

Title of Session: Make History with the Library of Congress

Moderator: Leni Donlan

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MichaelH: Welcome to today's LOC Learning Page Chat

MichaelH: today's topic is "Make History With the Library of Congress".

MichaelH: I know you're going to get a LOT of great information from this session, and I will be giving you some directions as Leni demonstrates the resources... so be sure to listen

MichaelH: First, let's start with introductions of who we are, what we teach...

MichaelH looks to see if anyone wants to say hello and introduce themselves

DoloresGst25: Technology coordinator at St. Raphael School in St. Louis

BethanyM: Hello, I am Bethany, I teach 10th and 11th English at Buena HS in Ventura, CA

MichaelH is a technology curriculum facilitator in a small school district in Southwestern Indiana

LoonGst3: I teach Social Studies grades 5 - 8 at St. Raphael School in St. Louis

JesseHo: I teach SPED to 9-12 in Cherokee County, GA

AndreaPJ: I am in Maryland. I teach social studies, and will be teaching high school for the first time in the fall, after sixth grade for 10 years

NadineN: Technology coordinator St. Francis Xavier, Chicago are, K-8

DanielHF: Teacher-8th grade math resource, Canton, GA

GloriaMF: I am a student at University of Houston. My certification plan is social studies.

BradgGst29: I'm an MAT student at Concordia Univ. in Portland, OR

MichelleZy: Master's student at the University of Sand Diego

SuePi: US history, Mount Elden MS , Flagstaff, AZ

HollyF: Grade 8 English/History/Geography teacher

MadGst26: I teach Business English in companies in Germany

LeniD: I'm Leni Donlan, Learning Page project coordinator, Library of Congress, DC.

LeniD: We have quite a mix here...excellent!

HollyF: in Los Angeles, CA

HeatherN: I teach Reading and 10th grade English in CA

MichaelH looks to see if anyone else wants to say hello...

SusanneN: Hello, I'm Sus Nyrop in Denmark, studying education in Copenhagen, Denmark, and a Webhead in Action (and a helpdesk here in TI, occasionally)

LeniD: Any other introductions?

SusanArt: ss/English in a 1 to 1 middle school class in Webster Groves, MO

PatrickGst18: MAT student at Concordia U, Portland OR.

SusanSi: Hello from Texas-4th grade teacher

MarielleP: Marielle Palombo, doctoral student in learning and teaching and consultant in professional development and curriculum development

LeniD: Thanks Anyone else?

MichaelH: ok, Leni will have a lot of resources... so you'll want to watch her lead. she'll be glad to answer questions and comment on the resources, but please let her have a chance to answer one question before firing another at her

LeniD: With a deep breath....here we go!

LeniD: Today, we will be talking about an opportunity for you and your students to “make history” with the Library of Congress by participating in online collaborative projects.

LeniD: Before we begin taking a look at these projects, how many of you have participated in other online collaborative projects?

MichaelH has

BethanyM: none

JesseHo: I have not, only know a few who have

AndreaPJ: not I

MichelleZy: zero

NadineN: none

LoonGst3: I have not, yet

GloriaMF: none

BradGst29: a few today

SuePi: not online

PatrickGst18: a few today as well

LeniD: Oh my...then this is a really important session for some of you

DoloresGst25: Not really online, but we did share some information online

MarielleP: I have

LeniD: Those who have done projects...why did you do so? What were your expectations?

MichaelH: it was a lot of fun to do them, Leni. BJ and I did one together back in '98, with students from SF

LeniD: If you have never done an online collaboration, what would consider the benefits of such a project?

SuePi: I have had students place information in the Veterans History project for their quarter projects

LeniD: Excellent Sue! I'm going to show that project, today :-0

BethanyM: Having the ability for students to communicate in alternative ways

GloriaMF: Sue that sounds interesting.

LeniD: Michael, online projects ARE a lot of fun...

LeniD: and a good deal more.

SuePi: It is a great site, my students are enthralled with it

LeniD: They truly expand those classroom walls...

JesseHo: I think that a lot of people are comfortable when they are working in their element at home or at work.

LeniD: and bring other classes, other places, broader opportunities to your students.

SuePi: They learn so much about their own families

MarielleP: To expand their world

LeniD: Good point, Jesse. Online projects give you an "anytime/anyplace" possibility.

DanielHF: I agree Jesse completely

LeniD: Yep...it does expand the world.

LeniD: Those of you who have participated in such projects probably have tales to tell...

LeniD: both of their wonder...and the frustrations you encountered. Yes?

SusanneN: absolutely right!

BethanyM: I think all technology brings some bumps here and there

MichaelH: some frustrations, but generally the good points far outweigh the bad

LeniD: Good point, Bethany

SuePi: the technology provided by my school is always my biggest frustration

DanielHF: our firewall and security is very restrictive

GloriaMF: Technology might be frustrating but it sure opens possibilities.

SuePi: ours too

JesseHo: I am not sure about online collaboration, but generally when I have had to rely on others to help out I feel a bit nervous as to whether or not they will do their part.

AndreaPJ: Yes! We had so many viruses in the system last year that now the filters allow practically nothing

SusanneN: Daniel , this is indeed a well known factor

LeniD: Ahhh...these are common frustrations

GloriaMF: A few frustrations.

LeniD: Online projects are offered as dated "events" and as asynchronous, "open ended" experiences.

LeniD: We offer some of both from the Learning Page (<http://www.loc.gov/learn>)

SusanneN: but still, the more you DO know yourself about what has to be done, in terms of opening certain ports, installation of software like Java and the like, the better you might help your technical staff understand what you're trying to do

LeniD: Right, Suzanne

AndreaPJ: do you want us to go to the link? Or is it just for info?

HollyF: I am still learning how to install Java myself etc. so that I can be a helpful resource for TI wit

LeniD: For your info

LeniD: Let's start with some asynchronous, open-ended projects from the Learning Page.

MichaelH: Leni... first, let me tell them about the links...

LeniD: Thanks, Michael.

MichaelH: Leni will be showing you some URL links from the Learning Page site

MichaelH: if you click on them, they open in a NEW browser window...

MichaelH: BUT

MichaelH: come back here after a very short perusal of the pages, because Leni will have more

MichaelH: ok, Leni, whenever you are ready

LeniD: Here are some asynchronous projects from the Learning Page...

LeniD: They can be done any time of the school year, since they are open-ended.

LeniD: "The Branding of America" asks students to consider, what ARE brand name products? Why do they endure over the years?

LeniD: We then invite students to investigate name brands in their hometown, write up their findings, submit them for publication in our project...to put THEIR hometown on the "map".

LeniD: Let's take a look at the project...

JesseHo: I like that one. I am always interested in how companies got started.

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/branding/index.php>

LeniD: Excellent, Jesse

LeniD: The opening screen presents a map of projects that we have selected from American Memory resources. Take a look at what is available

BethanyM: very cool

LeniD: “About This Activity” explains the nuts and bolts of why and how to participate in the project.

GloriaMF: cool site

LeniD: Stop me and ask any questions as we move along:-)

LeniD: “Teaching Ideas” offers various instructional strategies for approaching this project. All strategies encompass creating an entry to our map, but the learning outcomes can be targeted to your desired teaching goals.

LeniD: While “Resources” provides topic related links to web pages within and outside of the Library.

SusanneN: this is too exciting! I just love these little brand history bits, makes me get hungry for more!

MichelleZy: the website is a cool way to learning about history then just out of a textbook

GloriaMF: Very exciting and interesting.

LeniD: Great Susanne :-))) Love that enthusiasm Think what your students could do with this project!

LeniD: “Did You Know” offers additional products and a few research models for “practice”.

LoonGst3: I really like this website. My students would enjoy this!

ElizabethH: I like the "Add Your Hometown" feature--it's a good project to do the research.

LeniD: Well have them participate, Loon

LeniD: In “Add Your Hometown” students can actually enter their information about local products and can direct us to an image in American Memory to illustrate their product.

LeniD: That's what we hope, Elizabeth.

LoonGst3: I will have them participate!

LeniD: And finally, they can view all student submitted projects in “Add Your Hometown Products.”

LeniD: I'm so glad to hear that, Loon!

SuePi: the depth of projects like these make history meaningful to students

GloriaMF: This is a good site to use for hometown teaching.

LeniD: Yep...agree, Gloria.

LeniD: This one allow you to come in from many teaching "angles"...

GloriaMF: This gives students a way to participate in their hometown history.

JesseHo: My students know more about computers than I do, so they would probably like this topic. Meaningful learning w/ application

SuePi: and to teach economics/consumerism

AndreaPJ: It could be used to look at changes in the local economy

SuePi: job losses/gains

GloriaMF: Good idea Andrea.

MarielleP: What if someone submits an image that is not an authentic match for the associated product/hometown? Might there be any historical/geographical confusion?

LeniD: Agreed...you can do many things at many age levels with this one. Take a look at some of the existing products...you will see different approaches teachers have taken.

LeniD: Marielle, all submissions are reviewed and validated. Only those that are authentic and useful to a wide audience are published.

MarielleP: Great!

LeniD: If the project supplements your curriculum, please help us fill up the map!

LeniD: Further questions or comments?

DanielHF: Jesse, My students are the same way very computer literate and would enjoy this, maybe a math application?

LeniD: Math application seems doable to me, Daniel.

HollyF: I like the access to projects that are already thought through so that some of the planning oversights can be eliminated on my part and a more polished product is offered to the children

LeniD: Good point, Holly.

LeniD: The Great American Potluck - intended to help tell the story of our nation through the foods that we eat. Your students are invited to add a family recipe and share the story behind it...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/ckbk/index.html>

LeniD: You can review existing recipes, sorting by Title, Category or Region. Then, can submit your own recipe and story through a web form.

LeniD: Take some time to explore...there are some treasures in the recipes

BettyHe: I like the Great American Potluck, and the students would love it.

LeniD: Glad to hear that, Betty:-)

GloriaMF: This is an interesting site.

BethanyM: wow, I can throw away my cook books!

MichelleZy: I love the site especially since I love cooking

GloriaMF: It allows for students and teachers to collaborate by sharing their recipes and history around their recipe.

GloriaMF: Great Site!!!

HeatherN: Searching by region is great!

AndreaPJ: It looks like a lot of fun. How did Sweden move to Eastern Europe?

BethanyM: I like the diversity of the project!

LeniD: Oops...good catch, Andrea

HollyF: Too many students don't know much about their culture, this will open their eyes!

SuePi: I love it but my district does not allow potlucks in our classroom - any food brought into class has to be prepared by a licensed handler - and we all really hate it

LeniD: If you look at the submission form, you will see how it could happen. We missed that edit

MichaelBar: great site

MarielleP: Boy, Leni - these are looking beautiful! Major production value upgrades.

AndreaPJ: What will be most interesting will be multiple recipes for the same dish

LeniD: Sue, I'm so sorry to hear that

AndreaPJ: Like folk tales there are lots of versions

LeniD: Thanks, Marielle :->

LoonGst3: I like this site, too, especially since it includes such a wide variety of places.

LeniD: True, Andrea...and we try to include the various versions.

LeniD: This project is a great one to do when studying immigration, family history, and during the holidays when many teachers create that class "cook-book" for gifts.

JesseHo: I have some recipes for my own dinner

GloriaMF: Yes, that is good ideas.

LeniD: It's part of the Immigration Feature Presentation from the Learning Page...

LeniD: Great, Jesse

SusanneN licks her lips, got totally immersed in the recipes

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig>

RobertWB: Sorry, this is great stuff, but I have to leave for another meeting, pardon me.

BethanyM: Question - can you navigate to all of these sites through the Learning Page or do you need specific web addresses?

BJ waves bye to Bob

LeniD: I highly recommend Obe Atta But only if you like really HOT (spicy) foods.

RobertWB left the room (signed off).

AndreaPJ: It's dinner time here on the east coast. I'm getting hungry

LeniD: These are all through the learning page.

LeniD: Also in the Immigration Feature, is....

SusanneN: food is such a wonderful way of learning about cultural issues :-))

JesseHo: I may be looking up recipes during my planning period.

LeniD: Our newest collaborative project is "Interviews With Today's Immigrants"...it was published just last month! It is begging for participation...

SuePi: the opening slide presentation is great

LeniD: Thanks, Sue

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/interv/index.html>

AndreaPJ: Fabulous! especially since so many kids are immigrants themselves

LeniD: I'm going to slow it down here...and let you explore.

SuePi: you can also make this immigrants into your area or state not just from other countries

LeniD: Exactly, Andrea. We would welcome some class project in which peer interviews are conducted.

GloriaMF: Interesting.

LeniD: Good point, Sue.

LoonGst3: I do an immigration session with my fifth grade students at the beginning of the school year. They really get to learn more about their own ancestors. This immigration website will be a big help.

LeniD: I hope you will participate in the project, Loon.

LeniD: We are really hoping to fill this up....it is lonely in there right now :->

SuePi: we have a large Native American population and the whole immigrant thing sometimes excludes them or opens old wounds

LeniD: Directions for participation can be found in "How to Participate".

LeniD: True, Sue. I think we have treated that sensitively in our Feature on Immigration...

BettyHe: My high school FACS class could use this site, they do a project on foods around the world. I will have to bookmark this one.

LeniD: http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/native_american.html

SuePi: I do too, just mentioned it so teachers would think about the population they are serving

LeniD: Take a look at the interactive map by clicking on the "globe" on the lower left.

BethanyM: I can't speak Irish - the Irish quiz is a little difficult!

LeniD: It tells a powerful story about what happened to the Native American population as other groups came to this land.

LeniD: LOL...sorry to hear that, Bethany!

BettyHe: How do I access all these different sites and resources, are they listed on the Memory LOC page?

LeniD: I'll give you some tips at the end, Betty.

BettyHe: Thanks

LeniD: OK...back to our interviews project...

LeniD: There is a web form for submitting interviews...

LeniD: and we require a release form in this one.

ElizabethH: That map really tells the story in a visual way.

LeniD: We are looking for an opportunity for students to do serious research and share it with other viewers.

LeniD: Yes...I think it tells the story well, Elizabeth.

LeniD: Currently, you can view ONE interview....

LeniD: Select West Africa from the menu and read about Muili's immigration experience.

SuePi: it is so motivating for students to feel what they are doing is important and really contributes

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/immig/interv/toc.php>

LeniD: exactly, Sue.

LeniD: We really are trying to accomplish something here...and your students are needed to make this happen.

MarielleP: I can't believe how much you've done to this, Leni! I look forward to a leisurely perusal.

LeniD: Thanks, Marielle. It's been a busy few years for the Learning Page, as you can see!

GloriaMF: The students will have fun contributing.

LoonGst3: Many of my 6 - 8 grade students participate in National History Day. This will be a valuable resource for them!

LeniD: I hope so, Gloria.

AndreaPJ: This looks wonderful. I am also rattling around in my brain a tie-in with refugees

JesseHo: Forget textbooks! I am going online with Social Studies

ElizabethH: This is a tremendous resource. I wonder if you are getting hits from students in other countries as well?

SuePi: now all we need is for all our students to have their own laptops! (computer access time is a problem for my district)

LeniD: Any questions about the Immigration Feature or Interviews with Today's Immigrant project?

HollyF: I am looking forward to using the immigration project activities

LeniD: Elizabeth...in the next project I'm showing, we have indeed!

GloriaMF: Maybe in the future all desks will be lap tops.

LeniD: sharing, not showing...still in process...

AndreaPJ: Yes ... is there a place for refugees?

ElizabethH: Andrea--I would think interviews with refugees, from, for example, Vietnam or Cambodia would be a way to tie the immigrant history project to refuges.

AndreaPJ: thanks

LeniD: Coming this fall is the America Dreams project.

MarielleP: That's a lovely example, Len - the Muili interview.

SuePi: laptops in the desktops would be wonderful indeed

LeniD: Thanks, Marielle. Muilli was so pleased to share his story.

LeniD: We challenge students to investigate the dreams of Americans from the past, research dreams of Americans in their community today, then develop their own dream for themselves and America in the future.

ElizabethH: It would be great to have some pictures in the interview as well--of Muili, and of any objects that came with the family?

MarielleP: Have you seen the documentary film "The Letter"?

GloriaMF: What type of projects will be in the America Dreams project?

LeniD: The initial piece of this project is the America Dream WebQuest on the Learning Page...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/lessons/97/dream/index.html>

MarielleP: It's about the recent incidents in Lewiston, ME where there was a large Somali immigration.

LeniD: Sounds like a must see, Marielle!

LeniD: While the final piece is the Wall of Dreams (which has been collecting dreams since 1998)...

LeniD: <http://memory.loc.gov/learn/features/amproject/wall/index.php>

SuePi: webquests are a student favorite

LeniD: This is where you will see the international participation that was asked about earlier.

BethanyM: America Dreams - Good to connect with Of Mice and Men

GloriaMF: sounds good

MarielleP: Yes - a friend made it - do look out for it. I think you'd find it very relevant to this piece.

LeniD: Thanks

LeniD: Questions about America Dreams?

LeniD: I'm running out of time, folks....sorry....

LeniD: Last but not least by ANY means, I am going to leave you at the front door of the Veterans History Project...and leave you to explore this one on your own.

LeniD: This is not a Learning Page project...

GloriaMF: That is fine. You gave us a lot of information and URL addresses. Thank you for the information.

SusanneN: hehe, lots of pages to explore later!

AndreaPJ: Thank you so much, Leni. Much food for thought and impressive stuff

LeniD: but a HUGE national project offered by the Library's Folklife Center:

JesseHo: Thanks for your time

LeniD: <http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets/vets-home.html>

LoonGst3: Thanks for everything!

MarielleP: I really like the invitation for people to contribute their own immigrant interviews.

ElizabethH: Leni--this is so rich as a resource. Is there any place where video files are collected for historical research? (this is an area I am specializing in)

ArianeCGst23: thanks

LeniD: Elizabeth (or anyone else with further questions)...write me offline:

LeniD: learningpage@loc.gov or ldon@loc.gov

ElizabethH: I see the Webcasts--thank you!

MarielleP: Thanks, Leni! Great stuff!

LeniD: Yep

LeniD: It is a rich and rewarding experience to participate in online collaborations and we do hope you will consider adding those from the Library of Congress to your curriculum.

HeatherN: Thank you for the great links!!

HollyF: Thank you Leni