Annotated Bibliography

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This week was filled with lots of confusion for me and my learning team. First we were confused with the assignment. Then we had a hard time decided which collaborative bookmark to use. I chose two different bookmarks to look at: Portaportal and Delicious, after some debate our group chose Portaportal. I found Portaportal fairly easy to use; I was able to add my resources without much trouble. However, in the future I would choose Delicious when bookmarking. I find it simple to use and I prefer the layout; probably because I use twitter and it is similar. All in all I learned a lot this week and look forward to applying collaborative bookmarking to my teaching.

The first way I plan on applying Collaborative bookmarks would be to introduce them at our next science meeting. At that time I will show the other science teachers my Delicious page and encourage them to sign up as well. This way once one of us adds a link the rest will be notified almost immediately. I’ve always been looking for ways to incorporate students in the planning process and collaborative bookmarks will allows this to happen. Before our next project I will get the students to search the web for useful and creditable sites that can be added to my Delicious page. That way the students are involved in the process and they will be able to access all the sited from my page. Another feature that I like about collaborative bookmarks is that you can login to your page from anywhere. We routinely work on projects at the library, so if I or one of the students comes across something that can benefit the entire class we can simply bring up my Delicious page on the smartboard, and add the link, giving the rest of the class access.

The first resource I contributed was Discovery Education Canada. (Education, 2014) This site provides us with a large database of educational videos. The videos range from short clips to full length documentaries. All of the videos are high quality and very educational. Its strengths include lesson plans, activities, and bookmarking features. The sites greatest strength is that with most videos it provides lesson plans and activities that go along with the video. I currently integrate this site in my science class to reinforce content and terminology for the students. The only weakness I can see with the site is that you have to become a member to view the content.

The second resource I contributed was GoNoodle. (GoNoodle, 2013) Gonoodle is an interactive site that offers a wide variety of brain breaks. The site has three different kinds of brain breaks, some that energize the students, some for calming, and some for focusing. This is the main strength because all students require different kinds of stimulation depending on the mood of the students. Another great feature is that they have Olympic athletes coaching the students through different events, and they also explain the importance of warming up and stretching. Being a PE teacher I love the fact that this site gets the students up and active, we all know that students need as much physical activity as possible. And once their done they are more engaged and ready to learn. I would integrate this site as a transition between activities, or when my students need to be energized or refocused. One weakness I found with this site is that it only caters to elementary students. They could have added some exercises such as yoga which would be more geared for high school students.

Another resource I added was National Geographic Environment. (Geographic, 2014) This site has all the latest headlines about what is going on with our environment. Some strengths for this site include; updated daily, provides teacher resources by grade level and subject and includes lesson and activities. I would use this site for journal and project ideas in my science classes. One weakness with this site is that I find it is hard to navigate. Once you start searching, it is very hard to go back and look over something without completely starting over at the home page.

# Works Cited

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