

**Title of Session:** Math Resources K-20+ - WiZiQ

**Moderator:** Jeff Cooper

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Room: Math Resources K-20+ Group

**JeffC:** We generally start with brief introductions... let us know a little about yourself, etc.

**AngelicaL:** I'm from Houston, Texas. I'm a pre-service teacher (elementary).

**JeffC:** Great, Angelica. Are you one of Mary Thompson's students?

**AngelicaL:** Yes.

**JeffC:** cool... Mary's great!

**BarbaraN:** I am from Kentucky and a high school math teacher.

**JeffC:** Great Barbara!

**BJB2:** I teach remedial communication and am in Pennsylvania

**JeffC:** I'm on Helpdesk here, live in Forest Grove Oregon, and have been an educator for 15 years. I'm \*not\* a math teacher, but would like to play one on tv some day.

**JeffC:** How many of you are on Macs today?

**AngelicaL:** Not me.

**BarbaraN:** me

**JeffC:** ok... well... we'll see what happens!

**JeffC:** OK... let's get started.

**JeffC:** OK... now... when you teach math online... you've got problems...

**JeffC:** one of the main ones being "how do I write equations? is there an interactive whiteboard with math symbols, etc.?"

**JeffC:** up until now... I haven't really seen any.

**JeffC:** have any of you?

**AngelicaL:** NO.

**BarbaraN:** I have but can't remember what it was.

**AngelicaL:** Do you mean the Promethean boards?

**BarbaraN:** I think so

**BarbaraN:** sounds right

**JeffC:** I'm not familiar with Promethean boards. They are online and interactive?

**AngelicaL:** No.

**AngelicaL:** You connect them to the computer, it's like a big screen tv.

**JeffC:** oh... I know what you're talking about... smartboards, etc.

**AngelicaL:** It's considered interactive. You write on it with this pen.

**BarbaraN:** hmmm no I think it was a website that you could do it with

**AngelicaL:** Yes, I think that is another name for it.

**JeffC:** right... but if you had one in your classroom, i couldn't really see it now, could i?

**JeffC:** oh... I'll have to look into that then Barbara!

**AngelicaL:** yes.

**BarbaraN:** well, microsoft word has the equation editor

**JeffC:** in any event, about a month ago I found a site that may solve some problems for math teachers... it's called "Wiziq."

**JeffC:** and it probably has some features that you won't find in MS Word... such as audio, etc.

**BarbaraN:** I tried to see if I saved it to delicious, but it must of been on my school computer

**JeffC:** it's similar to other presentation systems like Centra, Elluminate, Yugma, etc.

**JeffC:** one of the advantages of it is that it doesn't require any download... it's flash driven.

**DavidW** . o O ( a good advantage )

**BarbaraN**: great, love that

**AngelicaL**: great

**JeffC**: so... if you have flash plugin installed (most do)... you're ready to rock and roll.

**JeffC**: according to the site... it works on PCs and Macs... and Linux as well.

**AngelicaL**: Neat.

**JeffC**: it's still in beta... and I've already encountered a few bugs.

**JeffC**: in any event... I wanted to give it a shot here today.

**JeffC**: there will be a much more complete intro to wiziq on the 14th.

**JeffC**: so... without further ado... I'm going to paste up the link (actually a redirect) to the session.

**AngelicaL**: Ok

**JeffC**: <http://snipurl.com/wizmath>

**JeffC**: ok... let's see how this goes... for now... click on the link (holding the Ctrl key down).

**JeffC**: and login to the session... with luck... no one will have any problems!

**JeffC**: of course... that's never how things work online, is it?

**BarbaraN**: ok what are we doing, I got booted

**AngelicaL**: it didn't work for me

**JeffC**: we'll stay here and I'll see how people are doing. ok Barbara... click on <http://snipurl.com/wizmath> ... but accept popups from this site first... or hold the Ctrl key down.

**JeffC**: what happened when you clicked the link Angelica?

**AngelicaL**: Got it typed it manually.

**BJB2**: I get to the site fine, Jeff, but when I try to launch the site, I get a blank screen.

Might be too many java windows open

**JeffC:** dang!

**AngelicaL:** asking me to be a member

**JeffC:** I think it's flash though, not java

**BJB2** nods

**JeffC:** go ahead and register Angelica... see if that helps.

**BJB2** . o O ( whatever it is, I get a blank screen )

**BarbaraN:** I got Math resource Session details

**JeffC:** but you're not in the room yet Barbara... David's the only one in so far.

**DavidW:** so, we can all draw at the same time, presumably?

**BarbaraN:** what room?

**JeffC:** yes David

**JeffC:** the Tapped In math session... I was hoping the link would take you right there.

**DavidW:** I'm guessing the "teacher" might be able to control that

**AngelicaL:** It worked.

**AngelicaL:** yes

**DavidW:** I first had to register and then it sent me to the correct place

**JeffC:** ok... Angelica's in... could you hear me talking there Angelica?

**DavidW:** Barbara is here, too

**JeffC:** hi Susan!

**JeffC:** <http://snipurl.com/wizmath>

**JeffC:** click that... register... and join us!

**SusanR:** hi Jeff ok

**DavidW:** So, we only have limited time in this demo

**DavidW:** Are you using headphones, Jeff?

**DavidW:** Text tool, Jeff, just below the filled rectangle

**AngelicaL:** I don't know if you can't hear. I don't have speakers on my computer.

**DavidW:** Then you won't be able to hear, Angelica

**DavidW** smiles

**DavidW:** I did

**DavidW:** Text tool

**JeffC:** BJ... still no go?

**DavidW:** you have some great re-verb going - at least what's coming out of my speakers, Jeff

**DavidW:** You're at the football stadium

**SusanR:** I have to switch computers

**SusanR:** yes a football stadium

**DavidW** smiles

**SusanR:** I will be back

**SusanR** left the room (signed off).

**SusanR** joined the room.

**SusanR:** give me the link again, please

**JeffC:** <http://snipurl.com/wizmath>

**JeffC:** sorry bj

**BarbaraN:** way cool.

**AngelicaL:** It was cool.

**JeffC:** ok... so I hope everyone thought that was fun for the whole family!

**SusanR** : no echo at the very end

**BarbaraN** : not much echo here either

**AngelicaL** : Yes, no echo.

**JeffC** : I'll be talking to their CEO in the next day or so... and giving him various suggestions.

**JeffC** : lol Barb

**JeffC** : yeah... not a lot of echo in text!

**SusanR** : nice and quiet at TI

**BJB2** : when it was just you and Sue, there was no echo

**JeffC** : personally I've always preferred text to audio.

**SusanR** : supports two speakers

**JeffC** : but many different styles of learners would disagree.

**JeffC** : sometimes you really need the audio, not to mention a fully functioning whiteboard.

**BJB2** agrees

**JeffC** : I think the whiteboard there has great potential... but obviously some changes and improvements need to happen.

**BarbaraN** : you could set this up for online help at home with a tutor

**JeffC** : especially for math teachers... exactly Barbara.

**BarbaraN** : how did you get it where we were the only ones in the session?

**JeffC** : all they need to do is sign up. when you login... go to "Home" and you'll see your sessions.

**JeffC** : the sessions are all recorded, so you could play back the one we just had.

**SusanR** : how would you tag this for delicious

**JeffC** : and... there are also "public content" sessions as well which you may access.

**BarbaraN:** so we can invite a student to meet us there for online help.

**JeffC:** eek... I have no idea how to tag a wiziq session Sue, but I'll ask the people there about it.

**JeffC:** exactly Barb.

**BarbaraN:** very cool

**AngelicaL:** Very cool, indeed.

**JeffC:** and of course you could hold your own single person session and present everything yourself... save the session... then just give students urls to review.

**JeffC:** of course... that's not interactive... but didacticism still has its place in this world.

**JeffC:** especially in light of NCLB standards, mandates, blech!

**SusanR:** good idea Jeff

**JeffC:** so... it can be presentational or interactive.

**JeffC:** I give their math tools a 5 so far... they have a long way to go with them.

**JeffC:** but I have to give them credit for considering the need... it's the only system so far that I've seen that even considers adding symbols, etc.

**BarbaraN:** yea, several things could be more options and organization, but great idea

**JeffC:** and if they're really programming geniuses (I think they are)... they'll figure out ways to get graphing calculators in there.

**SusanR:** good on the visuals..great concept

**JeffC:** right... those are things I'm going to talk to them about.

**JeffC:** anything else I should put on my list for them?

**AngelicaL:** I give it a six, I like how it allows you upload pictures and power points.

**JeffC:** any suggestions you'd like to see included in their system? now's your chance for input (although you may always tell them yourselves!).

**BarbaraN:** x and y axis, easy way to type number and letter, equations

**JeffC:** I give it a 9 for how it handles powerpoints.

**JeffC:** I'd give it a 10... but there's always room for improvement!

**SusanR:** exactly

**BarbaraN:** well that is a great way to show any powerpoint since you can highlight or write anything extra you need

**AngelicaL:** I agree.

**JeffC:** yes Barb... I agree 100% on that.

**JeffC:** plus the option for the teacher to allow or \*disallow\* control/chat/etc. for the students.

**AngelicaL:** another plus.

**JeffC:** I didn't see any panel as the teacher that I could control who could speak, etc.

**BarbaraN:** I have an interwrite board for classroom use so they could use it before I divide them into a lab

**BarbaraN:** Make that option for control a must!!!

**JeffC** nods to Barb.

**JeffC:** anything else? we're about through for today.

**BarbaraN:** I teach high school

**JeffC:** oh... for those who are new here, I'd appreciate it if you joined this group.

**JeffC:** scroll down the top frame and click the little "i" in the green circle in the Welcome to Math Resources box... then click the link to "join this group."

**JeffC:** once you've joined this group you may post to Discussion.

**JeffC:** posts to Discussion automatically forward to all the group members via email.

**BarbaraN:** oh, great.

**AngelicaL:** thanks

**JeffC:** ok all... thanks very much for coming.



**JeffC:** I'm going to head over to Science Resources now and get that session started.