

**Title of Session:** Global Project Based Learning

**Moderator:** Linda Ullah

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Room: After School Online Room

**SusanLR:** Is this the Global Project Based Learning room?

**LindaU:** yes..

**SusanLR:** this site is a little confusing at first : )

**LindaU:** We are waiting to see if anyone else joins us.. We'll start soon.

**SusanLR:** no problem

**LindaU:** I'm ready.

**SusanLR:** k

**BJ:** great! Let's start with introductions for the transcript, please

**LindaU:** Okay

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

**LindaU:** I'm Linda Ullah, Teacher in Residence at the Krause Center for Innovation at Foothill College in Los Altos CA.

**SusanLR:** I'm a 4th grade teacher in San Jose, CA.

**LindaU:** My discussion topic today involves online tools for collaborative projects.

**BJ:** sounds great!

**LindaU:** Susan, do you need more information on Global PBL (What it is) before we start?

**SusanLR:** yes

**LindaU:** Let's start with a link to the definition. In Tapped in the URLs are hotlinks. You can click on them to go to the site. I'll post a message with a link next.

**LindaU:** A definition can be found on the following web site

<http://www.garlic.com/~lullah/gpbl/topic1/t1read1.html>

**LindaU:** The idea is connect students/ schools to do collaborative projects that break down cultural barriers, foster problem solving, prepare students to live and work in a global economy and in my view hopefully help foster world peace.

**LindaU:** The Internet makes this so much more possible.

BJ agrees

**LindaU:** But some countries still don't have the technology to adequately support this.

**SusanLR:** or at least give students are better understanding of life outside of the United States because most have never traveled to other areas

**LindaU:** Exactly

**LindaU:** Susan, Do you have any questions about what Global PBL is?

**SusanLR:** would pen-pals essentially (simplistically) be included?

**LindaU:** absolutely

**SusanLR:** ok

**LindaU:** ePals are and excellent way to get started with global project based learning. These are great for cultural and language exchanges. <http://www.epals.com/>

**LindaU:** Any thoughts about the epals site?

**SusanLR:** From what I've seen it seems like a really interesting site-I'm excited to explore it further.

**LindaU:** If not, I'd like to show you think.com

**LindaU:** oops... I didn't wait long enough

**SusanLR:** Didn't we explore that site in class?

**LindaU:** Probably.. It is one I use a lot.

**SusanLR:** What kind of projects would you do with the pen pals besides simply writing letters?

**LindaU:** <http://www.think.com/> is a set of tools developed by Oracle. It allows teachers/schools/students to develop Intranet (protected) project web sites that are easy to build. Classes working collaboratively can attach sticky notes to the site for interactive collaborative work and editing. Think.com has teacher controlled email accounts for students. The tools allow teachers to review content and flag/remove objectionable content, etc. Take time to browse the site and ask questions.

**LindaU:** epals allows you to share cultural experiences, share pictures, do collaborative projects on a topic of common interest, etc...

**SusanLR:** I would really like to try this with my class. I think they would be excited to learn about someone from a different country who is their age.

**LindaU:** Click on the More button to see what you can do with ePals

**SusanLR:** There's a project about stereotypes that seems like it would be good for the students to learn about. Maybe it would also help with classroom conflicts. : )

**LindaU:** Susan, do you want time to explore epals or would you like to look at think.com?

**LindaU:** yes.

**LindaU:** They seem to have a project about bullying.

**SusanLR:** I'll look at think.com

**LindaU:** okay <http://www.think.com>

**SusanLR:** Oh, I remember this site-Nicole and I began to set up a class website on here.

**LindaU:** what happened to it?

**LindaU:** I don't think we discussed Filamentality in your class. Filamentality, <http://www.kn.pacbell.com/wired/fil/index.html> is another great resource. If you click on the Site Guide link you can see the various uses for this tool.

**LindaU:** You might want to look at the Activity Formats link on the Filamentality site.

**LindaU:** Any thoughts about this resource?

**SusanLR:** is this kind of like what we did when we made the tracks in Trackstar?

**LindaU:** somewhat

**BJ:** you could use Filamentality to create a field trip

**BJ:** or treasure hunt

**LindaU:** It allows you to create treasure hunts(web based), webquests, etc,too

**SusanLR:** it would be really useful for getting students experience with exploring the internet (safely)

**LindaU:** That is the key...

**LindaU:** Trackstar is another site I was going to point to today, but we've been using that in Susan's class, so I'm assuming she is familiar with it.

**BJ** nods

**LindaU:** Susan, Have you been using it with your students at all?

**BJ:** Sue Roseman uses Trackstar for her K-3+ Resources discussions

**SusanLR:** I'm reading them a book right now that we are doing projects from and when we finish it will lead us into the internet project I will have on Sat.

**BJ . o O** ( she then puts the tracks in the K to 3 Resources group room )

**SusanLR:** I was also trying to use it for the students Writer's Workshop papers because they need to research information on a particular topic.

**LindaU:** Why don't you tell BJ a little bit about your project

**BJ** listens to Susan

**LindaU:** ARE you joining the Global PBL discussion?

**LindaU:** Good uses for Trackstar.

**SusanLR: BJ:** Right now we are studying about people traveling west in the 1800's and some of the problems they faced, how they traveled, etc. I wanted to students when finished with the study to do a present-day project mapping out a travel plan from the east to the west and comparing prices, travel time, etc.

**BJ:** that does sound like a fun project, Susan

**LindaU:** I wonder if you could use Blogger for them to create and share their travel plans?

**BJ . o O** ( or to keep a 'diary' of their travels )

**SusanLR:** I like the diary idea!

**LindaU:** think.com could also be a good tool for students to use for this project-- you might want to revisit it.

**LindaU:** Diaries are great... perhaps of an 1800s traveler

**LindaU:** or as if they are an 1800s traveler.

**SusanLR:** oh yeah! that would also be a great assessment tool!

**LindaU:** authentic assessment.. now you've got it! Yeay... I'm smiling

**BJ:** you could also do this as a jigsaw activity...assigning different parts of the trip to different groups

**SusanLR:** that would probably be better than having everyone do the same

**LindaU:** or assigning different trail or travel type group to each group..

**LindaU:** for example.. those who traveled for the gold rush.. those who went to Oregon, those who traveled west as pathfinders, and the different ethnic groups who traveled west and where they ended up.

**BJ:** gosh, Linda, you forgot to mention the most important free tool...TAPPED IN!

**LindaU:** It's just another way to look at it.

**LindaU:** It is on my list...

**SusanLR:** that's a great idea-I'm trying to write it all down : )

**LindaU:** Why don't you tell Susan how it can help her

**LindaU:** You should get a transcript of this discussion.

**LindaU:** that's one of the things I love about Tapped In.

**BJ:** Susan, when you log out you will get a transcript of this discussion in your email

**SusanLR:** ok thanks

**BJ . o O** ( so you don't have to write anything down )

**LindaU:** I think we are about ready to wrap up.. The other tools I have for today, I've already presented in Susan's class.

**LindaU:** Susan, any last questions, thoughts, etc.

**BJ:** thanks, Linda! Thank you, Susan, for joining us!

**SusanLR:** Thanks for all of the information, sites, and ideas! They will be very helpful!

**LindaU:** bye, and thanks.