

Title of Session: Global PBL - Peace Projects

Moderator: Linda Ulluh/BJ Berquist

Guest Speaker:

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Tappedin transcript for BjBe, 2003.03.27 18:58:53

Room: ASO

BjBe joined the room.

DianeGuest1 joined the room.

DianeGuest1: Hello

BjBe smiles...hi!

BjBe: this interface has some really great new features that the other interface doesn't have, Diane

BjBe: members can start groups and have threaded discussions...

BjBe: and they can upload documents and graphics

DianeGuest1: I have limited experience with the other.

BjBe: this interface is much easier to use than the other one

DianeGuest1: Sounds great. This is a great way to collaborate if you can get people to it.

BjBe: it's also a good place for schools to hold pd opportunities

DianeGuest1: I lurked during a great experience of students in Hungary and North Carolina discussing tolerance.

BjBe: cool! where did that discussion take place, Diane?

DianeGuest1: I do online pd but it is with teachers in 16 countries. It is hard for us to get together at one time. But I see the great possibilities for local collaboration

DianeGuest1: The teacher in Hungary had an office. Janos

DianeGuest1: I also had student in Israel create a virtual community of their real community. I do not know where that was. Students are the ones that have lead me to muds and moos and whatever they are called now.

DianeGuest1: Are you the discussion leader?

BjBe: no, I'm the facilitator. Linda Ullah is the discussion leader. She's the one who is having trouble logging in

DianeGuest1: I had no problems. I have been impressed with tappedin

BjBe: there are some other participants I'm trying to get from TII to here...give me a few seconds

DianeGuest1: patience is my middle name

BjBe smiles gratefully

BeeD joined the room.

BeeD: Good evening!

DianeGuest1: Hi

BjBe waves hi to Bee. Can you introduce yourself to Diane, please?

BeeD: This is the first time I am at this ASO...looks nice

BjBe: Diane, please tell Bee what you told me earlier about your pbl experience

BeeD: Hi Diane, I'm Barbara Dieu, EFL teacher in Sao Paulo, Brazil

BeeD listens attentively

DianeGuest1: Well I have had many experiences over 15 years, but I have used tappedin to have students in Hungary and North Carolina meet and talk about tolerance.

BeeD: How interesting! How old are your students?

DianeGuest1: Hi Barbara, I am in New York, coordinator of Friendship through Education, a program of the US Dept. of Ed.

DianeGuest1: high school. I used to coordinate a program that connected rural schools in NC with schools around the world

BeeD: I represent This is Our Time Project (www.timeproject.org) for French and Portuguese speaking countries and am also responsible for the Classroom Twinning Activity.

BeeD: I teach from 9th to 12th grade

DianeGuest1: Wonderful. Friendship through Education
www.friendshipthrougheducation.org

DianeGuest1: What have been some of your great experiences?

SheriO joined the room.

BeeD: Thanks. I will examine it more carefully tomorrow. So tell me how you organized the tappedin experience?

BjBe: Hi, Sheri. Welcome

SheriO: Hi

BeeD waves to Sheri

DianeGuest1: Hi Sheri!

DianeGuest1: Actually the teacher in Hungary organized it. He had an office in tapped in. The NC teacher said the experience was one of the best in her teaching career.

SheriO: How do you have an office in tapped in

BeeD: I can imagine...I might try it...but my students are a bit rowdy...lol...I would have to keep an eye on them...or just bring a few...

BjBe: there is another project that was organized in TAPPED IN and has a group room here in the new TI. Are you familiar with the Blanket the World with Peace project?

SheriO: NO

BeeD: I have heard about it

DianeGuest1: That is true in any chat. I used to be very opposed to them but have seen great benefits.

BjBe: The embryonic Peace quilt is at <http://www.cedarnet.org/emig/peace/>

BeeD: My students have participated in closed forums...because there are many countries participating , in different time zones and with different technology

BjBe: the next meeting of the group is here on April 3 if you're interested in learning more about it

BeeD: Many schools would not be able to log in here

BjBe: Bee, I think it's easier to log in to TI2 than to TI1

BjBe . o O (that was one of the reasons for the change)

BeeD: Time is a yearly project...and offers different activities to suit every taste. The most popular ones are the Unite the Nations rally and the Twinning Forums...

DianeGuest1: Thanks for the URL I will open another window. how far can I go....

BjBe: Bee has led several discussions about the twinning project.

BjBe grins, well, you lost the window to TI1, Diane

BeeD: Yes...I suppose so BJ...but many schools who participate in our project do not have much financial resources and staying connected costs a lot of money

DianeGuest1: One of the reasons I am here is to encourage participation in new project called Empower Peace www.empowerpeace.com

BjBe . o O (btw, if you're new, read the Helpful Hints note above this chat window)

BeeD: Oh...I did a project in 2000 around the peace manifesto...do you want to have a look at it?

DianeGuest1: I have an avid need to post this after the death of a colleague who was involved in it. He was an Australian reporter killed by a suicide bomber in Iraq last weekend.

BeeD: It's at http://members.tripod.com/the_english_dept/proj2000.html

SheriO left the room.

BjBe: I've added that url to my backflip folder for Peace Sites, Diane. Thanks

BjBe . o O (<http://www.backflip.com/members/bjberquist/9639445>)

DianeGuest1: Would love to look at it. Maybe your students can contribute a pledge of peace

BeeD: They have written quite a lot on peace ...and tolerance. A newspaper article and messages on the forums...

BeeD: This would be good...a poem perhaps

DianeGuest1: Do look at the web page. Maybe your school can be involved in a future video conference

DianeGuest1: I like the idea of a pledge as a poem. I would not worry about language. We can worry about the translation.

BeeD: Yes...I was looking at the toolkit pdf file...very nicely organized

DianeGuest1: It is a great project started from the heart of one individual who cared. He had no education experience but has created a great team. There is no cost to the schools in the video conferences.

DianeGuest1: Now I should talk to you about my employer iEARN www.iearn.org
If you are not involved you should be!

BeeD: We do not have the video conference equipment installed at school yet. Is it expensive and complicated to install?

BeeD: I have heard about IEARN through the Global School Projects

DianeGuest1: It is sent to you by one of the partners. They do all the work and pay for the line connections.

BeeD: I see...this sounds interesting

DianeGuest1: I would like to share a comment from a teacher in Egypt that was posted as a reflection on a workshop this week.

DianeGuest1: My ideas bout iEARN was totally different , first I thought it's a project for my girl to do at school and that's all, but when I came to these sessions I knew it is more that that. It's a new generation who can communicate, exchange information, knowledge and even happiness and grief. All these to have a new world in which we can all live in peace and make it a better world. So after the first day sessions, I believe that my daughter can use the internet safely through iEARN web site.

BjBe: powerful quote!

BeeD: great

DianeGuest1: Yes especially when it was said today despite all that is going on!

BjBe: I'll make sure to send a copy of this transcript to Linda...I know she's really upset that she was unable to join you.

BeeD: One must not lose hope

BjBe: Diane, can I have your email in case she wants to contact you?

DianeGuest1: The internet is a powerful way to enable students to make a difference. Let them be the peacemakers.

BeeD: It is very important for children to get in contact with others around the world...meet others and exchange information, compare and contrast their cultures

DianeGuest1: dmidness@us.learns.org

BjBe: Thanks. I'll send you a copy of the transcript too, Diane.

DianeGuest1: Thanks

BjBe: It's late for Bee, so I should bring this discussion to closure...

BeeD: This was most informative, thank you BJ for telling me Diane was here. I have two new addresses to explore and see how I can contribute with a pledge or plan a video conference.

DianeGuest1: There are stages of cultural integration. First we have to get them communicating then they start caring. How wonderful when they can disagree and respect each other.

DianeGuest1: wonderful BeeD

BjBe: thanks for joining the discussion. Linda's next GPBL discussion is on April 24.

The topic right now is social studies, but she may want to do a repeat of this topic

BeeD: Thank you Diane for sharing your projects. Let's keep in touch.

BjBe waves goodnight. Thanks again to both of you.

BjBe: Powerful stuff, Diane. I hope you will join the Peace Blanket discussion on April 3

BjBe: that project was also triggered by experiences with war

BjBe . o O (and the children of war)