with one another and they are reiterating what they have learned

AdelaW: yeah it gets them going

SvetlanaR: Sheltered Instruction Observation Protocol

SvetlanaR: I believe that's what it is

LisaBG: you got it

StephaniDC: thanks

FelicitaP: What age group?

SusanR: Here is a link for further explanation

LisaBG: it helps ell students practice the language and become more confident when using the language- pretty much more language practice

JenniferA: all ages

SusanR: <http://www.siopinstitute.net/about.shtml>

SvetlanaR: It is targeted towards ESL students

FelicitaP: oh that's good

SvetlanaR: but I believe any student can benefit from it

AllisonAM: hi, everyone, I am not sure what question we were answering

FelicitaP: Do we click on the link now Susan?

AdelaW: it's good to know because we have a lot of those here in the valley

AdelaW: I meant ESL students

SusanR: at your leisure, Felicita

FelicitaP: Yes ESL is a big factor here in the valley

FelicitaP: Okay thanks

SvetlanaR: it is a good tool to use to address different learning needs in your classroom, talking about SIOP

SusanR: do click on it and skim the article while attending to the conversation here

SusanR: I have a number of web resources to support community involvement in the classroom

SusanR: are you ready for the first link

FelicitaP: Like what

SvetlanaR: SIOP is a good example of instructional framework to bring all your learners together

FelicitaP: I wanted to see that link but it is not letting me get in

StephaniDC: it wont let me link either

FelicitaP: can you put it up again Susan

JeffC: hold the Ctrl key down when clicking

JeffC: or accept popups from this site (best)

SvetlanaR: I am sorry where do you go to see the link?

FelicitaP: okay

SusanR: thanks Jeff..

FelicitaP: Susan how is it that you build a community in your room?

StephaniDC: although I don't know anything about SIOP and it wouldn't let me open up the link, I am not sure how this would apply to my position as pre-k autistic teacher. In my classroom everything is language based and there is not a specific program that doesn't work for all students

JeffC: <http://www.siopinstitute.net/about.shtml>

SusanR: the links will be in your transcript so you can look at them at your leisure after the session as well

ReneeLP: ok thanks!

FelicitaP: okay I'll do that

AdelaW: I'll do that later then thanks Susan

SusanR: Fostering a sense of belonging increases academic performance.

SusanR: You can heighten feelings of belonging by building a classroom community.

SusanR: For specific tips and sample activities on how to BUILD A CLASSROOM COMMUNITY, read on.

SvetlanaR: the thing that I like about SIOP is that before you begin your planning you start thinking about not only about content but also language objectives so your plan and instruction deliver the content and the language that students need to understand the concepts

SusanR: try this link ..peruse and come back ..see if this fits with your classroom needs

SusanR: http://www.plsweb.com/resources/newsletters/enews_archives/37/2004/09/07/

SusanR: there is a newsletter worth subscribing to as well

FelicitaP: Oh yeah it looks like a great website

ReneeLP: can the newsletter be found in the link above?

JenniferA: I just read one of the tips to smile and greet students as they walk in the door and this is such an easy thing to do and I totally agree....it also puts me in a good mood

even when I might not always be

StephaniDC: I like how it gives sample activities

FelicitaP: It tells you about the different learning styles

AdelaW: I'll give it a try later Felicita

CatherinHS: That's great that it addresses learning styles

AdelaW: that is good

SusanR: This is a tried and true activity for the younger set

SusanR:

http://www.plsweb.com/resources/newsletters/enews_archives/37_individuality.pdf

SusanR: just a sample of what's out there

CatherinHS: The various styles that make up the class as a whole determines the dominate style of the class as a group

AdelaW: this is very good information Susan

ReneeLP: At my school we have 30 minutes of "morning work" time before school actually begins. My mentor teacher said that I should try to speak to each student about his/her work or what they did the night before in that morning time

FelicitaP: Yes Adela it might be good for are teaching resource presentation if you don't have something already

AdelaW: no I don't it will be good

DwayneD: Renee that is a good idea

SusanR . o O (personalize your greetings to your students)

SusanR: are we ready to move on to one GREAT resource for community building

SusanR: and that is THINKFINITY

AdelaW: and what exactly is that?

StephaniDC: never heard of it

CatherinHS: I agree w/ Susan. Sometimes I am tired, but students know whether I am

really wanting to be open and communicate or whether I am really thinking about something else

SusanR: Thinkfinity delivers FREE, top-quality online educational resources ..to your door so to speak

AdelaW: all right

LisaBG: sounds great

SusanR: thinkfinity provides the highest quality educational resources to teachers and students. Developed by world-renowned organizations who are experts in their fields

JenniferA: thank you

FelicitaP: Oh that sounds good let's give it a try

AdelaW: great

SusanR: just look for a moment

SusanR: <http://www.thinkfinity.com/EducatorHome.aspx>

AdelaW: this is wonderful!

LisaBG: I like the parent resources- it breaks down helping your child at home in simple non-teacher terms

SusanR: It's an all purpose resource for students and teachers..my first stop when I search for resources

AdelaW: wow!

DwayneD: it is nice

JenniferA: I like the project based modules

StephaniDC: I like it

FelicitaP: I like that site also it gives ideas to help the students with their work and gives lesson plans

ReneeLP: this seems great...I get so tired of going from site to site, this seems to have everything

SvetlanaR: literacy network looks great

FelicitaP: I like the homework help

StephaniDC: parent resources are great

StephaniDC: easy to navigate

SvetlanaR: everything is in one place: student, teacher, parent resources and it is FREE

FelicitaP: The Book List. This seems to have so many things and all in this website instead of jumping around

SusanR: sorry I lost all my notes..give me a minute to dig up my links

DwayneD: The essay map looks easy to use

ReneeLP: the homework helper is amazing!

AdelaW: it is

FelicitaP: Yeah I like that parent resource because I think parents need to get more into it

AdelaW: they sure do Felicita

SusanR: to get back to topic try entering the topic ... building classroom community.. into the search box at thinkfinity

FelicitaP: Sorry parents need to be more involved with what their children need

SusanR: Here is what came up for me

SusanR:

http://www.thinkfinity.org/SearchResults.aspx?subject=all&partner=all&resource_type=all&q=building%20classroom%20community&grade=all&WebSiteArea=educator

AdelaW: yeah, I know

SvetlanaR: LearnNC is Thinkfinity partner in NC

StephaniDC: thanks Svetlana

StephaniDC: I like how it correlates to standards

FelicitaP: There are a lot of different options

DaveKe joined the room.

BarbaraMu joined the room.

DaveKe pulls up chair in back of room

LisaBG: I like how the classroom lessons are broken into very specific topics

AdelaW: very useful

FelicitaP: I clicked on one of them and it gave recommendations about pairing students with different backgrounds and ones that need more help or something like that

BarbaraMu: sorry Sue- can you repeat the last url?

SusanR: for those who have just popped in we are looking at Thinkfinity and their "Building a Sense of Community" resources

BarbaraMu: thank you

SusanR: Take a look at the keywords entered in the search field

...http://www.thinkfinity.org/SearchResults.aspx?subject=all&partner=all&resource_type=all&q=building%20classroom%20community&grade=all&WebSiteArea=educator

CatherinHS: Thinkfinity was easy to search and to navigate. I also searched under building relationships and found some of the activities appropriate.

LisaBG: There seem to be a lot of lessons and activities for grades 3-5, is there something similar for grades K-2?

CatherinHS: yes, that is what I just searched

ReneeLP: that is exactly what I was wondering

AdelaW: that's what I am interested in

SusanR . o O (it's easy to zero in on a particular search)

FelicitaP: Yeah I found a lot of activities also

FelicitaP: Yes there is I found some

SusanR: ie for this session

http://www.thinkfinity.org/SearchResults.aspx?subject=all&partner=all&resource_type=all&q=building%20classroom%20community&grade=all&WebSiteArea=educator

AdelaW: good

ReneeLP: thanks

SvetlanaR: choose K-2 in the search criteria

ReneeLP: found it

FelicitaP: This is the name of one of the ones I found that I thought was interesting: It's Too Loud in Here! Teamwork in the Classroom

BarbaraMu: just read that one- interesting!

CatherinHS: I love the title -it sounds excellent

AdelaW: sounds great

SusanR: <http://www.classroomcommunity.ecsd.net/>

LisaBG: I like the idea of the team talker chip- where only the person holding the chip can speak

SusanR: Canadian resource eh

StephaniDC: awww cute site

BarbaraMu: "speaker power" - you can do it with any object

CatherinHS: Has anyone looked at readwritethink.org

JenniferA: I really like this site....I like looking at other teacher's webpages...I always get good ideas from them

CatherinHS: I just found some things under k-2 learning through lang; social action (I think)

FelicitaP: I like Miss Buzzeo's Classroom Quilt

LisaBG: I enjoy looking at other teachers' websites

AdelaW: so do I

SusanR: Isn't it wonderful to share and collaborate and support

ReneeLP: readwritethink is a great website for resource too

AdelaW: it sure is

FelicitaP: Yes it is

StephaniDC: social skills are so important now days....kids don't have social skills anymore it seems like

CatherinHS: Yes, and a couple of activities lead to an understanding of the wider community which will help with classroom community

BarbaraMu: did you already mention the zillion icebreakers/community building activities at the education world site? they have at least 10-20 new ones each year to help start things off well...this one dates back to 2001 but they have an archive of them for each year http://www.educationworld.com/a_lesson/lesson/lesson242.shtml

SusanR: Thank you Barbara

FelicitaP: I know they are really shy or get intimidated by the others

CatherinHS: It had an environmental topic and a car safety topic

SusanR: those are life savers!!!

SusanR: and a favourite site for back to school

FelicitaP: Have any of you visited the Crayola Website?

AdelaW: never heard of it

CatherinHS: the icebreakers and back to school sound very helpful for community building

LisaBG: Yes, they offer some pretty good free sample offers around this time of year

FelicitaP: I think this is a really cool website also with lots of Lesson Plan Ideas

FelicitaP: Yeah they do

StephaniDC: I didn't know Crayola had lesson plans?

SusanR: I am going to end the session with

ReneeLP: I'm taking a look right now...it seems easy to navigate

AdelaW: neither did I

SusanR: PlanetFesto.com - A Ribbon of Images to Surround the World

LisaBG: thank you for leading our discussion tonight

FelicitaP: http://www.crayola.com/educators/index.cfm?n_id=5

AdelaW: thanks Susan

JenniferA : this was helpful....thank you

SusanR: Crayola is an old faithful

SusanR: Recently, I discovered Planet Festo, a site devoted to making a chain of pictures long enough to stretch across the world.

ReneeLP: it was very help ful....thanks

AdelaW: thanks Felicita for the website

DwayneD: thank you Susan

FelicitaP: That's the Crayola website just in case you all want to see it later

SusanR: <http://www.planetfesto.org/>

AdelaW: of course

SusanR: do look at that one later as well

CatherinHS: thank you, it was great to learn of so many resources

AdelaW: I will

BarbaraMu: think its incredible how teachers sit kids in cooperative groups but do little to teach kids how to function in them. The community building activities are so important. not just to learn who they are working with, similarities and differences, but to take time to talk about whether they like it noisy or quiet, neat or somewhat messy, are protective of their own stuff or like to share, like to help someone when they are finished with their work or don't like to be asked to do that....

SusanR: Would you like this session continued next month as well

ReneeLP: that would be great

AdelaW: it was wonderful and very informative

BarbaraMu: think its a great kick off to back to school Sue. So critical to the

functionality of the classroom

FelicitaP: Yeah it would be nice I got a lot out of this session everyone was very friendly

SusanR: We will begin the next session by looking at the ice breakers

AdelaW: ok

FelicitaP: I think we built a great community ourselves

CatherinHS: I could really use this type of session for middle school. Does anyone know of a session?

AdelaW: yes we did

SusanR: that we did, Felicita and friends

BarbaraMu: thanks Sue. Sorry I jumped in so late.

SvetlanaR: Thank you for sharing and pointing out very useful resources on the web

SusanR: Thanks for your participation, Barbara

BJB2: There are a couple middle school discussions and a middle school group, Catherine

FelicitaP: I don't know of any Catherine sorry but I bet you'll find something

SusanR: see you next month for Icebreakers, Warmups, ?Energizers, & Deinhbitizers

DwayneD: sounds good

BJB2 . o O (For Middle School Educators, Math Transformers, and Middle School Portal. MSP is scheduled for August 5)

CatherinHS: Thanks Bj, I had noticed those and thought I would check them out. It would be great if one had a session on building community. They need it too.

AdelaW: see you

CatherinHS: Bye everyone, thank you so much.

SusanR: goodnight all

AdelaW: thank you

ReneeLP: bye

BarbaraMu: see you tomorrow! :)

AdelaW: good night Susan

SusanR: thanks for your delightful sharing and participation

FelicitaP: Goodnight to all and take care

SvetlanaR: Bye everyone. thank you!

AdelaW: bye bye

FelicitaP: Thank you too Susan everything was very useful and interesting.