

Title of Session: Science Resources K-20+

Moderator: David Weksler

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BJB2: Jeff left me some info about the Jason project. Are you familiar with that, Elizabeth?

DrChristo: I've never heard of it.

BJB2: ohhh...then you'll love this.

BJB2: <http://www.jason.org/public/home.aspx>

BJB2: that's the project homepage

DavidW: It's a big project that was started by National Geographic to involve students as explorers to learn more about science and exploration

DrChristo: Wow. I'm already intrigued.

BJB2: they're offering an internship. The deadline for applications is September 17

BJB2: Jeff suggests that you register at Jason

BJB2: and then look at the internship <http://snurl.com/jasonintern> [www_jason_org]

SusanP joined the room.

BJB2: good job, Susan! Welcome

DavidW: Hi, Susan. Welcome

BJB2: The topic for tonight's discussion is the Jason Project. Are you familiar with that?

SusanP: Thanks. This is the first afterschool online session I've been able to attend.

SusanP: I've heard of it, but am not familiar. I'm a principal at a K-6 school in California.

BJB2 . o O (maybe we should back up and do introductions since Susan is new)

SusanP: Thanks.

BJB2 . o O (there's Susan's intro!)

DavidW: Welcome to the Tapped In community, Susan

SusanP: Thanks

BJB2: I'm a retired communications and arts teacher and live in Pennsylvania

DrChristo: I'm Elizabeth, and I'm a high school chemistry teacher in Connecticut - I'm all the way across the country from you Susan!

SusanP: Hello to BJ and Elizabeth

DavidW works with math teachers and technology and is in New Jersey, near New York City

SusanP: Hi David, I think I chatted with you last month

BJB2: Susan, we started out looking at <http://www.jason.org/public/home.aspx>

BJB2: you may need to hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard

BJB2 . o O (to override any pop up blockers)

DavidW: yes, Susan, we did. Thanks for joining us tonight

DavidW: The Jason Project is an online science exploration program that originates from the National Geographic Society

BJB2: that site explains the Jason Project. Jeff Cooper, who normally leads this discussion, suggests that participants in this discussion join the Jason Project...

DrChristo: This project looks like something the whole school (or at least the whole science department) would have to agree to do together.

BJB2: there is an intern program that has a deadline of September 17

SusanP: For this time, I guess I'll mostly be "listening" to your discussion, if that's okay

BJB2: more information about the internship is at <http://snurl.com/jasonintern> [www_jason_org]

BJB2: try to go to the urls, Susan

BJB2: and see if you have any questions

SusanP: I've opened the Jason Project. Now, for the other.. intern

BJB2: as a principal, this would be something that you could suggest to your Science team

DavidW: There is a big professional development aspect to the project as well

DavidW . o O (including online graduate courses in science education)

SusanP: Ok. My science specialist may be interested in investigating the Jason Project.

SusanP: As I look at the other URLs listed above and below the Jason Project, I see many things that would of interest to my teachers

BJB2: Susan, you also might be interested in having your teachers participate in the Tapped In discussions as part of their professional development.

SusanP: Yes, many of them will be more adept at entering the Tapped In environment than I've been so far.

DavidW thinks Susan is doing fine

SusanP: It's exciting. There's virtually a whole new world out there for us.

BJB2 smiles. I am happy to provide a tour for your teachers if like.

BJB2 . o O (and for you)

SusanP: I appreciate that. How would we set that up?

DavidW: We have another superb science-project for K-5 - Beyond Penguins - that discussion takes place on Thursday

BJB2: just send me an email at bjb@tappedin.org with a date and time (include the time zone, please)

SusanP: I've seen that on the calendar.

BJB2: yes, the Penguins discussion is excellent

BJB2: it's for elementary

DavidW: <http://beyondpenguins.nsd.org/>

BJB2: Elizabeth, are you exploring?

SusanP: Thanks, BJ. I'll certainly do that. I think my teachers would be very excited about this.

DrChristo: I have been exploring the site. It looks like quite an undertaking!

SusanP: Are you exploring the Jason site? I don't want to hold things up. You are all very patient.

BJB2: it's been around for a number of years

BJB2 . o O (the Jason project)

BJB2: wasn't it originally started by Ballard, David?

DavidW: I think Robert Ballard was the originator of the Jason Project concept

DavidW: he was a marine scientist who discovered these thermal vents on the ocean floor and the unusual life that had developed around them

BJB2 nods

DavidW . o O (based on sulfur chemistry, instead of oxygen)

DrChristo: Yes, I've heard of that.

BJB2: The JASON Project was founded in 1989 by Dr. Robert D. Ballard, the oceanographer and explorer who discovered the shipwreck of RMS Titanic. Within months, he received thousands of letters from middle school students asking to join his next expedition. Dr. Ballard knew his discovery had tapped a wellspring of curiosity and excitement about science and was determined to feed it.

SusanP: I'm listening and exploring.

DavidW smiles

BJB2 . o O (when all else fails, read directions ;-))

DavidW agrees

BJB2: project is almost 20 years old...pretty good shelf life for an online project!

DavidW: I think his concept is to communicate and share the EXCITEMENT of science as it is based in exploring the unknown

BJB2 agrees

DavidW . o O (where no WO/MAN has gone before...)

DrChristo: A worthy goal.

DavidW hums appropriate Star Trek theme music

DrChristo smiles

DavidW: the ability for students to interact with scientists and do real science has grown tremendously with the Internet

DrChristo: So it's all virtual?

SusanP: tell me again, to show an emote is it :smiles

DavidW: yes...

DavidW . o O (:smiles)

BJB2 looks to see if the internships are actual field experience

DavidW: start with the colon

SusanP remembers and smiles

DavidW: I think virtual in the sense that a lot of data is collected remotely...by weather satellites or submersibles

BJB2: JASON Lead Trainers: Each year The JASON Project selects top science educators to become certified as Lead Trainers. After completing an extensive Lead Trainer program in science, professional development and the JASON curriculum, these experts are sent around the world by JASON to prepare their colleagues to implement JASON in the classroom.

DavidW: and using computer simulations to model real events - which is what many scientists do already...it is just much easier to share that technology over the Net

BJB2: JASON is currently recruiting professional educators to join its elite network of Lead Trainers.

BJB2: <http://www.jason.org/Public/ProfessionalDevelopment/ForTrainers.aspx?pos=3>

DavidW: Some of the earliest collaborative science projects involved teaming students to look at pollution along the course of rivers...it was important to have many schools involved along the length of the river - then, when samples of water were taken and

compared, students were actually pin-pointing sources of pollution

BJB2: great example of project based learning

DavidW: and REAL science...students were adding to the understanding of where the pollution was coming from

SusanP: It's very motivating for students when they see their efforts are meaningful, not simply an exercise.

DrChristo: Agreed.

SusanP: or practicing skills

DavidW: and the projects easily incorporate other subjects - writing, geography, mathematics, history

SusanP: Friends, you've been gracious and welcoming. **BJB2** I'll contact you about setting up a tour for some of our staff. Maybe I'll chat with some of you again in another discussion group. Thanks for making it easy for a newcomer.

DavidW: Thanks for joining the discussion, Susan

SusanP: Goodbye

DavidW waves bye

BJB2: The next Science Resources discussion will be October 7

DrChristo: Bye, Susan.

BJB2 waves bye to Susan

SusanP left the room (signed off).

BJB2: any comments, questions, Elizabeth?

DrChristo: No, I don't think so.

DrChristo: It would certainly be a huge undertaking to start such a project.

DrChristo: I don't know if it's even possible at my school.

DavidW: Elizabeth, do you know about the National Science Digital Library (NSDL) project?

DrChristo: I don't think so.

BJB2: perhaps it's a curriculum discussion for the Science department

DrChristo: Yes, I think it would be.

DrChristo: I'll certainly pass the url on to my faculty.

DavidW notices the Jason Project has some significant costs for certain levels of participation

DrChristo: I noticed that, too.

DavidW: The NSDL is a growing collection of online tools for teaching about math and science

BJB2: that would be a consideration!

DavidW: I just looked up some chemistry resources - these include java applets for teaching specific concepts

BJB2 . o O (\$\$\$\$)

DavidW was a chemistry major

DrChristo: Do you have a link, David?

BJB2 . o O (don't forget www.chemsense.org)

DavidW smiles

BJB2 . o O (I think I showed that to you before, Elizabeth.)

DavidW: for example...just found this...an acid-base titration applet

DavidW: <http://michele.usc.edu/java/acidbase/acidbase.html>

DrChristo: I think I've used that before.

DavidW . o O (don't know how well it works, but...)

BJB2: ahhh...moles! my favorite ;-)

DrChristo: Yes, I've definitely been there. It works pretty well, but if you do it as a whole class, different people have different concentrations, and it's a little confusing.

DavidW: the main web site is:

DavidW: <http://nsdl.org/>

BJB2: that might work better on a smartboard, Elizabeth

DrChristo: I've got one of them.

DrChristo: I love my Smartboard.

DrChristo: I've even joined the Smartboard Lessons Challenge. Have you heard of that?

BJB2: no, do tell!

DavidW: I haven't...contest to come up with good lessons using smartboards?

DrChristo: The link is: <http://whiteboardchallenge.wikispaces.com/>

DrChristo: Different experts have posed 7 Challenges. You have to do them in your classroom, and blog about it.

DrChristo: My blog is <http://echristophy.edublogs.org/>

DavidW: cool idea

BJB2: very cool!

DavidW looks at Elizabeth's blog

DrChristo: The first one was about adding sound to the lessons, and the next is about using Infinite Cloner.

BJB2: hmmm...maybe we need to schedule you for your own Tapped In discussion so you can share this resource, Elizabeth!

DavidW agrees

DrChristo: I would do it.

DrChristo: There's one coming up about VoiceThread that I'm dying to try. I haven't used that yet.

BJB2: how about for October sometime? Just email me the date and time...maybe you need to start your own Tech/web tools group

DavidW smiles

BJB2: you also might want to contact Pam Berger who leads Web Tools for Education

BJB2: she's leading a discussion tomorrow

DavidW . o O (when you feel comfortable, too)

DrChristo: That's a good idea.

BJB2 . o O (you could collaborate)

DrChristo: Yes, I saw that. I'm planning on going to that discussion.

DavidW: Or even as one of the K-20 science discussions - Jeff would love to have other people leading this discussion

DrChristo: What can I say, I'm becoming a TappedIn groupie.

BJB2: "Pam Berger" <pberger@infosearcher.com>

BJB2: in your spare time check out www.infosearcher.com

DavidW: You've seen this web-based periodic table, Elizabeth?

DavidW: <http://www.webelements.com/>

DrChristo: Oh, yes. I use it all the time with my classes. I've even written a webquest that uses that site extensively.

BJB2 checks the clock on the wall.

DrChristo: Yes, I've got to go back to adding classes to my classroom.

DrChristo: BJ, can I export the usernames so that I can tell my students how I set them up here?

BJB2: Thanks for joining the discussions tonight, Elizabeth. I always learn so much from the participants!

BJB2: you have a K-12 group?

DrChristo: Yes.

DrChristo: I'm going to have Office Hours here with my classes.

BJB2: I think you can copy the usernames...just a sec

DavidW: you should be able to display the usernames as a text file

BJB2: K-12 Student Alessandra (AlessFSt)

BJB2: K-12 Student Alessandra (AlessJeSt)

BJB2: K-12 Student Alexa (AlexaSSt)

BJB2: K-12 Student Alexandra (AlexBuSt)

BJB2: K-12 Student Alicia (AliciaASt)

DrChristo: I was thinking of exporting them to excel and merging them with some kind of introductory letter.

DrChristo: How did you do that, BJ?

BJB2: I just went to the group and selected show all members

BJB2: and highlighted and copied

DrChristo: Oh, beautiful.

BJB2: Andrea will need to log in as AndreaRSt

BJB2: all usernames end in St That is what places them in the student campus

DrChristo: Right.

DrChristo: That's why I want to write them an explanatory letter.

BJB2: they go right to the Tapped In login page and log in as a member, not a guest

BJB2: good idea

DrChristo: That's my plan for the rest of the evening. Thanks for the links and information!

BJB2 smiles. Have fun!

BJB2 hugs David goodnight

DavidW: Thanks for joining the discussion

DrChristo: Oh, yes.

DrChristo: Goodnight.

DavidW: Good job, Bj

DrChristo left the room.

BJB2 chuckles...thanks! That was good team work

BJB2: we all contributed to that discussion...always a good thing

DavidW agrees