

Title of Session: NASA Science Center Open House

Moderator: Sharon Bowers

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Room: NASA Group (K-12)

SharonWB: Welcome, Katrina.

SharonWB: Are you here to find out more about some NASA resources?

DavidWe can do a quick intro before he goes to eat dinner

SharonWB: Katrina ... are you having some technical difficulties?

FredK joined the room.

SharonWB: Hello Fred.

BjB waves hi to Fred

SharonWB: Are you here to learn more about some NASA resources?

FredK: Hi Sharon

KatrinaMC: Hi Sharon

SharonWB: Hello Katrina.

SharonWB: Glad that you're here with us.

KatrinaMC: Thanks

FredK: I thought it might be interesting with new resources

SharonWB: Katrina ... what grades do you work with?

BjB: we were worried about you, Katrina

SharonWB: Fred ... what grades do you work with?

KatrinaMC: I have worked with kindergarten and preschool

BjB: Sharon, perhaps we might want to remind Katrina to go to the pull down Actions menu in the top right of the chat and click on LARGER TEXT

SharonWB: Katrina ... do you see "Links" to the left of the screen under "Welcome?"

BjB: welcome, Mark! Glad you could join us

MarkER: Thank you, glad to be here...

KatrinaMC: Thanks

FredK: Introductions: I am a tutor for literacy in SE Oklahoma

BjB: Mark, go to the pull down Actions menu in the top right of the chat and click on LARGER TEXT

KatrinaMC: I am interested in learning more about the NASA resources

SharonWB: Katrina, Fred, and Mark ...

BjB: I'm so excited about having Sharon present this open house that I almost forgot about introductions!

MarkER: Got it.

SharonWB: Once you hit "links" you'll see some folders that I've organized for you.

SharonWB: Everyone there?

BjB: I'm a teacher in Pennsylvania

SharonWB: Oh ... sorry BJ. I forgot to say hello, too.

FredK: Glad you made it Mark. This will give you an active lesson

MarkER: I am a hospital administrator in SE OK. I can see it will!

JeffC joined the room.

SharonWB: Just for reference, I'm a 6th grade teacher on "loan" to NASA for a few years.

BjB waves hi to Jeff. We're just doing intros

SharonWB: I've helped develop some of these materials.

FredK waves to Jeff

SharonWB: Hello. Jeff

KatrinaMC: I see lots of wonderful resources for teachers

JeffC: cool. I'm Jeff Cooper, on Helpdesk here and an education technology support consultant in Forest Grove Oregon.

SharonWB: Katrina, are you in the "elementary teachers" folder?

KatrinaMC: Not presently, but I do see it.

JoanKe joined the room.

SharonWB: Hello, Joan.

SharonWB: What grades do you work with?

JoanKe: I am retired, but assisting still --- 2-6th

SharonWB: Katrina ... go to the elementary teacher folder and look for NASA Kids Science News Network

SharonWB: Joan ... please go to "links" on the left to get to the resources

JoanKe: OK, got it now

SharonWB: Fred ... what ages do you work with?

KatrinaMC: Wow! What wonderful resources for teachers.

SharonWB: Joan, look into the folder marked "elementary teachers/students"

JeffC: you've done a great job adding links here Sharon.

SharonWB: You'll see some resources appropriate to grades 2 - 6

SharonWB: thanks ... there's a new set of materials that I'd like to show people, too

DavidWe wonders if he should still introduce himself

BjB: Fred works mostly with adults, Sharon. He is a literacy instructor

DavidWe waves to Fred

KatrinaMC: I need to have some new ideas to use on my web page that I will be creating in my technology course.

FredK: Hi David

DavidWe: We'll give you news ideas, Katrina. That's what we are good at

KatrinaMC: This link will work great!

SharonWB: Oh ... Fred, I have some videos that we create for adults that might be helpful.

DavidWe: How's it going, Fred?

FredK: Great

DavidWe is in New Jersey where is finishing up some pasta for dinner. Usually he leads a math education and technology discussion in Tapped In

SharonWB: I have some adult education programs in the Houston area that use our Destination Tomorrow videos in their GED program.

SharonWB: It introduces topics to adults and they have the adults write about these programs.

SharonWB: Fred ... go to <http://destination.larc.nasa.gov/>

FredK: Do they work with dialup?

SharonWB: They're streamed ... so dial-up may be a problem.

SharonWB: Katrina ... did you see the K-2 programs under Kids Science News Network?

FredK: Program 25

KatrinaMC: Yes, I think that these ideas will be really useful.

SharonWB: Fred, if you go to the left panel, you'll see "episodes"

SharonWB: That takes you to all past programs.

SharonWB: At the bottom of that column you'll see "view online"

SharonWB: That takes you to the shows.

KatrinaMC: I am currently looking for some sites that can also be used in middle or high school, too.

SharonWB: Katrina and Joan,

SharonWB: Go back to the Elementary Teachers/Students folder

SusanR joined the room.

SharonWB: and look for the folder marked "For Students in Grades k-5

SharonWB: Hello Susan.

BjB: Welcome, Sue

SharonWB: Glad you joined us

SherylM joined the room.

SusanR: Hi Sharon

SharonWB: Hello Sheryl.

SherylM: Hello

SharonWB: Susan and Sheryl, please let us know a little about your teaching situations.

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional teacher in Ontario. Canada

SharonWB: Katrina and Joan ... did you find the sites for young students?

SherylM: I am a teacher and parent. I live in KS, and I helped write the grant that started the first NASA school in Wichita, KS

SusanR: mostly kindergarten though

KatrinaMC: Yes, they look very good.

SharonWB: Sheryl ... so you helped get a grant for a NASA Explorer School?

JoanKe: Yes, Sheryl, I'm exploring

SherylM: Yes, I was on the 4 teacher team

SharonWB: Great!

FredK: I also help homeschool a granddaughter

SharonWB: Fred ... I'm sure your granddaughter would enjoy the materials here, too.

FredK: I think so too

SharonWB: If you go back to the first page of Links, you'll see a folder marked "Grant and Teacher Training"

SharonWB: If anyone is interested in applying to become a NASA Explorer school,

SharonWB: that information is inside this folder.

SusanR: I noticed the Gingerbread Robot activity!!

SharonWB: Sheryl, do you have any "words of wisdom" in regards to applying to be an Explorer School?

FredK: I see it

JoanKe: Are there any activities that would tie in with agriculture?

SherylM: Yes, if you are interested in writing a grant, and you fit any of their criterion, I would consider it a fairly straightforward application process and worth the effort.

SharonWB: Joan ... go to "Elementary Teachers/Students", "Elementary Teachers"

SharonWB: Look for "Planets in a Bottle"

SharonWB: That looks at yeast.

JeffC: <http://www.nsta.org/explorerschools>

JeffC: that's the link for getting into the grant, right?

JoanKe: right, I see that, thanks

SharonWB: Yes ... and the applications are due, I think, at the end of this month.

SharonWB: There's another great site for plants, too.

SharonWB: Give me a minute to find it

SharonWB: Go to ... <http://www.nasaexplores.com/>

SharonWB: This site has LOTS of great activities about LOTS of topics.

SharonWB: In the upper corner where you see "search" ... type in plants

SharonWB: Fred ... you may want to go to this site, too

SherylM: If you have a group of people who apply for grants and/or fellowships, they probably have most of the information in the proper format.

SharonWB: It has articles about NASA research written at 3 different reading levels

SharonWB: Another topic that is very interesting to students of all ages is robots.

SharonWB: Look under "Elementary Teachers/Students" , "For Elementary Teachers"

SharonWB: And then find "Marsbots"

SharonWB: You'll find activities and multimedia resources here.

SharonWB: Kids are fascinated by the topic of Astrobiology, too

SharonWB: If you have a chance ... look at that link, too.

SherylM: If your school is in an urban area or an extreme rural area that is a plus. We also had an equal number of 3 ethnic groups and a small group, 17%, considered white. That was helpful, but each school has its own particular needs and strengths. NASA isn't looking for a cookie cutter program.

SharonWB: When did you get this grant, Sheryl?

SherylM: It began in 2005.

SherylM: Sorry, the 2004-2005 school year.

SharonWB: Please tell us some of the things the school has been able to accomplish

SharonWB: There are some sites that ask students to become scientists for NASA, that are interesting.

SusanR: o O (wonders if NASA has a presence in Second Life..just had a tour of the ISTE area)

KatrinaMC: How long did the grant take from writing it to the submission of it, Sheryl?

SharonWB: Would anyone like to see some of these?

DavidWe: Sure

SusanR: yes

KatrinaMC: Yes

SherylM: It would take a whole session, but when you receive the grant NASA sends reps and astronauts to present the award.

SharonWB: First stop ... NASA's Star Count

SharonWB: Under "Elementary Teachers/Students" "For Elementary Teachers"

SharonWB: Skim down the list and go to NASA's Star Count

SharonWB: One of the astronauts set this up for students to count stars

SherylM: It took us a couple of weeks, but like I said most of us had our resume's written, goals for the school, and we have our scholastic information is a part of our school profile, so most of the drudge work was done.

SharonWB: and then compare the number of stars they see, to what other students see.

SharonWB: Another project is called "Stardust"

SharonWB: Go to ... <http://stardustathome.ssl.berkeley.edu/>

SharonWB: Students learn how to identify "stardust" from space dirt looking through a microscope ... all at this site.

SharonWB: And if they find "stardust" they alert NASA scientists.

SharonWB: Go back to the main page of links

SharonWB: And go to "Weather Resources"

SharonWB: Find "S'COOL"

SharonWB: Students make cloud observations from the ground ... at the same time that satellites make cloud observations looking down on Earth.

SharonWB: And the observations are compared.

SharonWB: The exciting part about these sites is that students get to behave as scientists.

SusanR: I like the collaborative elements!

SharonWB: Anyone, besides BJ, interested in NASA and art?

DavidWe likes elements - he majored in chemistry

SusanR nods yes

FredK: yes, pictures

SharonWB: Go back to the main page of "links" and go into "The Earth as Art"

SharonWB: This will take you to some amazing satellite images of Earth

JoanKe: BEAUTIFUL!

BjB loves The Earth as Art!

SharonWB: If you like that one ... go to <http://www.frizion.com/>

SharonWB: I'm going to be working with the NASA scientist that created these images out of light refracting through ice.

SusanR: We are off to South America in a few days so I am checking out the images of volcanoes in Chile

KatrinaMC: Wow! How exciting for kids to see.

SharonWB: Just amazing images.

SharonWB: I have some new materials that I've just finished.

SharonWB: Please come with me to "Middle School Teachers/Students"

SharonWB: Middle School Teachers

SharonWB: And then go to "Exploration: Then and Now"

SharonWB: This is a module that compares the challenges faced by the Jamestown settlers 400 years ago

SharonWB: to challenges we expect to face as lunar settlers in the next 2 decades

SharonWB: It's to commemorate the 400th anniversary (this year) of the first English speaking settlement in the New World

SharonWB: It's a nice interdisciplinary study --- history, science, math and language arts

SharonWB: The "Survival" lesson uses images from artifacts recently found at the Jamestown site.

SherylM: I was interested in learning more about it. The website looks great.

SharonWB: These are just a few of the NASA resources ...

SharonWB: but they're some of my favorites

SharonWB: Does anyone work with bilingual students?

FredK: no

JoanKe: Our school works with Hispanic students

BjB . o O (ESL/EFL students)

SharonWB: If you go to NASA Spanish Resources

JoanKe: I saw the site for bilingual and will recommend it to our teachers

SharonWB: you'll see that we have all of the NASA Kids Science News Network materials

SusanR: French and English

SharonWB: in Spanish at Noticias NASA

SharonWB: We haven't translated them into other languages, yet

SharonWB: We have a program called 21st Century Explorer targeted for students in grades 3-5 developed in both English and Spanish

SharonWB: It's at the Kids Science News Network site ... <http://ksnm.larc.nasa.gov>

KatrinaMC: Thanks so much for all the information Sharon! I know it will be really useful with my webpage for my class.

SharonWB: I'm so glad that you found these resources helpful.

FredK: This is going to be fun as well as educational

SharonWB: Thanks for joining us Fred.

FredK: Thanks

SharonWB: I hope that everyone found at least one site that was interesting and helpful.

JoanKe: Yes, thanks for the info...I will share with teachers in the classroom....

SharonWB: Thanks, Joan.

SusanR: There is much to explore for both teachers and students

SharonWB: Please share this with anyone you can.

SusanR: are all these resources free

SharonWB: YES!

SharonWB: All free.

BjB: any Tapped In member can enter this room and access the resources

BjB: and, if you have a student group, you can bring your students here to do research

SusanR: super..worth the membership

FredK: bye

SharonWB: Bye, Fred.

SusanR: Thank you Sharon

SharonWB: I'll be running another session next week

SherylM: Thanks for all your work, it is great.

SharonWB: Glad to help.

JoanKe: Thanks, I'll try to make it!

DavidWe: Thanks, Sharon

SharonWB: Happy to help.

SherylM: sounds cool

SharonWB: Good night!

DavidWe waves goodnight

DavidWe: Take care, Sharon

