

Title of Session: Social Studies Forum - Veteran's Day

Moderator: Michael Hutchison

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Room: After School Room

MichaelH: Welcome to tonight's Social Studies Forum

MichaelH: if you are here for Social Studies, you are in the right place...

MichaelH: BJ, looks like a pretty full house tonight!

CynthiaSF: Thank you.

MichaelH: anyway, tonight's topic ought to be a good one... and very topical...

MichaelH: but, before we begin...

MichaelH: let's start like we always do...

MichaelH: with introductions from everyone, where they are geographically located, and what they teach

MichaelH: scans the assembled multitude for anyone who wants to volunteer to be first

MelissaLi: I am a pre-service teacher at the University of Houston. I will be able to teach SS 4th -8th grade

NicholeMT: I am from Lake Charles, Louisiana and I teach Kindergarten.

BJ: o O (and a reminder if you are new to Tapped In to go to the actions menu in the top right of this chat window and click on DETACH)

AdrienneH: I'm a university prof in Louisiana, and I have a couple of teachers here, too, learning how TI works.

KimberlyAC: I am a Clinical laboratory Scientist from Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Terrid: I am a second grade teacher in Lake Charles, Louisiana.

MichaelH: o O (thanks for reminding me on that, BJ)

CynthiaSF: My name is Cynthia Franklin. I am a Special Education teacher in Lake Charles, La.

RussellJB: I am a preservice Social studies teacher who will student teach in the spring from Akron Ohio.

LeticiaCu: I am a preservice teacher from the University of Houston

SusanR: K to 8, all subjects from Ontario Canada

IrmaG: I am an early childhood preservice teacher going to the University of Houston

VictoriaAL: My name is Victoria; I'm a preservice teacher from the University of Houston. I will be teaching elementary next semester.

MichaelH: I'm guessing the U of H crowd are happy with the election results....

VictoriaAL: not

IrmaG: not

MelissaLi: I know I am

KiranjotM: hi Everyone

KimberlyAC: I am too

KimberlyAC: hello

XanaG: Hi I am a pre service teacher at the University of Houston

MichaelH: well, we'll have to see how much actual funding we get for NCLB this time around

RussellJB: Hello Louisianan's I grew up in Denham Springs Louisiana

KiranjotM: can anyone tell me what to write in annual learning plan

KimberlyAC: Louisiana is wonderful

MichaelH: on the other hand, the Houstonians haven't said much about the Astros tonight...

VictoriaAL: we

VictoriaAL: we

VictoriaAL: we're still proud of them

MelissaLi: We still believe in our Astros

VictoriaAL: sorry about the typo

IrmaG: we have come a long way

MichaelH: Kiranjot... can you elaborate on what you want to know?

DavidTr: The ROCKET is the man

MichaelH: well, Astron fans, I always believed in the ABC rule...

MelissaLi: I'll second that statement

VictoriaAL: you said it!

MichaelH: Kiranjot, what would you like to know?

KiranjotM: This is my teaching evaluation and my principal wants me to make an annual learning plan I am a first year teacher

MichaelH: so, you're talking about something like a "course outline"?

KiranjotM: nope

KiranjotM: it's different than that

MichaelH: ok, can you give me a little more of an idea on what he/she would like you to submit?

MichaelH: are you talking about a year's curriculum?

VictoriaAL: do you mean something that the teacher is required to do?

KiranjotM: one with long term and short term professional growth goals

VictoriaAL: oh, Professional Development?

MichaelH: oh, so are you talking about what your principal expects you to do as far as professional growth?

KimberlyAC: maybe they want goals for you to teach and your students to reach for the year

KiranjotM: not for my students just for me

CynthiaSF: We do those , and they are good for three years.

KimberlyAC: oh

MichaelH: ok, I see

TerriD: good luck

MichaelH: have you considered taking any graduate classes?

KiranjotM: and do u know if there is any template for that

MichaelH: I don't think there's a specific template (at least I've never heard of one...)

KiranjotM: I have a doctorate degree

VictoriaAL: maybe State specific?

MichaelH: My U of H friends are a lot younger than me... they might have a little more experience in something like that than I would

MelissaLi: I have never heard of any type of template either

MichaelH: Kiranjot, how about things like conferences, workshops, and the like?

IrmaG: I have not either
KiranjotM: anyways thanks I must do some internet research
MelissaLi: I would ask your principle
MichaelH: is your principal talking about you showing professional growth?
KiranjotM: Ok
KiranjotM: Good I must ask him
MichaelH: I have an idea.... if you want to take some online courses for technology...
KiranjotM: ya
MichaelH: if that's what you want
KiranjotM: what is the best one
KiranjotM: yes that could be one long term goal
MichaelH: check out <http://cu.classroom.com> (just click on the blue link)
MichaelH: Hope that helps
KiranjotM: thanks
MichaelH: Ok, gang, as I mentioned, tonight's topic should be pretty "current events"...
MichaelH: what is commemorated tomorrow?
MelissaLi: veterans day
XanaG: vets day
NicholeMT: Veterans Day
KimberlyAC: veterans
IrmaG: vets day
DavidTr: Vets Day
CynthiaSF: Veteran's Day
TerriD: yes, Veteran's Day
VictoriaAL: I'm a veteran!
LeticiaCu: vets day
MichaelH: ok, you folks in the classroom... how will you be teaching that?
SusanR: Remembrance Day (Canada)
NicholeMT: We do not have class in Calcasieu Parish.
MichaelH: Victoria, what would you like to have your students come away with on Veterans' Day
TerriD: we had a program today at school
CynthiaSF: We don't have school tomorrow!
NicholeMT: I had an actually veteran come in and speak to my class.
CynthiaSF: We did have a program today.
VictoriaAL: an understanding of what some people give up for their country...mostly just to reflect and remember our heroes.
TerriD: a veteran who is a teacher at my school conducted the program
DavidTr: I had a Vet speak to my class before
LeticiaCu: we could have a special guest to talk to the students
MichaelH: Victoria, that's a cool idea.
CynthiaSF: Students presented a powerpoint presentation.
MelissaLi: yes, community speakers are a great way to get everyone involved
IrmaG: have then write to a vet
TerriD: that sounds great

RussellJB: you could have the students write an essay on why it is important to honor our vets

NicholeMT: We also have a memorial set up in the hallway honoring the Veterans at our school and our children's parents who are Veterans

MelissaLi: or write to the troops now even

LeticiaCu: one year a vet went to the school and the entire school raised the flag and said the pledge

VictoriaAL: I served during peace time, so I don't consider tomorrow to be as special than to those who actually risked their lives for us.

MichaelH: well, Victoria, you did something that a lot of other people would not do... join the service...

MelissaLi: you still served though

RussellJB: the students could interview someone they know who is a vet.

MelissaLi: my finance is serving now

VictoriaAL: Yes, but it's still different, you know?

MelissaLi: GO NAVY

DavidTr: Asking the students to dress in Red, White, Blue is a way for them to think about vet's day

VictoriaAL: Amen to that.

NicholeMT: If you think about it a lot of people have died during peace time.

NicholeMT: Victoria be proud of what you have done

CynthiaSF: Our class made flag pins.

VictoriaAL: The greatest thing we can do, is to take a moment to write letters to those who have served and to those who are currently serving in Iraq and Afghanistan

VictoriaAL: thanks guys

MichaelH: ok, how should we commemorate vets from past wars?

MelissaLi: I agree

MelissaLi: praise them

XanaG: appreciation letters

VictoriaAL: to let them know how much we appreciate them

MelissaLi: through letters, respect, acknowledgment

MichaelH: sure, I'll agree, but we also have to teach students about the sacrifices they made

MelissaLi: true

KimberlyAC: maybe teachers can take their class back into the wars of our past and show what those veterans did for us and how we are effected by those wars.

MichaelH: and many vets may not be willing to discuss that much

Terrid: students should also know why veteran's day ever came about and when

VictoriaAL: give examples that link to wars which give our rights today.

NicholeMT: I went on a field trip with my son's class to Baton Rouge to view the battle ships and there was a wall of What do you call it

DavidTr: Give the students a project where they have to write a speech to present to vet's at the local VFW.

CynthiaSF: Invite their families to share in your programs.

MichaelH: oh, would you guys like to see a couple of lessons that might do exactly what you are describing?

VictoriaAL: please

XanaG: yes

MelissaLi: yes of course

KimberlyAC: sure

IrmaG: yes

LeticiaCu: sure

DavidTr: why not

CynthiaSF: yes

MichaelH: ok, I'm going to focus on two conflicts in which there aren't many vets alive anymore

RussellJB: you could give a presentation on what the soldiers gave up back home to fight for a cause they believed in. and a cause that we benefit from now.

MichaelH: I wish I could remember the statistics on how many thousand World War II vets die every day

MichaelH: it's unbelievable

VictoriaAL: many vets are not taken care of

DavidTr: that's because they're getting old

NicholeMT: We need to fight for their rights like they fought for ours

VictoriaAL: there are many statistics that will show how many vets are living in poverty

MichaelH: well, David, look at it this way, we're also looking at the "graying" of the Vietnam era vets, too

NicholeMT: true

VictoriaAL: they're still young

MichaelH: actually, I fibbed with the number of resources I am going to show you...

MichaelH: there are three of them

DavidTr: All vets should be taken care of

MelissaLi: I think being young, when I think of vets I think of Vietnam vets before WWII

MichaelH: well, I don't know about "young" Victoria... many are in their mid or late 50s

VictoriaAL: that's still young

TerriD: how old are you

VictoriaAL: 26

CynthiaSF: We honor vets, but we don't do nearly enough.

RussellJB: it should also be pointed out that the vets who saw terrible things in combat have their lives affected by that still today.

MichaelH: but, think about the kids you are teaching (or will teach)... how relevant will Vietnam be for them?

BJ: WW II veterans are estimated to be dying at a rate of slightly more than 1,000 per day.

LeticiaCu: not much

VictoriaAL: oh, they think it was a "million years ago

NicholeMT: The will be more affected by Desert Storm

XanaG: many if they understand

LeticiaCu: they will catch on to the concept better if it relates to them

MichaelH: well, for you elementary ed teachers, how relevant will Desert Storm be? (That was nearly 12 years ago)

VictoriaAL: our students' parents

IrmaG: How did you do that with the real young ones?

TerriD: that was before my students were born

MichaelH remembers a news story BJ showed him a couple of weeks ago...

NicholeMT: My husband was in Desert Storm. It affected me and a lot of my children, because it was their parents who were the ones in the war

MichaelH: and I'd assert not too many of you can recall much about Vietnam (at least, not as a current event)

BJ tries to remember what news story?

VictoriaAL: my father has told me stories

KimberlyAC: many of our most significant wars were at least two generations ago and we may have pushed it under the mat too much and now with our recent circumstances we want to know more and we are finding that generation is fading away along with their legacy.

MichaelH: oh, the one that you sent about what kids born in the 80s would remember...

BJ smiles...oh, yes

CynthiaSF: This is where the parents get involved.

MichaelH: let's play a quick game...

KimberlyAC: ok

VictoriaAL: ok

RussellJB: ok

DavidTr: ok

XanaG: go

LeticiaCu: ok

MichaelH: how many of you remember Nixon's resignation

IrmaG: ok

TerriD: ok

DavidTr: wait

CynthiaSF: go

NicholeMT: I don't

KimberlyAC: not me

VictoriaAL: no

IrmaG: no

TerriD: before my time

DavidTr: no just playin ...go

LeticiaCu: no

RussellJB: I'm too young

MelissaLi: k

BJ raises her hand

MichaelH raises his

MichaelH: how many of you remember the Challenger disaster....?

VictoriaAL: YES

DavidTr: I do

RussellJB: nope

KimberlyAC: no

LeticiaCu: yes

XanaG: yep
IrmaG: no
TerriD: a little
NicholeMT: me
CynthiaSF: yes
DavidTr: I was in the library at school
NicholeMT: are we telling our age now
SarahBel: yes
XanaG: 86?
MelissaLi: not me
MichaelH: how many of you remember a time when there was NO MTV?
VictoriaAL: Yes
KimberlyAC: no
DavidTr: not me
NicholeMT: I do
MelissaLi: not me
CynthiaSF: I do.
RussellJB: no
LeticiaCu: no
VictoriaAL: 82?
IrmaG: no
MichaelH: you would have to be at least 30 or around there...
MichaelH: MTV was "Born" in 1979 or 1980
DavidTr: so was I
TerriD: me too
RussellJB: me too
VictoriaAL: 1980
MichaelH: but, you don't "remember"
KimberlyAC: right
XanaG: didn't see it until 96
LeticiaCu: me to
IrmaG: born in 1981
VictoriaAL: you're right, I don't
TerriD: people told me about it
VictoriaAL: born in 1978
MichaelH: most people don't "remember" things until they are about 10 years old
KimberlyAC: true
VictoriaAL: most people
DavidTr: I don't remember the day I was born
LeticiaCu: yep
CynthiaSF: not me
RussellJB: events that don't affect them personally
MichaelH: neither do I, David
TerriD: I remember some things from around 3 years old
VictoriaAL: me too
TerriD: specific event

CynthiaSF: come on

MichaelH: ok, so this is a good idea about why we should commemorate veteran's day, right...?

IrmaG: I remember things from about 3 years

KimberlyAC: right

DavidTr: right

LeticiaCu: yes

VictoriaAL: because people tend to forget?

DavidTr: right

KimberlyAC: right

LeticiaCu: yes

MelissaLi: right

MichaelH: It's good that so many of us CAN'T remember things like My Lai, or Iwo Jima, but it's still something that we should remember the sacrifice those men (and women) made

MichaelH: right?

LeticiaCu: yes

MelissaLi: right

NicholeMT: Yes, I think having different speakers from different wars come in and speak would let the children realize that there are Vets from different time eras

CynthiaSF: I can hardly remember what happened yesterday!

RussellJB: it is important to commemorate veterans, because we would not have the same lives today if the vets had not fought for it.

MichaelH: ok, then let's look at a couple of resources you can use to do just that

MichaelH: here's a new one... just came out a couple of weeks ago

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/greatwar/resources/lesson.html>

KimberlyAC: we should also "remember" these things so we do not make the same mistakes again

MichaelH: take just a couple of minutes to look at this, then pop right back here

RussellJB: can we look later I don't want to get lost

MichaelH: in a blatant self-promotion, your SSF host invites you to specifically look at lesson 7 and 8

MelissaLi: the History channel has something similar

TerriD: excellent graphics and lessons here

MelissaLi: what a great site

VictoriaAL: The poetry activity is interesting

MichaelH: btw: these lessons are 100% free for your use... and you do not need the related PBS programming to use the lesson

IrmaG: great resource

NicholeMT: They have lessons for every grade level

MichaelH: which poetry activity, Victoria?

DavidTr: The history channel always has something about previous wars

VictoriaAL: what about elementary?

VictoriaAL: the one where you and your student read poetry from the times and speculate the feelings

NicholeMT: you should join the mailing list and they will send you listings of every t.v. show and the lesson it collaborates with

KimberlyAC: that is wonderful

MelissaLi: really wow

VictoriaAL: ok, good idea

CynthiaSF: I'll have to check out the history channel.

MichaelH: is that in lesson 8?

VictoriaAL: 7

MichaelH: I didn't know they put an activity like that in..

VictoriaAL: maybe I read it wrong?

MichaelH: I really wanted that one, because I thought the work of people like Owen and Sassoon really brought the war experience home...

VictoriaAL: exactly

MichaelH: no, I wrote it, I just thought it had been deleted.

VictoriaAL: great idea

VictoriaAL: where do you find poetry from these eras?

MichaelH: oh, there's actually some on this site

VictoriaAL: neat

MelissaLi: I have found some in Barnes Noble believe it or not

IrmaG: this can be tied into language arts

VictoriaAL: I'll have to check it out

MelissaLi: they have a war/history section

MichaelH: I'm surfing looking for it while I am talking to you all tonight,...

VictoriaAL: any suggestions for elementary students?

MichaelH: are you ready for a World War II lesson, next?

RussellJB: Yes

MelissaLi: ok

VictoriaAL: ok

IrmaG: ready

LeticiaCu: yes

MichaelH: anyone familiar with "Band of Brothers"?

TerriD: sure

CynthiaSF: ok

RussellJB: yes

XanaG: yep

MichaelH: book or mini-series

IrmaG: yes

TerriD: no

LeticiaCu: no

VictoriaAL: yes, it was a show on the history channel

MichaelH: well, before it was History Channel...

MichaelH: it was HBO...

MichaelH: and what you saw on the History Channel was a bit "edited"

VictoriaAL: I'm sure

MichaelH: because of language and graphic violence

VictoriaAL: that's the military

MichaelH: a really quick story about BoB...

MelissaLi: I have heard that was a really good movie

MichaelH: we had them here for a Social Studies forum... some folks from HBO and TIME Classroom, because they had done the learning guide.

MichaelH: I worked all summer to get them here... and we finally set the date...

MichaelH: September 12, 2001

VictoriaAL: oh no

MelissaLi: wow

IrmaG: wow

LeticiaCu: nice

MichaelH: a lot of the people who were going to participate were going to do so from their offices in midtown Manhattan

IrmaG: o no

VictoriaAL: ah

XanaG: cool

MichaelH: needless to say, we had to postpone a few days

VictoriaAL: did you ever reschedule

MichaelH: yeah, we finally had them around the end of Sept.

VictoriaAL: I'm sure the mode was somber

MichaelH: they also did another session (the week before) where we looked at teaching strategies to try and help younger kids understand the tragedy

MelissaLi: how helpful

VictoriaAL: what's the lesson?

MichaelH: well, it was, but it was also pretty upbeat... we sort of agreed that kids in the service today could do exactly the same thing that "Easy Company" did in 1944 and 1945

MichaelH: they could meet the same challenges, and succeed

NicholeMT: true

VictoriaAL: yes

MichaelH: If you haven't seen BoB, you can check it out in video and DVD, and as we talked about, it has been on History Channel

MichaelH: but, let me show you a lesson plan you can use if you want to use BoB in your classroom

RussellJB: sounds good

MelissaLi: ok

TerriD: fine

MichaelH: <http://www.vcsc.k12.in.us/staff/mhutch/bob/>

IrmaG: good

LeticiaCu: ok

MichaelH: Now, the first thing I will warn you about, is that you'll have to understand that this probably WILL NOT work with younger children

MichaelH: the language is just too rough.

VictoriaAL: ok

LeticiaCu: ok

MichaelH: and the violence is just too graphic

RussellJB: what age level would you cut it off for

MelissaLi: is this similar to We were Soldiers that has been playing a lot lately?

MichaelH: but, if you are teaching high school, this might work well, IF you get parental permission for children to see the tapes

MichaelH: well, Melissa, We Were Soldiers was set in Vietnam, and this is WWII. So that's the main difference.

IrmaG: What about the smaller ones in school?

MelissaLi: ok thanks

MichaelH: Also, BoB was a mini-series, about 10 hours long.

MelissaLi: oh I've heard about it just never seen it

MichaelH: Russell, I wouldn't show it below 10th grade, unless I felt I had a really mature class

RussellJB: ok

MichaelH: I used this with sophomores, and didn't have any problems

XanaG: no kids huh?

MichaelH: no little kids

MichaelH: not elementary level

NicholeMT: This was really interesting for my first meeting. I thought it would be over my head.

MichaelH: let's move on...

MichaelH: I'm having some problems with the chat window... can't see what any output is... so I'm flying blind, but let's look at a Civil War project to wrap up before West Wing is on

MelissaLi: I would guess not

MichaelH: here's the link for the Civil War project (this was 9th grade)... you could easily adapt this for really young kids... even mid elementary

MichaelH: <http://www.vcsc.k12.in.us/staff/mhutchison/civilwar/>

RussellJB: Doesn't the library of congress have lesson plans on this on their web site?

MichaelH: Russell, LOC has a lot of great stuff...

MichaelH: have you ever been here for one of Leni Donlan's sessions? (She's the director of the LOC American Memory Learning Page)

RussellJB: yeah!

RussellJB: no

MichaelH: Leni's sessions are on the fourth Thursday of the month, at 8 p.m. Eastern

IrmaG: no

BJ . o O (November 18)

RussellJB: sounds good

MichaelH: is it early this month, BJ?

BJ: topic this month is Political Cartoons

BJ: that's the third Thursday, Michael

RussellJB: that would be useful

MichaelH takes up a collection to buy a new calendar

BJ . o O (LOC is the third Thursday)

MichaelH . o O (I need to get with Leni to see if she wants me to promote next week's session)

MichaelH: BTW: the PBS Civil War site is really cool if you've not seen it before

MichaelH: a lot of great lessons... and I can even introduce you to one of the lesson developers, if you'd like

MelissaLi: civil war is my special interest, I will have to take a look

MichaelH: it's at <http://www.pbs.org/civilwar>

KimberlyAC: thank you for your time Micheal

RussellJB: Thank You

LeticiaCu: thanks for the info

MichaelH waves goodnight to all

MelissaLi: thanks bye

VictoriaAL: thanks Michael, bye

BJ: Thanks, Michael!

NicholeMT: Bye Michael. Had a great time