

Title of Session: Math Transformers - Reviewing for Tests Using Games

Moderator: Patricia Chen

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Room: Math Transformers Group

PatriciaCh: hello BJ - Happy New Year!

BJB2: happy New Year, Pat!

StephaniM: Hi, I am here to learn about games

BJB2 smiles...Pat, we want to play!

BJB2: Welcome to the first Math Transformers discussion of 2008, Stephanie

BJB2: a reminder to go to the Actions menu in the top right of the chat and click on detach

BJB2: don't lose your other main screen though...Pat has featured games links on the web window

PatriciaCh: hello

BJB2: Pat, how about starting with introductions?

PatriciaCh: I am little slow today .. sorry

PatriciaCh: I teach middle school math in Florida

BJB2: I teach remedial communication in Pennsylvania

StephaniM: I teach career/computers to 8th graders in Dewey, AZ

PatriciaCh: the students must love the class!

StephaniM: Sometimes,

HeidiJR joined the room.

BJB2: welcome, Heidi. We've just done introductions

PatriciaCh: well ... I hear from the kids ... "I like your class but I hate math"... that is why I am determine to do things differently

StephaniM: I used to allow my kids to play some games after assignments. But now the filter blocks most games. We can still play Setgames.com

BJB2: please tell us where you are located and what you teach

HeidiJR: I am in Cleveland Ohio and I teach high school Honors Algebra 2/trig and remedial Algebra and OGT remediation.

PatriciaCh: Welcome!

PatriciaCh: What is OGT remediation?

HeidiJR: What is Setgames?

HeidiJR: Sorry, kids who have failed the state of Ohio Graduation test once or more times...

StephaniM: Should have been setgame.com The card game of making sets with a snake, diamond, and oval

HeidiJR: For what level or course?

PatriciaCh: the games that my students play.... are content based

BJB2: are your games online, Pat?

BJB2: . o O (or teacher created?)

StephaniM: Since I teach career ed with computers, I feel most academic games are acceptable

PatriciaCh: no it is not but the games are teacher created ...

HeidiJR: where and how created? Like in Quia?

PatriciaCh: if you click on the games from Harden County ... you can see sample games

StephaniM: Pat what is your web site, I use Quia

PatriciaCh: templates are created ... Jeopardy

BJB2: http://www.hardin.k12.ky.us/res_techn/sbjarea/math/MathJeopardy.htm

PatriciaCh: right now ... I don't have my web site up ... I have my games saved on my school hard drive ...

StephaniM: Ahhh the jeopardy template is great, do you all have it?

BJB2 . o O (that's the link Pat wants you to look at. Hold down the ctrl key when you click on the link)

BJB2: everyone get the url?

HeidiJR: I have seen that template. The ones in the sample are for elementary, it appears.

StephaniM: yeah

PatriciaCh: you can use the template to create what you need for your students

BJB2: there is a template for 7th grade

PatriciaCh: I share with another teacher

HeidiJR: I'm intrigued...we are reviewing for exams right now!

StephaniM: That is a great tool for review.

PatriciaCh: we divide the chapters I make up the quizzes and he makes up the tests ..so we create the games to mirror our assessments

HeidiJR: What a team!

MaureenB joined the room.

PatriciaCh: the kids loves it ... I gave a midterm ...most of the kids were done ... they wanted to play Jeopardy

MaureenB waves hi to all

PatriciaCh: it makes our lives easier ... this is the first year we are doing this

BJB2: welcome, Maureen!

PatriciaCh: hello ...

HeidiJR: Anybody else teach high school?

PatriciaCh: only the algebra even though it is in middle school

StephaniM: Maureen, what do you teach

HeidiJR: We could still probably share--my low level is realllllllllyyyyyyy low! some IQs around 70!

MaureenB: 4th grade

BJB2: I think the basic game format would be the same for all levels...the content would just change

MaureenB: Friday is Finish Fix and Fun Friday

HeidiJR: Huh?

MaureenB: Math Games are the hit of the day

PatriciaCh: yes the format is the same the complexity changes according to grade level and curriculum

MaureenB: we have band so students are coming and going at all different times

BJB2: do you have stations set up, Maureen?

PatriciaCh: you can create card games for vocabulary words play like Go Fish or Old Maid

MaureenB: They have a contract for the day.

HeidiJR: Are the card games in the I4C templates? I saw flash cards...

BJB2 listens for more information about the contract

BJB2: <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/teachertools.htm#game>

MaureenB: They have things to finish or fix from the week and than they can go to different games that I have in the reference section of my web page

StephaniM: what is 14c templates

PatriciaCh: click on the last file

PatriciaCh: i4c is the first link ... it has templates, instructions etc

MaureenB: <http://www.os4e.com/pvc/d/pves/mbeyer/>

PatriciaCh: the last file pertains to making card games

BJB2: Stephanie, Pat is looking at <http://www.internet4classrooms.com/teachertools.htm#game>

StephaniM: thanks

PatriciaCh: Initially ...it is a lot of work ... once you have created the games and work out the "bugs" ..it is smooth sailing ...

PatriciaCh: Try to involve another colleague or two....

HeidiJR: I plan to share the websites with colleagues and also one preservice teacher I know who is student teaching in Cincy, OH...

MaureenB: That helps each of my team has created Jeopardy games for each of our math units so far

PatriciaCh: Maureen - very nice website

MaureenB: thank you

PatriciaCh: yes ... my grade level counterpart ... we share quizzes, tests, etc ...

PatriciaCh: I'm hoping to get my website online by this summer ... it is low on my list of things to do

HeidiJR: I teach all three of my classes "solo" this year. No help.....

MaureenB: observing kids playing these games is better some times than looking at a grade on a test

HeidiJR: "Formative" assessment----buzzword!

PatriciaCh: that is tough Heidi

StephaniM: Are there any other people you can communicate with to share ideas with in your district or city or on-line

MaureenB: What grade Heidi

PatriciaCh: For the high school teachers I did this one year ... I had the kids create a math game ...after the high stake testing was done

HeidiJR: I am part of the Algebra 2 Team, and we collaborate about our policies, and what our Essential Learnings are, but they all share writing their Common Assessments and I'm on my own. Lots of work this year, but better next.....9th grade honors

BJB2 . o O (there is also a Playing to Learn group here in Tapped In with lots of gaming ideas)

PatriciaCh: they kids loved it ... it took about 3 weeks

MaureenB: I had my class (4th grade) do that for a Science vocab review

MaureenB: interesting watching them construct questions with only one answer for Jeopardy

HeidiJR: My student with the lowest IQ loved Quia's Rags to Riches games----- very rote, repetitive problems, she mastered it!!! (won a million dollars)

PatriciaCh: I wanted a fun activity math based ... and used it as a final

StephaniM: Do you have any other game ideas, I especially am looking for computer or Internet

HeidiJR: Go to Quia and try the free, shared activities.

BJB2: www.quia.com

MaureenB: Steph I missed intro what grade level

HeidiJR: My friends in foreign language use it frequently, I think it is linked with their textbook publisher.

StephaniM: Yes, I have used Quia and like it, I actually have started using it for a launch into class since I can place links there as well. I teach 8th grade

BJB2: Pat has a file for vocabulary games
here: http://tappedin.org/tappedin/do/FileAction?ROOM_ID=21887&FILE_ID=44732&state=doDownloadFile

PatriciaCh: Quia is linked to the text

MaureenB: http://www.internet4classrooms.com/skills_8th_original.htm

HeidiJR: When this transcript comes to our email, will it have the hyperlinks?

StephaniM: There is a whole section that is linked to different textbooks

PatriciaCh: yes ..

StephaniM: Quia also lets you post surveys and tests

PatriciaCh: you can also have the kids help you make up the games

HeidiJR: Do any of you use Study Island?

BJB2: tell us more, Heidi

StephaniM: Have any of you played Set? The online version at setgame.com is fun, I would like to find more of these activities

HeidiJR: It is a subscription site for preparation for our state (and others, I think) tests. There are games that students can play while they are answering questions....

PatriciaCh: Study Island is a subscription activity

BJB2: please take some time to visit the Playing to Learn group room and look at the links there

PatriciaCh: I previewed it -

HeidiJR: Yes, and the games are getting better. They used to be horrible...

MaureenB: Do you remember the game Simon? Where you pressed the colors repeating what the machine tells you? This is an online version. Had my students playing it on the SmartBoard.

MaureenB: <http://www.netrover.com/~crose/memory/memory2.htm>

SusanR joined the room.

MarciaBe joined the room.

HeidiJR: Did you hear that Nintendo spent more \$\$ last year on development of games than our nation spent on education? Nintendo, designing educational games might be a real hit!!

BJB2 waves hi to Sue

HeidiJR: How did you wave hi?

SusanR waves and listens

PatriciaCh: Hello Sue and Marcia - what do you teach?

BJB2: take a look at www.beeweb.org

MarciaBe: Business Statistics and Information Systems

SusanR: I teach K to 5 ..Substitute

PatriciaCh: high school?

MarciaBe: College

MarciaBe: And I use games and they still love them

HeidiJR: I still use food, too!

BJB2: beeweb is for elementary level

MaureenB: food is always good :)

PatriciaCh: food and games - tops with the kids

MaureenB: candy is dandy ;)

BJB2 . o O (usually works with teachers too ;-)

HeidiJR: GRIN

PatriciaCh: dark chocolate

MaureenB: good for antioxidants

PatriciaCh: survival food for middle school teachers

HeidiJR: What games work in college statistics classes?

PatriciaCh: another thought is try to connect with other teachers online - to get games etc..

HeidiJR: I am willing to look at Playing to learn

PatriciaCh: I think who Wants to be a millionaire ... would be an easy one to create

StephaniM: Where is playing to learn located [Ed note: The Playing to Learn group can be accessed from Tapped In Reception. BJB]

PatriciaCh: the questions and complexity would be scaffold

HeidiJR: That's how the Rags to Riches plays out on Quia.

PatriciaCh: can you custom the game for your students?

HeidiJR: How do you get the kids to do the "work" that goes along with the problems, and prevent them from wild guesses?

StephaniM: Pat, yes, but Quia costs you \$50 per year

HeidiJR: Jeopardy teachers, how do you get them to show work?

PatriciaCh: I am looking for the "inexpensive way"....

PatriciaCh: the students work as a group - you determine how many

SusanR: Have you thought about Quizlet?

HeidiJR: What is that?

PatriciaCh: they have pencil and paper ... work out the problem in order to answer

StephaniM: Heidi, I use the jeopardy to review computer terms and give the kids a worksheet with the terms to keep them on task

MaureenB: on small white boards that can be erased

PatriciaCh: the team with the correct answer gets the point

HeidiJR: I don't have so much vocabulary...better for Geometry class, perhaps. White boards, good idea!

SusanR: Quizlet is a free service that will create a series of games and printable flashcards for sets of vocabulary words

MaureenB: that slows them down to so you can see who is first if you don't have buzzers

PatriciaCh: what is the website

SusanR: It is web based <http://quizlet.com/>

HeidiJR: Pat, can we expect to see updates and new links here in your tapped in office area?

BJB2: this is a group room, Heidi....

BJB2: if you join the group you can add resources!

StephaniM: What does a group room mean

BJB2 . o O (and if Pat sets the allowances, you can even feature links)

HeidiJR: Oh, not sure about all of the lingo...

BJB2: Stephanie, a group is special interest group

BJB2: this room has been designated for math teachers...

BJB2: when you 'join' a group this allows you to have the privileges of a group member...adding resources and posting to the discussion board

HeidiJR: There are lots of math game websites that could be listed....aplusmath.com, etc.....

PatriciaCh: I add links of interest - tailor to the topic of discussion and retire the ones from previous months

BJB2: joining the group also allows you to get reminders of upcoming meetings and new resources

HeidiJR: And you like "free" and teacher create-able....yes?

PatriciaCh: those gaming sites ... can be use at home ...but in my school district ,... I cannot access it

StephaniM: Heidi, will you be posting you list

HeidiJR: Hmmm, not sure how to do it yet!

BJB2 smiles...Heidi, do you see the blue menu on the left above the chat window?

HeidiJR: Many games have worked well for my low level kids. Now we have a mobile set of laptops to use in case the stationary labs aren't available.

BJB2 . o O (or on the web window if you detached)

HeidiJR: Sorry, what?

StephaniM: Pat you might be able to have your principal get the IS team to unblock those sites.

PatriciaCh: Fun sites

PatriciaCh: <http://www.funbrain.com/>

PatriciaCh: <http://school.discovery.com/brainboosters/>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.kidsastronomy.com>

PatriciaCh: Search Engines

PatriciaCh: <http://www.google.com>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.ajkids.com/>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.yahooligans.com>

PatriciaCh: Homework help links

PatriciaCh: <http://www.library.martin.fl.us/>

PatriciaCh: <http://mathforum.org/dr.math/dr-math.html>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.gomath.com>

PatriciaCh: <http://brainpop.com>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.algebrahelp.com/index.jsp>

PatriciaCh: <http://awesomelibrary.org>

PatriciaCh: <http://inetlibrary.com>

PatriciaCh: <http://aplusmath.com>

HeidiJR: yikes!

PatriciaCh: These are some sites ...you can check

StephaniM: Thanks Patrick

MaureenB: Brainpop costs money if you want access to all of the video

PatriciaCh: I can ask my IS ...but our school district ... is test based ..

PatriciaCh: Brainpop was free ... but in my old school ... we subscribed

PatriciaCh: these sites were on my old website

SusanR excuses herself and heads to the Comfy Conference Lounge

BJB2 nods to Sue.

SusanR left the room.

HeidiJR: One cool thing that I tried was explorelearning.com and its "gizmos". Not games, but great interactions. I got a PTA grant for one year subscription...but it's too expensive to continue.

BJB2: with all the new web 2.0 sites/tools being developed...

BJB2: I wouldn't be surprised if there isn't something for math

PatriciaCh: I am not sure how active these sites are ...but the kids liked them too

PatriciaCh: Measurement.

PatriciaCh: <http://www.funbrain.com/measure/index.html>

PatriciaCh: Money

PatriciaCh: <http://tiger.towson.edu/~mlackn1/mathwebsitestudent.htm>

PatriciaCh: Multiplication

PatriciaCh: http://www.gdbdp.com/multiflyer/v02_final/v02_final.html

PatriciaCh: <http://www.funbrain.com/cgi-bin/mb.cgi?A1=start0&A2=0&ALG=Yes&Submit=Play+Ball>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.aplusmath.com/games/matho/MultMatho.html>

PatriciaCh: Mixed Skills

PatriciaCh: <http://www.quia.com/mathjourney.cgi>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.learningplanet.com/sam/sm/index.asp>

PatriciaCh: <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/index.html>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.mathgym.com.au/htdocs/arcade.htm>

PatriciaCh: (click on MATHGYM ARCADE – you can also try the other sites too.)

PatriciaCh: <http://www.scienceacademy.com/BI/index.html>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.gamequarium.com/math.htm> (a lot of different things to do)

PatriciaCh: Game - Jobs

PatriciaCh: <http://www.escapefromknab.com/>

PatriciaCh: <http://www.learner.org/exhibits/dailymath/>

PatriciaCh: In this site, look on the left hand side to find the different math concepts you can work on. <http://www.scienceacademy.com/BI/index.html>

PatriciaCh: Geometry

PatriciaCh: <http://www.funbrain.com/poly/index.html>

PatriciaCh: Fractions

PatriciaCh: <http://www.gamequarium.com/fractions.html>

PatriciaCh: Place Value

PatriciaCh: <http://www.gamequarium.com/placevalue.html>

HeidiJR: How did you do that so fast?

BJB2 . o O (copy and paste, Heidi)

BJB2: we have three minutes left, Pat...any closing words? Topic for next month?

PatriciaCh: I had to shut down my web site ... it was not hosted on the school server ... but I kept my file

HeidiJR: (rookie) Thanks, people...

PatriciaCh: oh ... using Literature to teach math

StephaniM: Where do we find the transcript for this

PatriciaCh: is next months topic ... unless we want to explore games further

BJB2: cool, Pat. I'll look forward to that one!

BJB2: Stephanie, when you log out you will automatically be emailed your transcript

BJB2 . o O (just check your bulk or spam folder before you empty it)

BJB2: Thanks for a delightful discussion, everyone! Thanks, Pat.

HeidiJR smiles

StephaniM: Bye

PatriciaCh: Thanks everyone see you next month

HeidiJR left the room.

BJB2 waves bye and heads for K-3