

Title of Session: K-20 Math Discussion Group

Moderator: Jeff Cooper

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Room: After School Online Room

KathieWi: Is this the K-12 Math discussion?

JeffC: For starters... I'd like to have everybody say a little about themselves... and what they'd like from this group. Yes... this is K-12 Math Kathie.

CrystalH: Hi I am from University of Houston

AnnCK: I am a pre-service teacher attending the University of Houston.

EricaM: I'm a pre service teacher and I just want information

MelanieMM: UH, pre-service teacher

KathieWi: Hi! I teach 8th Grade Mathematics in Camarillo, CA. I'm presently taking a tech course at CLU to clear my credential. I'm a 4th year teacher

JeffC: My name is Jeff Cooper. I was a K-12 educator for 9 years... the past three years I was the Education Technology Specialist for the College of Education at Pacific University... which means... I've been in education for how many years?

CrystalH: I would like to get ideas on how to make math more interesting for elementary students

KathieWi: I need ideas on how to teach algebra successfully to students who can't multiply

CrystalH: 12 years

MelanieMM: I am looking for any and all ideas for making math a fun and exciting experience.

JeffC: Thanks Crystal... that is indeed the expected answer... but of course... it was a trick question... counting all my college... high school... and life... the correct answer is 40 years.

CrystalH: haha that was a good one

KathieWi: how long in technology?

JeffC: There ya go... how to have fun with math! I think one of the issues with math is that people see it as cut and dry... there is always a right answer... so... yeah... having fun with it is important. I've been involved with tech and the net since 94.

KathieWi: I've been using drill and kill software for math intervention but would like to integrate more technology to assist student understanding.

JeffC: I have been a Language Arts and ESL teacher... I'm not a math teacher. In my position at Pacific however and for quite a while I've been putting together resources for all educators and students. Some of those resources can be found at:

<http://www.mybookmarks.com/public/coops>

JeffC: I have also created a public bookmark site that **you** can add to at

<http://www.mybookmarks.com> Login: mathscience Password: tappedin

JeffC: Later today I will also have people join me in the Math Resources room I created here.

CrystalH: ok that sounds good

JeffC: My goal is to get Math teachers to collaborate with one another... using Tapped In as a central hub to facilitate collaboration.

KathieWi: great idea

JeffC: Although I'm not an expert math teacher... I am an expert at Tapped In, and look to you to share your expertise with each other.

JeffC: For starters... I'm going to open a website for you that I'd like you to look around a bit at. I will be opening a new browser window for you... you will need to come back to this window to discuss what you find... ok?

KathieWi: ok

AnnCK: ok

MelanieMM: k

EricaM: ok

CrystalH: ok

JeffC: When you get to the site... first thing you'll need to do is turn off the annoying music... there is a "volume" button in the lower left of the new screen.

JeffC: The second thing will be to explore the site a bit. My recommendation is to click a grade level in the upper right... and a topic area... ok... here goes:

JeffC projects <http://www.onlymath.com>

JeffC: Turn off the music... skip the demonstration... and try something.

JeffC: Or... if you prefer... go ahead and look at the demo.

KathieWi: I didn't get anything

KathieWi: and it won't let me click on the address

JeffC: You don't have a new window Kathie? OK then... just open a new window (or tab) and go to <http://www.onlymath.com>

JeffC: What kind of browser are you using Kathie?

KathieWi: ok I'll try a new window

KathieWi: internet explorer

KathieWi: I've got a separate window going for it

JeffC: ok

JeffC: If anyone has problems... come back and let me know.

JeffC: I want to give people at least 5 minutes to explore that site... then come back and report.

CrystalH: I like the site I feel that students will enjoy seeing something visual

JeffC nods

AnnCK: This site has a lot of stuff to take in. I really like the fact that you can type in your homework questions in and get help.

JeffC: It will take some getting used to... there is indeed quite a bit there.

CrystalH: I could not get the virtual tour to work

JeffC: Did you click a grade level, and subject matter in the upper right, Crystal?

CrystalH: yes I did all of that then I started to look at some other things the virtual tutor is in the left side

KathieWi: I went to the homework, but the drop downs didn't have any texts for CA

JeffC: Don't click the left links... use the button bar and drop down menu at the top and to the right.

KathieWi: Is there a way to make the window larger for the area that is demonstrating the problems?

MelanieMM: I like what I've seen, it's interactive and that's a big deal in math

JeffC: Hmm... I don't think so Kathie.

KathieWi: I liked the site, just found it a little difficult to see the whole process at once.

JeffC: If your students are into visuals... they should like the fractal site at

<http://www.mbfractals.com/>

JeffC: BTW... these sites are in my Math/Science bookmarks.

MelanieMM: Nice site

KathieWi: these would impress my students!

JeffC: I think with all the pressures we face as educators to meet standards, etc... we should find ways to go "outside the box" and make things work for students...

JeffC: Here is another site I'd like you to spend a little time on... has anyone here ever played the game "Set"?

KathieWi: I have it for my class

JeffC: Check this out then: http://www.setgame.com/set/puzzle_frame.htm

JeffC: Try today's puzzle

JeffC: And then come back and tell me one or more standards that you think this site might address for your students.

JeffC: If you can't click the site... click the "Actions" tab (above)

and select "Send to Pasteboard"... then you can copy and paste it... or I can project it for you.

CrystalH: have the send to pasteboard but still cannot open site

CrystalH: http://www.setgame.com/set/puzzle_frame.htm

KathieWi: recognizing geometric figures is a minor standard for my students

JeffC: OK Crystal... paste that into a new browser window.

CrystalH: ok

JeffC: It's not about recognizing symbols though... it's about recognizing patterns...

KathieWi: and that is another standard students need

JeffC: There ya go

KathieWi: Thanks, I can use this one!

JeffC: At that site... there are links to other Math related activities for the game... btw... anyone found all six sets yet?

KathieWi: I'm stuck at two

AnnCK: I have not.

JeffC: If you "number" each box from 1-12 (mentally)... you can list the sets... with the upper left being "1" and the lower right being "12"

JeffC: For example: 1-4-9 is a set

JeffC: What I'd like to do is have people here list the sets as they find them.

JeffC: Note that this can become a collaborative activity with students... they don't have to do it all by themselves.

KathieWi: how is that? on one computer?

AnnCK: 2-5-10 is one set.

JeffC: They would have to be on different computers with chat capability.

JeffC: Good Ann

JeffC: I have found 4 so far (including Ann's)

KathieWi: I've just talked to our tech dept head to access my classroom computers

CrystalH: I only found three sets

JeffC: Let's see how long it takes to get all 6... I'll wait before posting another.

JeffC: Is there anyone who is confused as to how the game works? You need to find characteristics that are the same... or different.

JeffC: Would you like me to show you another?

AnnCK: sure

KathieWi: sure! I think I found 5

JeffC: I've found 6 so far

JeffC: ooops

JeffC: 5

EricaM: yes

JeffC: 3-5-12

CrystalH: I only found four

KathieWi: 1-11-12

KathieWi: 2-3-7

MelanieMM: only found 4 so far

JeffC: Thanks Kathie... that was my 6th!

JeffC: Now I'm eligible to win a valuable prize!

KathieWi smiles

JeffC: Kids love this game... and it works for **all** grade levels.

JeffC: Anyone else up to 6 yet?

CrystalH: no only five

MelanieMM: not yet

KathieWi: only 5

AnnCK: not quite yet.

CrystalH: I won I found all six!!!!

JeffC: Well... people get the idea... the big thing is whether to use this as an extracurricular or regular activity...

JeffC: Congrats Crystal!

JeffC: Also... individual or in groups?

JeffC: Obviously it would be easier to find all 6 with help.

CrystalH: yes it would

MelanieMM: agreed

KathieWi: more fun for students also that way

JeffC: I just added it to my Math/Science bookmarks... as a resource. Again... I encourage people to add links to that site.

SusanR joined the room.

JeffC: If you click on the "Teachers" link on the left of Setgame, you will see links to applications that teachers can use to make the game part of the curriculum.

SusanR slips in quietly and sits at the back of the class

MelanieMM: good to know

KathieWi: looks good

AnnCK: thanks

KathieWi: how did Susan do that?

JeffC: I think it teaches logic... which is critical to any math curriculum... (or any curriculum at all frankly). Not so fast Susan... you have to play a game to be in this class!

JeffC: Susan... go to: http://www.setgame.com/set/puzzle_frame.htm and play!

SusanR: Thanks

JeffC: She typed a colon: (followed by her words)

KathieWi thanks

MelanieMM smiles

JeffC: you got it Melanie

JeffC . o O (and Kathie)

JeffC: I'd like to finish this little meeting in the Math Resources Room. I'm going to go there now... and would like people to follow me. You will be prompted to Join the group (please do). Is there anyone here who doesn't know how to follow?

JeffC: Susan can help (she is also on Helpdesk here).

CrystalH: I do not know how to follow

KathieWi: I'm not sure

SusanR: I will assist

MelanieMM: me either

MelanieMM: thanks Susan

JeffC: Here I go... to follow: 1) Click the Online tab on the left 2) Single click: **JeffC**
3) Click the little door icon

SusanR: We will wait a moment..Jeff are you on your way?

JeffC left the room.

Room: Math Group Room

JeffC joined the room.

JeffC left the room.

Room: After School Online Room

JeffC joined the room.

EricaM joined the room.

JeffC: Hi all

JeffC: I think maybe it was a bit much to have everyone join the group and join me.

KathieWi: we aren't part of your group so the door stayed closed

AnnCK: somehow it just does not want to let me in.

JeffC: I did want people to know that I've created that Math Resource Room. Were you not able to join that group?

KathieWi: we didn't know where to join

JeffC: You should've been prompted to join... hmm.

CrystalH: no it would not let me join

MelanieMM: me either

EricaM: me either

JeffC: Hold on... let me check something.

MelanieMM: there was no prompt

KathieWi: no prompt here

JeffC: OK... try this

SusanSi: Hi Kathie and Mel

KathieWi: did you do something?

JeffC: 1) Click on "Tapped In" tab (above) 2) Click: Groups subtab 3) Click: M-O 4) Scroll down to Math Resources K-20+ ...that should get you to the link.

JeffC: Susan is in that room now... let's see if that does it.

JeffC: I want to end in that room, with everyone here a member of that group. That means that we will be able to collaborate throughout the month... along with past members of this meeting.

BJB joined the room.

MelanieMM: are we to click on the URL?

KathieWi left the room.

AnnCK: I believe that I am there.

JeffC: One of the real benefits of this place is joining groups... yes Melanie... that's right... click the URL.

JeffC: So far I have notice that two of you have joined... three... Melanie, Erica and Kathie

CrystalH: should we be in math science bookmarks

JeffC: Once you've joined... you can go to that room.

JeffC: Oh... not that link Crystal...

EricaM left the room.

CrystalH: which URL do we click on

JeffC: Let me give you the directions for joining the group again: 1) Click the "Tapped In" tab (above) 2) Click: Groups 3) Click M-O 4) Click the Math Resources K-20+ group

JeffC: You should then have a prompt to join the group... and from there... can go to the room.

CrystalH: I have joined

JeffC: You got it Crystal!

AnnCK left the room.

MelanieMM: so once we've joined we should be in another room?

JeffC: If you click the "Favorite Places" menu above Melanie... you can select the room, then click: Go!

MelanieMM left the room.

JeffC: Go ahead and go to the room Crystal

JeffC: I'm going there now.

JeffC left the room.

Room: Math Group Room

JeffC joined the room.

SusanR: Welcome Melanie.

KathieWi waves

MelanieMM: thanks

JeffC: Excellent... everyone (but one... who should be on her way) has made it.

CrystalH joined the room.

SusanR: Well done Jeff

JeffC: What I'd really like to do with this room is stay in touch with people throughout the month (and the years) to come.

MelanieMM waves at Crystal

CrystalH: smiles hi

CrystalH: ok good idea

JeffC: You will note that there is a Discussion board on the left... you can "subscribe" which means that any message posted there will come to your email.

JeffC: Of course... you can also post here... I have it set so that you can upload files, links, etc.

KathieWi: is there a regular time? or just whenever?

CrystalH: do we subscribe now

JeffC: The Math meeting is the first Tuesday of each month at 4 pacific.

JeffC: Sure... click "Discussion" and then click "Subscribe"

MelanieMM: don't see discussion

JeffC: We don't have any discussions going now... and if we got a lot going... it could get a little cumbersome in people's email accounts... but it is one excellent way to keep support flowing laterally.

CrystalH: I think I have already done this because it only says unsubscribe

JeffC: Ah... that's right... I think it's automatic to subscribe.

MelanieMM: yeah, me, too

SusanR: Right Jeff

JeffC: I'll post a welcome message today to everyone.

CrystalH: ok

KathieWi: thanks

MelanieMM: great

AnnCK: thanks

JeffC: Again... my goal is to help you help each other... and build upon the resources we all have as educators...

JeffC: Indeed... we are the **best** search engine around... if we collaborate!

KathieWi: we can sure use them

CrystalH: Thanks for all of your help

MelanieMM: so true!!

JeffC: Well... I'm called to another meeting now... the Science Forum started two minutes ago (also in ASO)... and you are all welcome to attend that if you like.

KathieWi: Thanks! I'm off for now.

CrystalH: everything is so helpful

SusanR: Thanks Jeff!!

MelanieMM: thanks

SusanR left the room.

EricaM: thanks

AnnCK: Thanks Jeff, I am off for now

JeffC: Thank you all for coming... hope to "see" you all again soon.

JeffC waves bfn (on his way to ASO)