

Title of Session: Arts and Literacy - Multicultural Connections

Moderator: BJ Berquist

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Room: ArtsSites Group

BJB2: Let's start with introductions again, please?

BJB2: . o O (and a reminder if you are new to Tapped In to go to the ACTIONS window in the top right of the chat window and DETACH)

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

JuliaM waves to Emily. I am a library media specialist student trying to cram more information into my brain.

AmyBon: I am a 4th grade teacher in California participating to earn credit for a technology class I am taking

BJB2: cool, Amy. Thanks, Julia

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler. I'm a Help Desk volunteer for Tapped In. I lead a math and technology discussion in Tapped In. I'm in Bucks County, PA at the moment

BJB2: Thanks, David Em?

EmilyW: I am a helpdesk volunteer and currently multitasking

JuliaM smiles

BJB2 laughs. Thanks, Em

BJB2: The topic for tonight's Arts and Literacy discussion is Multicultural Connections

BJB2: I try to help teachers integrate the arts across the curriculum

BJB2: Right now, the focus for most classes is the holiday season...so let's start there

DavidWe nods

BJB2: one of my favorites is Kidlink Multicultural Calendar
<http://www.kidlink.org/KIDPROJ/MCC/>

HelenK joined the room.

DavidWe waves to Helen

BJB2: the kidlink calendar is a wonderful way to show kids that most cultures celebrate the same kinds of holidays...although perhaps not at the same time of year

BJB2: Hi, Helen!

HelenK: hi everyone

BJB2: welcome

BJB2: an example is birthdays

BJB2: or changes of the seasons

BJB2: or the New Year

BJB2: or a military victory/independence/etc

BJB2: all cultures CELEBRATE

JuliaM: I love the different ways to search, ie. by country

BJB2 nods to Julia

BJB2: the next multicultural site I wanted to share is Peace Corps Kids World

BJB2: <http://www.peacecorp.gov/kids/>

AmyBon: This site looks a bit more "kid friendly"

BJB2: the kidlink site is better for developing writing skills

AmyBon: I particularly like the Food, Friends, and Fun link

JuliaM: If you follow the What is the Peace Corps link there is a link at the bottom for teacher resources...

BJB2: another site that is wonderfully done is Flags and Friends
<http://www.friendsandflags.org/>

BJB2: The person who does this site lives in Israel

BJB2: I have a couple of field trips sites

BJB2: <http://www.field-trips.org/cross/world/index.htm>

BJB2: That field trip was created with TramLine, a relatively inexpensive bit of software designed for doing fieldtrips

BJB2 . o O (last I heard, it was \$25)

BJB2: the other field trip site is by scholastic and is a bit more flashy
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/fieldtrp/soestu/holworld.htm>

JuliaM: Neato!

AmyBon: I like this one.

BJB2 nods...gives you lots of ideas

BJB2: the Library of Congress has some excellent world cultures resources

BJB2: <http://international.loc.gov/intldl/intldlhome.html>

BJB2 . o O (a reminder that the LOC session this Thursday is on Music in America)

BJB2: Julia, the LOC sessions are really good...and a wonderful resource especially for media specialists!

BJB2: here's another LOC site, Portals to the World
<http://www.loc.gov/rr/international/portals.html>

BJB2 . o O (and the homepage for kidlink is www.kidlink.org)

BJB2: for older students, Skin Stories is very cool...about tattoos
<http://www.pbs.org/skinstories/>

AmyBon: this is one the KIDS would be very interested; however, the parents might not be so thrilled...

BJB2 nods. Much depends on how you use the site

AmyBon: Oh definitely...

BJB2: body art is a multicultural ritual

JuliaM: In school we were advised to send a letter home to parents before we used anything that could be "questionable"....

AmyBon: oh, we are too...

BJB2 nods and understands the concerns

JuliaM: I'm glad they gave us good information!

BJB2: sort of related to the PBS site is this one about Meeting God - Elements of Hindu devotion http://www.amnh.org/exhibitions/meeting_god/index.html

BJB2: it appears that many cultures like to decorate their vehicles...here are the rickshaw arts of Bangladesh <http://www.webpak.net/~ricksha/>

BJB2: one more site that gives links to other places in the world <http://www.wackykids.org/>

BJB2: WackyKids is obviously for the younger crowd

BJB2: for closure, I have a couple sites that discuss the importance of using multicultural resources

BJB2: The Power of Culture <http://www.powerofculture.nl/uk/theme/index.html>

BJB2: An Online Tutorial on the exploration of similarities and differences in cultures <http://www.bena.com/ewinters/OnlineTutorial.html>

BJB2: and my last multicultural resource for this discussion is Common Visions, Common Voices http://edsitement.neh.gov/view_lesson_plan.asp?ID=285

BJB2 gives everyone a few minutes to view the sites

BJB2: an extension of the edsitement site would be to use ArtsConnectEd and build your own cultural art exhibit

BJB2: www.artsconnected.org

BJB2: does anyone have any questions? Comments? Ideas?

JuliaM: These are all WONDERFUL sites! Thank you for sharing....

BJB2: glad you could join us, Julia.

AmyBon: Thank you very much...

BJB2: You're welcome, Amy

JuliaM: Bye!

HelenK: thanks BJ - lots to investigate once again

BJB2 waves goodnight and heads for the K-3 Discussion