

Title of Session: WebTools - FURL

Moderator: Pam Berger

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Room: After School Online Room

PamB: Well, let's get started by introducing ourselves.

BJ: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a big fan of Pam's!

KrantiS: Hi my name is Kranti and I am a Preservice teacher at University of Houston

PamB: I'm a technology/library consultant and I was school librarian for many years and I live in the wet, damp NYC area

EuniceH: my name is Eunice and I'm a student

WhitneyZ: my name is Whitney and I'm a preservice teacher in Virginia

PamB: I'm glad you joined me tonight.

BJ is excited to see what Pam is going to share

PamB: I thought we would look at a tool called FURL. Has anyone used it yet?

PamB: It's similar to Backflip...if anyone uses that.

EuniceH: I don't know what that is

KrantiS: No I haven't

WhitneyZ: hmm...I don't think I do either

EuniceH: I'm excited to learn something new

JeffC joined the room.

BJ waves hi to Jeff

JeffC waves

KrantiS: I am interested in learning too

PamB: Well furl is a web-based FREE utility that allows the user to save webpages...

BJ: free is good

JeffC: What's the URL for that Pam (sorry I'm late). There was a teacher here yesterday trying to find a free "webwhacker."

PamB: Instead of using Favorites or Bookmrks on your browser you can use Furl and it will copy the full webpage and save it in your member directory on Furl's file server.

EuniceH: oh wow

PamB: I just started to investigate it and I thought we could explore it tonight ...

BJ: cool.

WhitneyZ: so you can access it from any computer?

PamB: and see if we think it would be useful for teacher s or students and how.

PamB: yes, any computer on the Internet.

WhitneyZ: awesome

PamB: Let's go look at it and then come back and discuss its features...OK?

EuniceH: k

WhitneyZ: ok

PamB: The url is <http://www.furl.net>

EuniceH: do we sign up or do we just read what is on there?

BJ: the file server must be huge. Who supports this site?

PamB: you can do whatever you feel comfortable with

PamB: but it would be fun to sign up...I did.

PamB: I think you have enough time...furl a webpage or two.

JeffC: I signed up... furling my computer lab page... but am not sure what to do next.

KrantiS: I have signed up but I don't know how to furl a webpage

PamB: you need to add the FURL IT button to your links bar on your browser.

JeffC: Pam, could you elaborate on how the site is used, once something is "furling?" You still need web access or am I wrong? Because if this is a freeware version of webwhacker, I should really pass this along to a teacher I met yesterday (plus many others). How does it work *after* something has been furling?

PamB: unfortunately it can't be used like web whacker...you need access to the Internet.

JeffC: Yeah... that's what I thought.

PamB: I think it would be good if a teacher wants to show students articles...the teacher could furl them and then give the URL of their directory to the students.

WhitneyZ: not only that, but you can have students furl articles to build a research database on some topic

EuniceH: yeah, this tool furl would be a good tool to use in the classrooms

PamB: I just started to use so I don't know all the in and outs but....

PamB: I haven't figured out how to set up folders for my furling pages.

PamB: right now I have a long list on one page...it's going to get unruly soon.

WhitneyZ: I think that you can move to different topics...create topic titles for each folder you want, and you can shift the sites around that way

WhitneyZ: that's just a guess

PamB: I was just looking at that...thanks.

WhitneyZ: np

PamB: Do any of you use Backflip.com or Ikeepbookmarks.com?

WhitneyZ: I haven't

PamB: They are similar and have been around for a few years. Both of them keep the title of the website and the URL...no full page.

EuniceH: no I haven't

PamB: many teachers use them to keep track of their favorites.

PamB: It's easy to share your backflip folders with other teachers and students, also.

PamB: Take a quick look at Backflip at <http://www.backflip.com>

PamB: BJ has a HUGH folder on Backflip and often shares it with other educators and TI folks.

BJ: I use backflip a lot for my arts sites

BJ: www.backflip.com/members/BJberquist

BJ: Jeff is the ikeepbookmarks expert

PamB: Jeff, tell how you use your ikeepbookmarks.

BJ: wonders if Jeff is multitasking again?

PamB: . o O (Jeff is checking out BJ's links)

PamB: Well, it's almost time to wrap up...

PamB: what do you think of FURL and Backflip? How would you use them with students?

PamB: any ideas?

EuniceH: well to save their articles they find

KrantiS: I think it is easier and quicker to use in a classroom

WhitneyZ: I stick by what I said earlier...I think it would be great for them to create a research database to use and add to throughout the year

KrantiS: it can help teacher be more organized

EuniceH: and also for the teacher's use too

BJ: you could set up a class backflip page and let the students (or just the teacher) add webpages from school or from home

EuniceH: and it's good to use it now

EuniceH: as a student

PamB: I agree and I really like the idea of building a research database on a specific topic. Cool

EuniceH: so you don't have to keep going back to the website

LewisA joined the room.

PamB: and it's great that they are FREE!

WhitneyZ: definitely a big selling point

PamB: Any other questions or comments to share?

EuniceH: I learned a lot of things today

PamB: Does anyone have a tool they would like us to investigate next month?

LewisA: What are teachers thinking about with 9-11 just around the corner?

BJ . o O (there are some 911 sites on my backflip files)

PamB: Do you mean in terms of curriculum? or ceremonies?

BJ: Pam, you also might want to remind people that there is a Web Tools group

LewisA: how do I get to the backflip file?

PamB: good idea BJ

BJ . o O (I just got the new Art Spiegelman Graphic novel "In the Shadow of the Towers)

BJ: www.backflip.com/members/BJberquist

BJ: to join the Web Tools group so you can access the resources there...

BJ: click on the SEARCH tab in the top right of your screen

BJ: then click on GROUPS

BJ: enter WEB TOOLS

PamB: I'm not a good one to talk to about 9-11...I'm still trying to handle it myself...I was across the street from the towers.

BJ: YOWZA!

BJ: when you get the match to your search...

PamB: I made it away safely as did the librarians I was with but every anniversary drags up some nasty fears again.

LewisA: I have a collection of 9-11 sites on my page called Web Based Resources. the direct URL is <http://ejw.i8.com/polsci.htm#events> It was featured in the Sep 02 issues of American Libraries. I will look at the backflip file and if I may, may I add it?

BJ: click on the group name next to the green i

BJ: certainly, Lewis

BJ: the LM_Net list has been posting sites also

BJ: at the top of the group ID page, is a place to join the group

BJ: when you join, the group name will be added to your Favorite Places menu

PamB: If you join web tools group I'll send you email to remind you to join us each month.

PamB: Thanks very much for coming tonight and sharing.

EuniceH: oh k

EuniceH: thank you

WhitneyZ: thank you very much

KrantiS: Thanks Bye

PamB: Bye have a good month!

BJ: one quickie...

BJ: <http://www.sundayherald.com/print44208>

BJ: that is the url to find out more about the Art Spiegelman book

BJ: o O (my 911 sites are under Peace Blanket)

BJ: thanks, Pam, for having this session. I need to take a closer look at Furl