

Title of Session: Math Resources K-20

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

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Room: Math Resources Group

HeatherHo: hi

HeatherHo: It's been a while since I've been able to catch a chat!

JeffC: nods

JeffC: Well... my chat today is to really get the school year started and this group active.

JeffC: As you can see there are a number of resources here, but not many people... just us in fact.

HeatherHo: yes I got the email

HeatherHo: smiles

JeffC: cool

JeffC: Well... the only way to get this group moving is if members start contributing, whether during live chat or logging in and posting to Discussion, etc.

JeffC: Are you still pre-service, Heather? Or are you starting this year?

HeatherHo: I've actually already begun my first year!

HeatherHo: It's very exciting and exhausting

JeffC: excellent!

JeffC: so when did school start? and what grade are you teaching?

HeatherHo: I'm teaching 1st grade. We started August 7th

HeatherHo: so I've almost got my first month in!

BJB2: . o O (so far so good!)

JeffC: wow... that's great... believe it or not, my kids don't even start school until tomorrow.

BJB2: wow! We started on August 15

HeatherHo: I wish we started after labor day, but I'm in a rural area of Kentucky so I guess they get us started because we sometimes need a lot of snow days

JeffC: yeah... they have a snow day here in Oregon if there are two inches on the ground.

JeffC: anyway... what's up with Math and your class?

JeffC: do the kids have online access? are they running some sort of math software of any kind? anything audio/video, etc.?

HeatherHo: I wish!

JeffC: taken them to starfall, pbskids, etc.?

HeatherHo: we have 2 computers in the room and one is old as my Grandpa!

HeatherHo: I'm working on getting some new technology

HeatherHo: I wish we had a Smart Board or some more computers

HeatherHo: I haven't heard of starfall

JeffC: <http://www.starfall.com>

JeffC: assign it for library homework.

JeffC: how about a computer lab in your school? anything happening there?

HeatherHo: well, we do have one but I couldn't even get a slot scheduled for my class!

HeatherHo: Only the upper grade get to use it for Study Island (math and reading programs) and their portfolio work!

HeatherHo: It's really tough

JeffC: sounds like it

HeatherHo: most of the kids don't have computers at home either

HeatherHo: so I try to make sure they all get to experience the 2 we have in the classroom

JeffC: get two more

JeffC: you really need 4 student computers per class nowadays

JeffC: so... where to get the money?

HeatherHo: yeah, I wish I could get 2 more....it's definitely hard for the new teacher to get new anything!

JeffC: actually... BJ... who is it that is doing that refurbished computer project in Chicago... is that Jeff Lebow?

BJB2: no

JeffC: of course, you'll then be in a position of having to battle with the IT department who will probably say "we don't want to have refurbished computers in our classes" etc.

BJB2: Andrew Pincon

JeffC: It was somebody in Webheads... ah yes... Andrew!

JeffC: Heather, type: /showprofile AndrewP

BJB2: but it's hard to get used computers into a school...districts are wary of bugs and other real or imagined problems

JeffC: it's hard to get *anything* happening in schools, and my (obviously biased) opinion is to go for it. However, as a new teacher, it's also tough to make waves in the right way.

HeatherHo: yes....but maybe I should look into something like this and maybe we could get something in our district

JeffC: this is something you'll need to talk to your principal about before even talking to Andrew.

JeffC: and I don't know if he will be a solution for you either, but it's a thought, and perhaps a step in the right direction... don't really know.

HeatherHo: yes..maybe it will get my principal on his toes LOL

JeffC: I do know that if your kids could get online in a rotating basis (do you use "stations" for them?)... then I believe you may enhance instruction, and indeed, even possibly (eventually) raise AYP... tell that to your principal.

HeatherHo: we don't do stations. I'd like to but I don't have any assistance in the class, so it takes a little longer to do other things. but when the students have free time, such as

when their work is done, they can take their turn on the computer, work in the math center, go to the reading corner

HeatherHo: things like that

JeffC nods

JeffC: for now though, that pretty much leaves us helping you find resources for your students which you may print out and copy... got a copy machine?

HeatherHo: oh yeah!

HeatherHo: lol

JeffC: have you looked at the resources in the math (and other) folders in the K-3 Resources Room here?

HeatherHo: I have looked at some but it's been a while. probably this summer since I last looked

JeffC: right... let's head over there now.

HeatherHo: I think I had trouble getting through the files

JeffC: really?

HeatherHo: yeah...I don't remember what it was...how do I get back to the Math room

BJB2: there's just so much to see, Heather. It can be confusing

HeatherHo: ok....I'm there

JeffC: interesting... but there should also be links to sites that would let you download, etc. of course, it kind of defeats the purpose to not get them online... but let's go there.

HeatherHo: okay

JeffC: click Favorite Places, highlight the room, click Go! (in the top frame)

JeffC: in the top frame, the Favorite Places menu will have K-3 Resources listed.

HeatherHo: k

JeffC: it's next to the Go! button.

JeffC: go ahead, I'll follow

HeatherHo left the room.

JeffC left the room.

BJB2 left the room.

Room: K-3Resources

BJB2 joined the room.

JeffC: ok

JeffC: now... scroll down the top frame and click the "Math Stuff" folder.

HeatherHo: k

JeffC: then pick and we can explore a bit together.

HeatherHo: Math Tools/Manipulatives

JeffC: uh oh... my youngest just came in with a problem and I have to go afk

JeffC: be back soon (hopefully)

HeatherHo: k

BJB2: while we wait, why don't you look at the Magnet Fridge Math, Heather?

HeatherHo: k

HeatherHo: well I don't really need multiplication

BJB2: then let's look at math manipulatives

HeatherHo: okay

HeatherHo: I really like this site

HeatherHo: I've used it before

HeatherHo: I want to look at something new....anything that you'd recommend for 1st graders

BJB2 looks through Sue's resources

BJB2: have you used any picture books for math, Heather?

HeatherHo: nope...where are they?

BJB2: <http://edselect.com/mathbooksbowen.htm>

HeatherHo: oh, okay....that is a very good list

BJB2: does your school have a library?

HeatherHo: yes

BJB2 . o O (always a good idea to make a best friend of the librarian!)

HeatherHo: hehe....definitely

BJB2: here's another book list

BJB2: <http://www.teridanielsbooks.com/theme/Math.htm>

BJB2: you teach 2nd or first grade?

HeatherHo: 1st

BJB2: cool...another great math activity is to take digital pictures of shapes you find around the school

BJB2 . o O (take the kids on a shape treasure hunt)

HeatherHo: that would be fun for the kids

HeatherHo: Good idea

BJB2: Carol Hurst is always good <http://www.carolhurst.com/subjects/math/patterns.html>

HeatherHo: well it's almost 8pm here, so I'm gonna have to start getting things ready for tomorrow

BJB2: thanks for joining the discussion, Heather!

HeatherHo: thanks for all your help. I have found lots of great new things I've bookmarked and now I know where to look for some new ideas

HeatherHo: Tell Jeff I said thanks as well!

HeatherHo: Have a good evening!

BJB2: will do. You too!