

Title of Session: WebTools - Wikis

Moderator: Pam Berger

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Room: WebTools Group

BJB2: Welcome, everyone, to this month's WebTools discussion

JodyGst4: Hi.

BJB2: before we start, can you each tell us where you are located and what you teach or would like to teach?

CherylDo joined the room.

BJB2: I'm an art teacher in Pennsylvania and a helpdesk volunteer for Tapped In

DavidWe joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Cheryl. We're just starting introductions

DavidWe waves

LindaTru joined the room.

JodyGst4: I'm from A&M-Commerce. I work in the ExCET office, working on my Doctorate. Commerce, TX

CKM: I live in Dallas, TX. I am a doctoral Student in Texas A&M

JacquelinC: I am from Houston, TX. I would like to teach K-4

JennifeGst1 joined the room.

BJB2: Hi, Linda. We're just starting introductions

LyndaT: I am student teaching a Holmesley Elementary in Kindergarten in Houston Texas

LindaTru: Hi.

LindaTru: I'm student teaching in Kindergarten at Cummings Elementary in Houston tx

PamB: I'm from the New York City area, a library consultant.

LindaTru: Hi, guys.

DavidWe: I'm David Weksler, a Help Desk volunteer for Tapped In and a discussion leader for Math Education & Technology. I'm in New Jersey, near New York City

JennifeGst1: sorry I'm late

EmilyW joined the room.

HelenK: I am from British Columbia Canada and work in ABE and with adults who are transferring their skills to an online environment

BJB2: Jennifer, we're just doing introductions

CherylDo: Hi all. I am a math specialist for an elementary school in Wyckoff, NJ

EmilyW waves hi to all

JennifeGst1: I am Jennifer from Vineland NJ

EmilyW: I am Emily and I am a helpdesk volunteer

DavidWe is closer to Cheryl than Pam, he thinks

JennifeGst1: I am an In-Class Support Teacher

DavidWe . o O (where, Jennifer, where?)

JennifeGst1: and working on my Master's degree through NJCU

JennifeGst1: through their online distance program

PamB: NJ and Texas takes the lead.

JodyGst4: Yea Texas

DavidWe beams proudly for the Garden State

EmilyW: I am from Texas, but didn't mention that in my intro

DavidWe likes Lyle Lovett, too

PamB: I have a soft spot for Texas-- my daughter is engaged to a great guy from Orange Texas...

DavidWe likes most Texans he has met

PamB: although we have turned him into a NYC citizen...almost.

JodyGst4: Once a Texan always a Texan

DavidWe: Good job, Pam!

PamB smiles

DavidWe laughs

PamB: sure

PamB: hi Natalie, we are just about to begin.

PamB: Tonight I thought we would look at wikis...

PamB: has anyone used built or worked on a wiki?

JennifeGst1: yes I have

NataliaGst5: Hello, this is all new to me!

JacquelinC: no

JennifeGst1: last semester

LindaTru: no

JodyGst4: no

CherylDo: no

CKM: I think I did

ChiahsinL: no

DavidWe votes yes, just to be different

JennifeGst1: we were introduced to them

LindaTru: it sounds familiar, though

EmilyW: I have added to a wiki before

CherylDo: what does it stand for

CKM: is it wikipedia?

DavidWe thinks Han Solo's partner in "Star Wars" was a Wiki, right?

PamB: it's really the cutting edge so I'm not surprised.

JennifeGst1: yeah that's what we did wikipedia

EmilyW: wikipedia is what I used but there other wikis

PamB: I'm sure most of you have heard of Wikipedia

JacquelinC: yes

LindaTru: that's why it sounds familiar

JennifeGst1: yes

LyndaT: it sounds familiar

NataliaGst5: I have not

PamB smiles at David

PamB: Let's start by looking at the definition of WIKI in the Wikipedia...

DavidWe: Thanks, Pam. Thought that one landed at LAX

LindaTru: ok

PamB: I'll give you the URL...

BJB2: when you click on the url hold down the ctrl key on your keyboard

JeffC: Here's a Wookie Wikie for David: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wookiee>

DavidWe smiles

CKM: is a type of website that allow users to easily add and edit content and is especially suited for collaborative writing. The name is based on the Hawaiian term wiki, meaning "quick", "fast", or "to hasten" (Hawaiian dictionary). Sometimes wikiwiki (or Wikiwiki) is used instead of wiki (Hawaiian dictionary).

JacquelinC: thanks for the tip BJ

PamB: good read about it for a few minutes and then come back and let's talk about.

DavidWe thanks Jeff heartily

PamB: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki>

LindaTru: ok thanks

BJB2 checks to see if everyone got the url

JacquelinC: yes

JennifeGst1: I did

LindaTru: I'm there

DavidWe feels that everyone will be excited to read about Wookiees from Wikipedia

ChiahsinL: I did

LyndaT: yes thank you

JennifeGst1: which one are we looking at?

CKM: I did too thanks

JennifeGst1: the first url

JennifeGst1: or the second

CKM: the 2nd, I think

JeffC: not the wookie one... the wiki wiki one.

PamB: look at the write up on Wikis <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wiki>

JodyGst4: been there done that

DavidWe giggles

JennifeGst1: okay that's the one I did

DavidWe apologizes to Pam for distracting the crowd

JennifeGst1: yeah stop please lol

JennifeGst1: it's distracting

DavidWe sits on his hands

CherylDo: Between Pam and David I feel that I'm watching Abbott and Costello

PamB Pam laughs

DavidWe: Pam is much better looking

DavidWe . o O (Laverne and Shirley?)

CherylDo: better

PamB David looks like a Wookie (;>

DavidWe: I did get a haircut on Saturday

JodyGst4: very interesting can we get on task

JennifeGst1: yeah thanks Jody

JennifeGst1: u beat me to it lol

PamB: Sorry, I wanted to give everyone a change to read and explore a few links on the Wikipedia.

LindaTru: can someone explain to me what exactly is a wiki...even after reading the definition I don't really understand it.

PamB: Is everyone back?

CherylDo: yes

LyndaT: yes

NataliaGst5: yes

JacquelinC: yup

JennifeGst1: yes

JodyGst4: i'm here

JeffC: wikis are collaborative sites... you login... and can easily edit the content... (in a nutshell)

ChiahsinL: yes

CKM: yes

JacquelinC: so how accurate are they?

JeffC: depends on the wiki

PamB: as accurate as the info entered.

LindaTru: these sites..can they be used for any purpose?

JacquelinC: oh I see

EmilyW: there is an education one I found once

EmilyW: I think

JeffC: some have been maliciously "hacked"... but usually when false info comes up... someone else corrects it shortly.

PamB: they tend to build community and ownership so members tend to keep it updated and accurate.

JacquelinC: interesting

JodyGst4: practical purpose

PamB: You can limit a wiki to just members

EmilyW: on wikipedia there is an education portal

CKM: Really?

HelenK: news wikis etc. stay very current as someone usually updates as new events occur

EmilyW: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Portal:Education>

LyndaT: thanks

LindaTru: what is a portal?

HelenK: we have just started a math wiki for our students here in BC

PamB: Helen, an you share the url?

JodyGst4: Helen - what do they do in the math wiki

CherylDo: sorry gotta go basketball practice is over

CherylDo left the room (signed off).

LyndaT: oOOo maybe the educational stages will help us prepare for the boards

PamB: I have been teaching a series of workshop on using technology to support inquiry and have been using a wiki to have students share their work.

JacquelinC: that sounds fun

JeffC: good idea Pam

CKM: Can you explain more about it?

JodyGst4: so they post their work on wiki?

JennifeGst1: alright so are we going to discuss anything about the wikis?

LindaTru: yes, please elaborate

JodyGst4: Or do you use it for peer review

PamB: the students are practicing school librarians...

PamB: In the workshop, they explore and evaluate technology tools, resources or strategies that I have assigned to teams.

PamB: It's still a work on progress...

JodyGst4: so they do team work on wiki

HelenK: we are just starting the math wiki but will use it to let students create math help sheets (under supervision) and class projects according to discipline. Just starting so there is not too much to see as yet

PamB: but I wanted them to experience using a wiki and be able to share their evaluations.

CKM: Interesting!!

CKM: It's so new to me. I've never heard of it before

LindaTru: do you think you could give us a link to a wiki as an example if you have one? I'm interested in seeing what one is like.

PamB: You can look at it at <http://techinquiry.wikispaces.com>

LindaTru: thanks, Pam. =)

CKM: Thanks too

JodyGst4: Ok Pam - what practical use could the wiki provide us in our different areas?

LyndaT: neat

LindaTru: so, in order to go in and edit a wiki, you must be a member and have a login name and password?

PamB: Jody, what do you teach?

PamB: not on mine. I set it up to be open to anyone, but you can limit it.

PamB: it depends on the software features

JodyGst4: I don't teach. I handle on line training for continuing education

LindaTru: I see, Pam.

JodyGst4: My doctorate will be in Secondary & Higher Education. I will head up the CEU department at that time.

PamB: Jody, then I would use it when you want your students to collaborate and collectively build meaning, information, etc.

JodyGst4: Can it easily link to online courses or is it stand alone

CKM: Pan, I try to open the web but it doesn't work

JodyGst4: hold down control key

JennifeGst1: I don't mean to sound rude, but this is my first time here, and I thought we were going to have you talk about wikis

JennifeGst1: like a lecture

PamB: you can link it any website on the web...a wiki is basically a website that can be edited by many people

JennifeGst1: time atmosphere

JodyGst4: that could really be handy with peer review and group projects

CKM: This is my first time here too Jennifer

CKM: Nice to meet you!

LindaTru: what suggestions do you have for using a wiki in K-4 classrooms, Pam?

JodyGst4: I've never seen wiki before. I'm excited and will investigate more

PamB: I'm not sure about other sessions but I never lecture...

JeffC: analogous to a wiki, Jennifer, tapped in is an educational collaborative... although Pam is leading the discussion... people often chime in with their own opinions, questions, comments... lecture format may be used... but it is... how shall I put it... passe pedagogy.

PamB: I have found real learning happens when we collaboratively ask questions, explore and create meaning for ourselves

JodyGst4: Jeff - I think us newbies just need a little more direction

PamB: It sometimes gets a crazy in an open environment but usually it works.

JodyGst4: Back to Linda's question - how would you use wiki in K-4 classroom?

DavidWe agrees with Pam

LindaTru: thanks, Jody!

HelenK: could use it to develop an understanding of a world event such as the Olympics with pages for history of the sport, statistics, host country etc.

LindaTru: ooo that sounds exciting Helen...

LindaTru: it is current events

JacquelinC: that sounds like a good idea

JodyGst4: So the whole class could post and work on one class project

LindaTru: we're discussing the Olympics in Kindergarten right now, and my students are really interested in them

LyndaT: interesting!

HelenK: exactly

JacquelinC: yeah

LindaTru: I guess I would have to actually set up the Wiki

LyndaT: So how would be start up wiki?

LindaTru: but we could collaboratively compile information

PamB: Wikis can be used to draft

PamB: collaborative documents—

PamB: classroom policies, simulated peace

PamB: treaties or legislation, poetry

PamB: anthologies, or recipe collections.

PamB: Wikis are good vehicles for classes

PamB: engaged in peer reviewed projects,

PamB: and function as archived portfolios

PamB: for classes serious about the

PamB: writing process. They can be used

PamB: as focal points for class discussion.

JeffC: You may easily set one up at <http://pbwiki.com/>

LyndaT: neat

LindaTru: thanks, Jeff

JodyGst4: cool

JacquelinC: maybe for younger kids the teachers from the same grade can collaborate

JacquelinC: thanks Jeff

PamB: There is also a good place wikispaces.com that is free for educators.

JodyGst4: what kind of security is there, other than limiting members

PamB: you can limit postings to space members, had no ads and is free for educators.

JennifeGst1: my professor wanted to experiment making a wiki, but I can't remember what he called it

LindaTru: it looks like a lot of work..but is it? I'm sure everyone knows teachers have to do so many things in so little time...so is having a wiki and maintaining it time consuming?

JacquelinC: cool

JacquelinC: good question Linda

PamB: no, because everyone contributes to the wiki.

PamB: I think my blog takes up more time. (;>

LindaTru: haha =)

DavidWe smiles

JodyGst4:

LindaTru: so I could set one up with team members, and everyday someone could update it

PamB: as long as there is a purpose... some content, ideas, project, etc, that you want to share.

LindaTru: I see.

LyndaT: so if you are a member of the wiki you can contribute to any topic or do you have to be a member of a certain topic to be able to contribute?

PamB: not all wikis are like Wikipedia...

JodyGst4: Is there a log as to whom has been in the wiki and made changes?

JennifeGst1: do u think a blog is better or a wiki?

PamB: the one I shared with you is the workplace for my workshops..so it doesn't have a lot of different topics.

JennifeGst1: to use

JacquelinC: I think you can search a wiki for more info than a blog...right?

JennifeGst1: I used blogs as well in my class, and they can too also be used too for writing

PamB: good question! Usually when someone edits a page the earlier version is saved and listed on the bottom of the page or in "history"

LyndaT: yes Jacqueline I think so

JacquelinC: thanks Lynda

JodyGst4: I've worked in some groups that I would not want their work replacing something I was working on. Just thought tracking would be important.

PamB: Blogs and wikis are different and used for different purposes. I don't think one is better than the other.

JodyGst4: each serves a purpose - right tool for the right job

PamB: Blogs are usually one person's voice with comments from others; wikis are more collaborative and meant to be "many" voices.

LindaTru: could we go back to the educational portal someone mentioned...what exactly is a portal?

PamB: Jeff, what do you think...you use both, right?

JennifeGst1: but u could also use a blog as well for collaborative

JeffC: I have both... but frankly... don't use either all that much.

JacquelinC: me either

JennifeGst1: collaboration

JeffC: I'm not teaching K-12 right now either... but... would use both if I were full-time.

JennifeGst1: u could have a class blog

JodyGst4: Hey - Linda needs an answer to portal

LindaTru: thanks, Jody

JeffC: Right now... I'm using Tapped In to facilitate collaboration between my daughter's second grade class and another class... but Wikis would definitely loom on the horizon if I got more involved with that.

JennifeGst1: I was just asking a question

PamB: a portal is a website with links to a variety of information sources, usually evaluated and organized

LindaTru: thanks, Pam.

PamB: Often school districts or school libraries set up portals for students and teachers.

JeffC: I actually use the CSS (cascading style sheet) from a blog for my webpage:
<http://www.freewebs.com/JeffCooper/>

JeffC has to run... my son needs the computer (will stay logged in though and check back later0.

JennifeGst1: bye

PamB: bye Jeff

JennifeGst1: thanks for coming

JodyGst4: see you later

JacquelinC: bye

JennifeGst1: are we allowed to talk about any topic or can it be other topics too?

JacquelinC: Pam, do you know of any wikis that seem very accurate

LindaTru: bye Jeff

JennifeGst1: because I think webquests are a very good collaboration tool as well

PamB: Actually, wikipedia is pretty accurate...

JacquelinC: oh..thanks

JodyGst4: I love webquests - we homeschool - great resource

JennifeGst1: and could work well with wikis

JacquelinC: that was the only one I heard of before today's discussion

PamB: recently it was compared to two print encyclopedias and Wikipedias had less errors. I was amazed.

LindaTru: How would people know about a wiki you put up?

JacquelinC: wow

JennifeGst1: Jody I had to create one for my graduate class last semester

LindaTru: would they have to search the topic, and your URL just comes up?

PamB: it's more of a tool that groups of people use to share info with each other rather than tell the world...Wikipedia is the exception.

JodyGst4: what was your topic

JennifeGst1: we did the role of NJ in the Revolutionary War

JennifeGst1: since my group we were both from NJ

JodyGst4: My husband is from Connecticut. I bet he'd like to see that.

JodyGst4: Joel has Connecticut history this year as an elective

JennifeGst1: I could send u the link

LindaTru: thanks, Pam.

JennifeGst1: if i still have it

JodyGst4: I did a Webquest on Orca whales

PamB: Jody, do you create your own Webquests?

JennifeGst1: no I did Pam

JodyGst4: I would love the link

JennifeGst1: for my graduate class last semester

JodyGst4: Yes. I have used Webquests for my scout troop. Also different areas of concern that I use at the Children's Museum.

BJB2: o O (a reminder that there is about 5 minutes left, Pam)

PamB: Are there any final comments, questions?

JodyGst4: we have great computers and it is a great way to get kids interest

PamB: thanks BJ

JodyGst4: Thank you.

LindaTru: Thanks for introducing me to the world of wiki, Pam!

JennifeGst1: <http://tinyurl.com/byefo>

JacquelinC: no, but thank you for sharing this info with us and leading our discussion

LyndaT: thanks Pam

JennifeGst1: there Jody I sent it

JodyGst4: Thanks

PamB: you're very welcome. I hope you take a look at wikispaces and think how you could use a wiki for student collaboration.

JodyGst4: Pam - is there some way to print our communications

LindaTru: I think when I get my own classroom, it would be a great tool to have especially if I teach the higher grades...they would like to use something different for peer editing

CKM: I can email you, Jody

LyndaT: I definitely will! Thanks again

JennifeGst1: I was hoping this would be a better experience

LyndaT: that's a great idea Linda

LindaTru: thanks, Lynda haha

PamB: the session transcript will be posted...

PamB: if you are a member it will come in your email when you log off.

JennifeGst1: I really don't think I got much out of this session

DavidWe: What were you looking for, Jennifer?

LyndaT: I got something out of this!!

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe thanks Pam for tonight's discussion

JodyGst4: see y'all later

JacquelinC: I did too....never knew what wikis were

JennifeGst1: more of a lecture type thing where we talk about a certain topic

PamB listens to Jennifer

LindaTru: thanks again everyone

DavidWe smiles

CKM: bye

LyndaT: bye

JennifeGst1: I mean nothing against anyone

JacquelinC: it was nice meeting you all...see you on TI

JacquelinC: bye

JennifeGst1: I guess I am new to this