

Title of Session: Social Studies Forum

Moderator: Michael Hutchison

Title of File: 20050427ssf

Date: April 27, 2005

Room: After School Online

BjB: Welcome to today's Social Studies Forum. We usually start the discussion in Tapped In with brief introductions.

MichaelH: Hi, everyone

BjB: Please tell Michael where you are located and what you teach or hope to teach

NicoleEE: Houston, preservice teacher..

CandiceZ: Located in Humble, hope to teach 2nd grade

AliceOH: I am in Akron, Ohio and hope to teach middle school social studies

GretchenS: I am located in Houston and hope to teach either prek or Kindergarten

EvaR: Houston, Pasadena ISD preservice teacher

KimhoaT: preservice teacher of U of H, hoping to teach 1st grade

EvaR: Hope to teach PreK or K

ElizabetRo: pre service teacher kinder or first grade

MichaelH is a soon to be social studies teacher and apparently a U of H adjunct faculty member

DexterC: I'm at the University of Houston and I would like teach the second grade

MichaelH checks to see if anyone else needs to introduce themselves

BrendaQ: I'm at UofH too...student teaching..I hope to teach Kindergarten

KateCr: Hi I'm Kate and go to the University of Houston also and hope to teach 2nd or 3rd grade

ElizabetRo: hi Brenda

NormaM: UH student teaching Bilingual Education

MichaelH: would some of you like to tell me what social studies subject you're going to be endorsed or licensed in?

AliceOH: middle level social studies

MichaelH: Alice, when you say "middle level social studies", are there specific subjects that you'll be licensed in, or are you going to be licensed in it "all"?

DavidWe joined the room.

MichaelH waves to David

DavidWe waves to Michael

CandiceZ: I won't be licensed in SS, I just really like it

MichaelH: Nicole, I guess I am asking are you going to be able to teach every subject in social studies... US, World, Psych, Soc... etc

AliceOH: praxis II is required for all teachers on Ohio to pass in their content areas

CandiceZ: Oh, I guess we will be teaching every subject

MichaelH lets everyone get their private conversations out of the way

EvaR: just interested in getting ideas to teach social studies; only seeking elementary degree plan in early childhood

NicoleEE: well.. my degree will be teaching pre-k through 4th grade social studies

MichaelH: that's interesting, so you'd be in a departmentalized situation?

DanGr: idea for social studies = use audio and video as much as you can

CandiceZ: We will be teaching SS in our classroom only I believe

DanGr: video clips are excellent...brings the event right to student

NicoleEE: um.. teaching one grade level.. like pre-kindergarten.. no moving from classroom to classroom.. will teach all subjects to one class

MichaelH: well, I think, Alice, that they can be licensed in elementary, but they would only teach social studies in a departmentalized situation

KateCr: Dan, what types of videos do you show

AliceOH: I get it

DanGr: political campaign commercials are great for government classes

GretchenS: We used How The Grinch Saved Christmas to introduce the idea of good citizenship

DanGr: high school (11-12)

EvaR: I used Mulan and Chinese music for my media lesson plan for social studies class to introduce Chinese culture. It was great

CandiceZ: I used Mulan to teach Women's rights to 5th graders

MichaelH: hey, guys, is it ok for me to join YOUR session?

AliceOH: I have never been to tapped in before. is it an open forum or is there a discussion topic?

GretchenS: Yes sorry

DexterC: I've done a lesson where we voted on which type of lunch we were going to have in order to introduce the democratic process.

DanGr: did you have special interest groups (I hope not)

DexterC: Nope. That's funny.

DanGr: just kidding, that is a great idea

MichaelH: well, hey, I've only got 27 years teaching experience, but I might be able to help you with one or two ideas for citizenship teaching... if you have time to listen

CynthiaFI: Oh, Dexter that sounds so interesting, I wish I could have seen it!

BrendaQ: we had students create postcards with landmarks around Houston.

NicoleEE: go for it..

GretchenS: I'm listening

CandiceZ: I'm listening Michael

EvaR: I'm ready

AliceOH: me too

ElizabetRo: me too

NormaM: WoW! Dexter I'm sure the children enjoyed it!

CandiceZ: Trying to anyway

JulissaE: Well I did a lesson recognizing important women in history, and the students had to do research and vote on who they would vote to be in the US calendar.

KimhoaT: go right on

DanGr: let's go Michael

CynthiaFl: me too

DavidWe . o O (27 years, holey, moley!)

BrendaQ: Wow

MichaelH: Heck, David, I've got socks older than you

DanGr: any hair left Mike

MichaelH: well, Daniel, one or two follicles

DanGr: me too brother

NicoleEE: haha

MichaelH: anyway, let's look at some citizenship stuff

CandiceZ: ok

BrendaQ: sounds good

GretchenS: ok

EvaR: thank you

MichaelH: and then we're going to look at some US History

NormaM: ok

AliceOH: yeah

NicoleEE: awesome

EvaR: great

CynthiaFI: k

KimhoaT: all right

CandiceZ: I love history

KateCr smiles

ElizabetRo: ok

MichaelH: so anyway, do you guys all know a little about Tapped In...?

BrendaQ: I do

AliceOH: a bit

EvaR: yes

CandiceZ: Kind of

GretchenS: yes

MichaelH: ok, let me give you a bit of background...

ElizabetRo: a little bit

MichaelH: just so you know...

MichaelH: TI is a teacher community...

BrendaQ: ok

MichaelH: BJ, David and I have been members for a long time... since 1998

MichaelH: so, most of you were probably in high school, middle school at that time

MichaelH: anyway, the Social Studies forum will be five years old in another month

JulissaE: yeah

NicoleEE: so it's pretty young

AliceOH: wow

EvaR: interesting

MichaelH: and so, this is a place to interact and to share...

DavidWe agrees with Michael

AliceOH: cool

MichaelH: that said, I'm going to give you a couple of resources, and hope you'll give me some feedback about what you see...

CandiceZ: ok

NicoleEE: I think its great cause you don't have to dress-up

GretchenS: ok

AliceOH: sure

EvaR: ready to explore

MichaelH: let's do citizenship, first

ElizabetRo: I'm ready

CynthiaFl: me too

MichaelH: check out...

MichaelH: <http://www.c-span.org/classroom>

DavidWe smiles

MichaelH: you guys know you can click on the link and it will open in a new browser window, right?

CandiceZ: right now?

MichaelH: yes, now!

GretchenS: I forgot how to go there without leaving the room

EvaR: not really

CandiceZ: I clicked on it and it won't open

NicoleEE: grr.. last time I did that I got lost

MichaelH: if you have a pop-up blocker, you may have to hold down the control key

KimhoaT: looks like useful site

GretchenS: Thanks

CandiceZ: still doesn't work and I don't want to get lost

DavidWe: You WILL get a 2nd window, just arrange them so you can see all the windows

KateCr: That site looks great!!

CynthiaFl: interesting

NicoleEE: got-ya

JulissaE: I clicked it but it didn't work.

ElizabetRo: yes interesting

DavidWe: What browser are you using, Julissa?

KateCr: Do you let students use the site or just for your own reference?

CandiceZ: Ok, I got it

DavidWe nods

BrendaQ: I couldn't get a 2nd browser either

AliceOH: I cannot get anything to open either

BrendaQ: and I held down the control key

NormaM: same

CandiceZ: Looks like a really cool website with lots of good info

EvaR: I see it now

NicoleEE: I'm looking at it.. what should we look for??

MichaelH: I bet it's open, you just have to remember where your active window is

MichaelH: well, Nicole, I am glad you asked

MichaelH: because, since you are wearing workout clothes...

MichaelH: I am going to let you work out...

NicoleEE: what???

DavidWe smiles

MichaelH: find me a lesson on this site you might be able to use with your students

NicoleEE: that was corny

AliceOH: still nothing

MichaelH: find me the lesson, Nicole

EvaR: what should the rest of us do in the mean time

MichaelH: well, hmmm,,,, Eva, why don't you find me one, too

ElizabetRo: I did a bulletin board using LINCOLN

CandiceZ: find any lesson

CynthiaFL: everyone?

KimhoaT: so did I Liz

ElizabetRo: YES

DavidWe: Sounds good, Elizabeth

MichaelH: yep

KateCr: Michael, at what age would you let students start using this site?

CynthiaFL: k

AliceOH: I like how it tells you how to integrate language arts. that is my other concentration area

NicoleEE: I see clips of different events.. no lesson plans though.. I see lots of background info

MichaelH: I'm U of H adjunct faculty, therefore, I am giving the assignment

DexterC: I like the site it seems informative\

JulissaE: I agree with Dex.

BrendaQ: yes I agree Dexter...I just viewed it

MichaelH: someone said they did a Lincoln bulletin board...

MichaelH: Candice, tell me about your president's day activity

NicoleEE: ya.. I did one on community helpers.. for the little ones

EvaR: I was able to find an interesting lesson plan called Choosing the next president. Here is the site

ElizabetRo: yes me and Kim

DexterC: Yeah, I would like to hear more about the Lincoln Board

DavidWe . o O (Lincoln Museum and Library in Springfield, Illinois)

EvaR: <http://www.americanpresidents.org/classroom/gen02.asp>

CandiceZ: ok hold on a sec

CandiceZ: It's something about his farewell address

MichaelH: by the way, gang... C-SPAN has a great listserv you can join to get weekly teaching tips

BrendaQ: wow that's neat

MichaelH: and they also have great give aways from time to time

BrendaQ: good way to get ideas for activities

DavidWe . o O (C-span does some great things for education, support for teachers, etc.)

MichaelH: David, did you see any of the coverage of the Lincoln Museum on C-SPAN or the networks?

MichaelH: Bush was there for the opening

DavidWe: I missed it, Michael. I don't usually have access to C-SPAN

DavidWe nods

KimhoaT: one of the activities on the Lincoln bulletin board was the acrostic poem about Lincoln

KateCr: Michael, could you recommend some other websites that would be appropriate for elementary students

MichaelH: it was great on C-SPAN.

DavidWe: Mrs. Bush was there too, AND she's a librarian

DavidWe: Any particular subject, Kate?

MichaelH: She is, David... she was on Leno last night, too

CandiceZ: Yeah this site seems like it's geared towards high school

DavidWe: Oh, cool. I think she's actually quite interesting, from what I've seen

EvaR: Simply states the students will analyze biographical characteristics of presidents of the past. Then the students will predict on the next president of the United States using comparative information from their research Give presentations each week on how his or her candidate is faring in the political race

MichaelH: Candice, there's elementary stuff,.... if you look

AliceOH: at least about sixth grade and up

CandiceZ: I think that history needs to be focused on more, I haven't really seen it during PUMA

MichaelH: you guys have to remember, I'm going to be a high school teacher

MichaelH: don't really know much about elementary

NicoleEE: I know but I want to be a pre-k teacher..

NicoleEE: that's a big difference

AliceOH: it would be cool to win one of the fellowships from c-span for middle school teachers

KateCr: Someone got paid a lot of money to come up with it!!

EvaR: so do you have any suggestions how the students can value the presidents of the past and of today?

CandiceZ: Michael I think the majority of us in here are teaching elementary

MichaelH is a secondary education major

NicoleEE: well.. social studies is all around us

KateCr: I think several of us go to the University of Houston

AliceOH: any other website we should check out?

EvaR: please do share more resources

KimhoaT: yes, any other?

BrendaQ: yeah I need ideas... sometimes I have a hard time being creative and finding fun and engaging activities

NicoleEE: yes more resources.. I agree

CandiceZ: Yeah Michael, do you know of any sites for elementary teachers

NicoleEE wonders if Michael is going to tell us anymore resources

CandiceZ: wonders the same thing

EvaR: I'm sure the resources can be adapted to the elementary level

CandiceZ: okay we have 24 minutes left so can you please give us some more resources???

NicoleEE: wow.. on with the forum

BrendaQ: 24 minutes??

MichaelH: wow, time flies when you are having fun

DavidWe wonders what the transcript for THIS session is going to look like when Bj gets done with it

KateCr: does anyone have any advise about social studies??

CandiceZ: Wonders what Dr Thompson is gonna think about this transcript

MichaelH: in what regard, Kate?

BrendaQ: I'm having the time of my life

NicoleEE: wonders what Mary our teacher is going to think when she reads it

MichaelH: Dr. Thompson should come here and join us

JulissaE: Me too!

KateCr: Who is in Dr. Thompson's class beside me?

GretchenS: I am

AliceOH: has any one who is currently teaching ever done a good interdisciplinary unit?

CandiceZ: I am

CynthiaFl: me

JulissaE: Me!

KimhoaT: I am

EvaR: I am

BrendaQ: I am!!

NicoleEE: me

NormaM: ME

DexterC: I think that we should overall create understanding and citizen responsibility for the students

KateCr: so everyone except the men!!

AliceOH: not me

CandiceZ: all of us

KateCr: and Dexter of course!!

MichaelH: Dr. Thompson needs to work with me so I know who will be here and what I should expect

EvaR: I would really appreciate if we had some good quality time

AliceOH: so what is the point of the social studies forum, exactly

MichaelH: well, Eva, here's one thing... a good teacher needs to be able to prepare, and if he doesn't know what he/she is teaching or who is in their class, then they can't be ready

DexterC: Good question Alice.

MichaelH: and that's where Doc Thompson needs to contact me in advance

MichaelH: because I don't know much about elementary

BrendaQ: oh ok

AliceOH: what about grades 4-9

MichaelH: well, I have a history resource...

NormaM: How about PK

JulissaE: How about Kindergarten.

NicoleEE: pk

BrendaQ: I'm planning to teach Kindergarten...so I Really doubt you will have anything for us

DavidWe: Help us a bit, you guys, tell us what is appropriate for younger grades. What things are YOU ALL interested in trying to teach

GretchenS: Can you tell us about one of your favorite lessons that you have taught so that we get some good ideas Michael?

MichaelH: I know nothing about kindergarten, Doc Thompson probably know that

DavidWe believes anything can be taught at any level

BrendaQ: citizenship

CynthiaFl: Alamo

CandiceZ: What I have learned from being in PUMA is that you really need to know how to integrate SS into other subjects like language arts

NormaM: I agree with David

NicoleEE: citizenship

DavidWe: Thanks, Norma

BrendaQ: yeah...I agree with Michael

AliceOH: I agree Candice

BrendaQ: you just need to adjust the subject to their level

CandiceZ: Because there is not a lot of time for SS

JulissaE: Poor Michael!

CandiceZ: or Science

KateCr: PUMA's, tell me about some of your media lesson plans

MichaelH: Have Doc Thompson e-mail me, and we can work together for next time...

CandiceZ: I haven't seen any SS being taught in my second class

MichaelH: mhutch@charter.net

DexterC: I agree with Candice

AliceOH: you can use great books to enhance ss lessons - fiction, nonfiction, poetry

DavidWe believes that most things can easily be tied into other topics and be made part of interdisciplinary units

DavidWe: You just need to look for the connections

ElizabetRo: I have not seen ss in my class either

NicoleEE: I would probably teach prek about multiculturalism, citizenship, and tie many things to science... like world views on things like pollution and earth day

GretchenS: I have seen a little about Texas history but the lessons are all worksheets, I would prefer to teach a more engaging lesson

CandiceZ: What's sad is that one of the teachers handed out a paper that had the governor of Texas wrong on the handout

DavidWe: These explorers just got to the North Pole - geography, weather, etc.

CandiceZ: The one they had down was governor in 86 and not one of the teachers caught it

AliceOH: teach about Alaska before it is destroyed

DexterC: WE watched clips from Disney movies and then we discussed the importance of appreciating different cultures. It was a lot more detailed than I am making it seem.

DavidWe admits that is a bit discouraging

DavidWe . o O (not knowing the Texas governors...)

NormaM: It was a great lesson Dexter =)

MichaelH: are you guys familiar with American Experience

NicoleEE: no

AliceOH: no

KimhoaT: no

KateCr: I taught a lesson using clips from the Lion King to represent natural resources

GretchenS: No

CynthiaFl: which Disney videos

ElizabetRo: no

DexterC: Nope. What is it?

DavidWe: OOoh, good idea, Michael

CandiceZ: I don't think that a lot of teachers are really knowledgeable about SS

GretchenS: I don't think they are either

KateCr: Michael, what is American experience

EvaR: I agree

NicoleEE: I taught a lesson using clips from the Incredibles to look at citizenship (third grade)

JulissaE: Dexter you know what, you are really going to make an awesome teacher.
ZZZZZZZZZZ!!!

MichaelH: it's a PBS series

CandiceZ: Never heard of American Experience

KateCr: Michael, when is it on and what is it about

KimhoaT: what's it about?

AliceOH: tell us more

EvaR: Can this be purchased or rented

MichaelH: well, PBS sets their own local schedules...

AliceOH: what is it about

DexterC: thank you so much. I appreciate the compliment. I know you will do well for yourself as well.

BjB . o O (perhaps you might want to have a more constructive discussion)

MichaelH: here's the latest American Experience web page

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/index.html>

NicoleEE: whoa.. this website it cool

MichaelH: Sure is...

DexterC: Is Vietnam too much for Elementary students to grasp. I like the site. Do they cover different events?

KimhoaT: I think I know what you're talking about now Michael

NicoleEE: I like the timeline.. the way it's setup

AliceOH: this looks very interesting

CandiceZ: Oh I think I have heard of this

NormaM: I like the timeline 2

MichaelH: this is a good example of the type of programming PBS gives you

MichaelH: and, there's a good teachers guide as well

AliceOH: primary sources are always cool to use

NicoleEE: Vietnam is way to complicated for prek though

ElizabetRo: real good info

MichaelH: very good, Alice

EvaR: I guess it can be tied into SS in that there has and will always be war and battles between nations

MichaelH: I'm pleased you are interested in primary sources

CandiceZ: I think it's too complicated for most elementary grades

GretchenS: me too

CynthiaFl: me too

KimhoaT: good point Eva

MichaelH: well, it would be up to you to adapt it, right?

CandiceZ: But I guess you could tone it down for the younger kids

AliceOH: I think it makes history seem more real to students

NicoleEE wonders what everyone else is going to write in their one-page summary

CandiceZ: Right, I think any lesson is adaptable

MichaelH: that's what a good teacher would do

DavidWe agrees

AliceOH: thank you

AliceOH: that is my goal!

EvaR: it all has to do with age and grade appropriateness

MichaelH: there's a lot of good primary source stuff on the American Experience pages, and I think you'd find a lot of good resources

CandiceZ: Thanks Michael

BrendaQ: I'm going to use it as a resource

ElizabetRo: thank you Michael

CandiceZ: Wow we only have 11 minutes left

KimhoaT: thanks for the website

AliceOH: I will post the url on the discussion board for my class

EvaR: thanks

BrendaQ: I always look on line for ideas...I'm not too original

MichaelH: Candice would you put away the stop watch for a few minutes?

CandiceZ: sorry, I didn't mean it in a bad way

NicoleEE: my integrated unit (which is DUE TOMORROW) only has one ss lesson.. it was hard to find ss lessons for pre-k about bugs besides citizenship

MichaelH: let me show you the teachers' guide

MichaelH: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/vietnam/tguide/index.html>

MichaelH: most of the American Experience programming will have a related teachers' guide

EvaR: very interesting

AliceOH: great ideas to get students involved

MichaelH: this has guided lessons for various subjects.. history, government, economics, geography

CandiceZ: I like that it has multiple subjects

EvaR: very original and hands on

GretchenS: I did a cool lesson on maps using Hansel and Gretel for Kinder

CarolBi: That's ok

KateCr: Are we finished talking about social studies?

CandiceZ: Cool idea Gretchen

GretchenS: Thanks

ElizabetRo: great idea

KateCr: PUMA's what are you all going to write in your reflection for this chat?? I just want to make sure we try to talk about the same stuff.

EvaR: What other resources do you suggest we visit?

AliceOH: is it usually a little more structured than this or is this session typical...just curious?

DavidWe: We try to show up for each other's presentations...partly because we are interested, but also because it can be helpful for the presenter to have another person "facilitating"

MichaelH: Hey, BJ, would you do me a favor... would you send me Mary's e-mail address so I can get some tips from her regarding what we might prepare for next time?

MichaelH: you can do it via e-mail

BjB nods to Michael

CandiceZ: Good idea Michael

MichaelH: I just need some advance knowledge of who is going to be here,... and maybe she can help me run a session or two?

GretchenS: Mary tells us that we have to do three sessions but we choose which ones so she does not know who will be here in advance

CandiceZ: is it automatic

NicoleEE: automatic

EvaR: right

KimhoaT: the transcript will be sent to you automatically

DavidWe: You get the transcript about 5 minutes after you logout, typically

CandiceZ: ok cool

MichaelH: it's just that I wasn't informed that there would be this many elementary teachers here... and maybe she can help me find some good resources to share with you?

KateCr: Michael, thanks

BrendaQ: oh that would be cool

CandiceZ: sorry Michael, it was just on our list of discussions

NicoleEE: ya.. I think that's a great idea.. only took an hour

GretchenS: yeah it would

BrendaQ: I like this site...

DavidWe wants to ask the student teachers a question

CandiceZ: what's up David

NicoleEE: okay.. shoot

GretchenS: ok

KateCr: Thank you guys, good night!!

BrendaQ: once you get used to it...it's easy to navigate

ElizabetRo: yes

NicoleEE: true

DavidWe: Do you guys feel that this is a useful interaction? Do you get something out of this discussion?

CandiceZ: I do

DavidWe nods

GretchenS: me too

NicoleEE: honestly.. I got more last time in math resources

DavidWe nods

DavidWe: That's okay

AliceOH: not particularly

CandiceZ: This one went a little off topic for awhile, but it was good

MichaelH: and, do you know why, Nicole?

BrendaQ: if Michael had more resources for us...it would be more useful

ElizabetRo: yes the sites are very informative

NicoleEE: but I had fun.. If that counts

DavidWe smiles

DavidWe: Fun is good!

BrendaQ: I got some good resources in another chat

CandiceZ: I had fun too

GretchenS: me too

JulissaE: ME2

CandiceZ: It was better than the last one I was in

MichaelH is going to call it a night

EvaR: I would have benefited if there was more resources for elementary level. However, I realize that the it's difficult to handle this situation since the deadline for the tap in is Monday.

GretchenS: Thanks Michael

ElizabetRo: Thank you Michael

MichaelH waves goodnight for now