

Title of Session: Global Project Based Learning

Moderator: Linda Ullah

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LindaU: We are just about ready to get started... as soon as BJ gives me the official okay.

BJB2: would you like to start with introductions, Linda?

LindaU: I'll start by introducing myself... I'm Linda Ullah. I'm currently a school development coach for New Technology Foundation (Napa, CA) for our 10 New Tech high schools in North Carolina. I used to teach elementary school.. and did global projects back in the 90s... Then I taught teachers at Foothill College in Los Altos Ca. before taking this job.

BJB2: I'm in Pennsylvania and am a helpdesk volunteer

LindaU: She's also an incredible educator...

AmakaN: I am a student at TAMUK

RabiyaA: I am Rabiya Ali. I am a student teacher at Alief ISD in Houston, TX

JessicaK: I am Jessica Keaton. I am also a student teacher in Alief ISD in Houston, TX.

FredPa: I'm Fred Patrick, I'm a new Distance Education Special at a community college in Santa Maria California, and I'm taking a course in global learning projects

TravisPa: I am a graduate student at Cambridge College & a school counselor at a middle school in Courtland, VA

LindaU: From where are you taking the course, Fred?

MaryG: Hello, I am a college student at the University of Houston. I am finishing my last semester student teaching in Sugarland, Texas in FBISD.

FredPa: Azusa Pacific Univ

MaryG: and my name is Mary. Nice to meet you.

BJB2: looks like a good group, Linda!

LindaU: I'd like to start with a video clip of a student (back in the early 90s addressing a

UN conference in Brazil.... It gives a good rationale for doing global projects with students.

AmakaN: ok

RabiyaA: ok

JessicaK: Sounds good

LindaU: I hope you all are somewhere where you have access to Youtube.

LindaU: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y96He0tISoM>

LindaU: Take time to view it.. I'll take about 6 1/2 minutes.

FredPa: ok

LindaU: I'll wait while you view it.

LindaU: My hope was that the technology would not be a problem.. This is a powerful speech.

BJB2: . o O (very powerful, Linda!)

RabiyaA: Wow!!! this is really powerful

AmakaN: yes very powerful!! She is young

JessicaK: I know!

LindaU: When I saw this, I realized that this is why I believe so strongly in connecting classrooms around the world.. Why did you find this so powerful?

LindaU: How do you think it will influence how you teach?

JessicaK: She is so passionate!

AmakaN: Because she sounds so sincere and her points make sense

RabiyaA: Even though we live in different countries many of us share the same issues around the world

JessicaK: Exactly

TravisPa: The powerful thing is that she is the age of the students we teach. Our students would have a positive reaction to their own.

RabiyaA: well as a teacher we need to bring these issues out...which means being aware of them

LindaU: Think about the classrooms you work in.... How can you teach students to make a difference in the world?

JessicaK: They need to know about world issues, not just their community

RabiyaA: I think we have to be good role models

JessicaK: That is a good start!

AmakaN: I agree, if they see their peer expressing how she feels toward what goes on in the world, it will influence them to do the same and want to make a difference

LindaU: She gave this speech about 15 or 16 years ago.. She's an adult now.

RabiyaA: I wonder what she does now?

LindaU: Me too...

JessicaK: I was wondering too!

LindaU: Okay.. let's view another video.. This one is about 21st Century Skills.

AmakaN: ok

TravisPa: To get the students started, they could start making a difference in thier community, city, state, country, world. Teach them to start small then work broader.

LindaU: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2yCB4i7GJuM&NR=1>

LindaU: It's about 4 minutes long.

LindaU: Try to connect what these folks are saying with the previous video.. and think again about your classrooms.

TravisPa: That was awesome information. Simple, but powerful!

RabiyaA: I agree

LindaU: How can we use collaboration, cooperation and competition to help our students work with other students (in perhaps other countries) to improve the world--the world they will live and work in?

LindaU: No matter what the age of our students is?

TravisPa: Technology is so advanced that I'm sure it can be arranged via internet.

AmakaN: yes I agree

FredPa: using technology to break down barriers

JessicaK: Just like it showed on the clip...students using the computer/webcast/internet

LindaU: True Travis.. but it is not so advanced everywhere in the world.

JessicaK: Good point

TravisPa: The information is out there to make collaboration happen. Teachers must buy in to technology in the classrooms.

RabiyaA: studnets need to feel comfortable talking to students around the world

LindaU: Having said that, I was doing global projects back in the 1990s when the Internet was just new in schools and not as robust as it is today.

JessicaK: How? Did they write letters?

LindaU: Good point Rabiya.. How do we make this happen.

JessicaK: Travel?

AmakaN: traveling is good

LindaU: Okay.. I've left the web site up as an archive site.. I'll post the URL if you want.

MaryG: yes that is true, schools need to take advantage of the technology they have and other parts of the world that have access and learn more about the world.

TravisPa: email.

LindaU: <http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/brazilus/water.html>

RabiyaA: I think teachers need to show goodness in other people around the world by having students do presentations on different countries

LindaU: You'll notice that we used Tapped In....

MaryG: and not be scared or timid, or just not involved globally

RabiyaA: I think that would be a good start

TravisPa: do you want us to go into that url?

LindaU: One of the ways to start may be an ePals project: <http://www.epals.com/>

LindaU: You can look at my students' project now if you want.. I brought up because I did it with limited technology (compared to today)..

LindaU: The Brazilian students had IBM 386 computers.

RabiyaA: This is a great site!

LindaU: We had Macs 5200s... I think.

LindaU: You don't have to have the latest and greatest technologies.

JessicaK: Its amazing how much easier it easy to communicate to people in other countries

MaryG: oh wow, this is neat. I love how the project encourages students to investigate the water pollution issue and encourages integrating other ideas about the world and arts. Fantastic project

LindaU: any way.. I'd love your ideas about doing collaborative projects with students in other countries...

LindaU: Fred... tell us a bit about the course you are taking.

LindaU: I'm excited that Azuza Pacific is offering a Global PBL course.

FredPa: it's a course that we begin to learn about GLPs and by the end we're to have a proposal for one

JessicaK: Other than using the internet...I'm not sure where you would start

RabiyaA: yea I was wondering that too

FredPa: I'm in a little bit of a different situation, in that I'm thinking teacher to teacher projects

LindaU: The Internet is your main link..

FredPa: yes

BJB2: you can use the student campus in Tapped In as one option

LindaU: We used to do pen pal letters (many, many years ago) when I was in school -- the 1950s..

FredPa: I like the ePals idea

JessicaK: I had a pen pal in another state :)

LindaU: There are many projects you can join

LindaU: The resources in this room will help you find some of them.

AmakaN: I will join

LindaU: I'll highlight a few today.

TravisPa: I bet classes from two different countries could collaborate in making a website about an issue.

FredPa: yes, I looked around, there are a ton of resources

LindaU: First, look at: <http://my-ecoach.com/online/webresourcelist.php?rld=6499#3>

JessicaK: If I knew more options I could use them

MaryG: I also had a pen pal in another state when I was in elementary but not too interesting.

LindaU: Do you see anything on this Web Resource List that interests you ?

TravisPa: It would just take one teacher in the school to do this type of thing and it could catch on like wildfire around the school.

JessicaK: A teacher I observed had a friend in India and they would exchange student work to show their students what kids are doing in other countries

AmakaN: Oh that's a good technique to learn

LindaU: I'd suggest you think about your curriculum.. and try to base projects on what you must teach.

AmakaN: especially at a young age...kids take more interest in different things

LindaU: That's the trick.. finding partners who teach the same thing..

RabiyaA: Teachers from different backgrounds can work together

JessicaK: True...

TravisPa: Different holidays! Students could communicate with other students in other countries and discuss the closest holiday that is about to come up.

RabiyaA: yea

LindaU: When I did the project with the school in Brazil.. I did it with 3rd-6th graders..they did it with high school students...

JeffC: The K-12 room here has over 400 members... almost all of whom have a virtual classroom...

LindaU: Yes.. The school year can be different in other countries.. and there is the time zone issue..

LindaU: and language differences..

JessicaK: So what did your kids do?

RabiyaA: yea we have to consider these things as well

LindaU: Perfect, Jeff.

JeffC: post a call for collaboration there... also epals, takingitglobal, etc., and you're bound to get someone to collaborate with... or join online projects already in place (newsday, jason, etc.)

LindaU: awesome

MaryG: Your project sounds really neat, Linda. I also like how you had the younger kids work with the highschool students, which is what they can be excited about.

TravisPa: Teachers could collaborate with teachers in other countries and have them teach a math lesson, for example via video. I bet that lesson would hold a middle schooler's attention.

RabiyaA: and the older ones can guide our young ones

LindaU: Here is a project that caught my attention the other day: You might want to take a look at it: <http://burell9english.wikispaces.com/>

AmakaN: I agree, I know when I was younger I looked forward to working with older kids

JessicaK: I like the video taped lesson idea!

LindaU: I'd like to move you from the "lesson" to a meaningful project that has real significance..

LindaU: Think about the video we started with.....Think about her plea.

TravisPa : Citizen and character building.

LindaU: Notice that the Flat World project is an global writing project.

JessicaK: I like that! It would motivate students to work hard and do a good job

JessicaK: A way to showcase their work

MaryG: That is interesting, I would think a writing project would be quite difficult

RabiyaA: "Tell the aliens a good tale from earth, or face your country's

RabiyaA: annihilation" this is such a great idea...

LindaU: Why do you think that, Mary?

LindaU: Are you all aware of iEarn?

FredPa : yes

AmakaN: no...what is that

RabiyaA: no

JessicaK: No

LindaU: <http://iearn.org/>

LindaU: This organization sponsors global projects that have real meaning and the potential to help people's lives.

MaryG: I would think that writing causes more of a language barrier. No,

MaryG: Interesting!

RabiyaA: the artwork idea is good

LindaU: True, Mary.. but there are ways around that.

AmakaN: I agree, that makes things much interesting

JessicaK: So this is one way people could get money to do interesting projects

AmakaN: most definitely

LindaU: In other countries, students are more likely to have English skills, than we are to have their language skills.

JessicaK: Good point...

RabiyaA: Students can learn a lot about other cultures just by looking at their art works

MaryG: Oh this is really neat, art work is a great way to share ideas and feelings globally.

JessicaK: And not be blocked by a language barrier...

LindaU: BJ knows a lot about connecting people through art.

MaryG: True, Linda.

LindaU: I bet we can get her to share.

RabiyaA: WOW!!!

TravisPa: iearn seems to be a powerful tool to get started.

RabiyaA: I agree

LindaU agrees with Travis

BJB2 grins....I thought you'd never ask!

MaryG: I agree as well!

AmakaN: go ahead!

BJB2: There is a group in Tapped In called Blanket The World with Peace

LindaU smiles excitedly.

RabiyaA: I am amazed because there are students from Pakistan who are on this and I am from Pakistan....who knew

BJB2: a group of teachers in the US got together and started this project based on the

theme of Peace through the resolution of conflict

MaryG: wow, that is awesome!!

LindaU: The world is full of surprises.

LindaU: Where in Pakistan?

RabiyaA: yea, indeed

BJB2: <http://www.cedarnet.org/emig/peace/>

AmakaN: yea, where?

RabiyaA: next to India

JessicaK: Yes..

RabiyaA: it's an Asian country

BJB2: a class or group can submit a "quilt" square based on the theme...

AmakaN: oh I know that

JessicaK: That's so neat

LindaU: What city?

MaryG: where in Pakistan are you from?

BJB2: and the quilt square can be linked to a site with more information or more submissions, etc from that class or group

RabiyaA: Karachi

LindaU: Let's take a look at BJs' project

MaryG: Yes, indeed!

BJB2: the Peace Blanket is just waiting for the world to realize what a great opportunity it is!

MaryG: Wow, BJB that is a wonderful idea. Very creative with the quilt idea and integrated technology within the quilt. I love it!

MaryG: This is quite inspiring!

JessicaK: Me too...

AmakaN: I agree

TravisPa: BJB that blanket the world with peace is great. My eyes are opening wider and wider by the minute tonight via this discussion.

JessicaK: I saw something like that at a museum here

BJB2: Anna Martin, who led the creation of the peace blanket, led a discussion at the Tapped In Festival in July

MaryG: Me too. The resources are great. I like the child art museum in Japan!

LindaU: There are many ways to do meaningful global projects with students.

BJB2 agrees with Linda

LindaU: We are running out of time, but I hope this discussion has inspired each of you to go and do a meaningful global project with students.

TravisPa: These projects are character building as well. These are the things I need to have available for students as a school counselor.

AmakaN: I am glad I joined this discussion, I look at things differently, especially from looking at all the links given!

MaryG: I see and I am motivated as well as determined to begin one and I hope it is the start of many more to come!

JessicaK: I am excited to have a chance to do one of these projects in the future

FredPa: me too. this has been great. and I love the links too. Thanks so much

LindaU: Come back to this room and explore the links any time.

RabiyaA: This was great. I learned a lot.

AmakaN: I am not a Teachers Aide, but I am pursuing a degree so I can become a Teacher

BJB2: The next GPBL discussion will be November 20

AmakaN: I really look forward to the next discussing

AmakaN: ok

FredPa: me too

LindaU: Come back for the next discussion.

MaryG: me too! I will be here!

JessicaK: Thanks for all the resources!

LindaU: ;-)

AmakaN: I will be here!

RabiyaA: Thank you!

BJB2: Thanks, Linda

MaryG: Thank you!

FredPa: yes, thanks again

LindaU: Thank you all.

AmakaN: Thanks Linda

JessicaK: Thanks Linda

BJB2 waves goodnight.

LindaU: good night all.

TravisPa: Excellent experience tonight. Glad I join in tonight. Thanks a lot Linda and BJ!

MaryG: Thank you, Linda and BJB

FredPa: good night

LindaU hugs to all

RabiyaA: Bye and good night!

MaryG: Bye and good night

JessicaK: Bye!

TravisPa : Good night & God Bless!