

Team Emails

Grade 4

Hi,

Many of you have started blogging. Please let me know if you want to schedule another session for bringing in documents and pictures, adding links to the blogs, commenting on other student's blogs, adding video. You name it, we can do it. I think short sessions focusing on one or two items would work best as it can get overwhelming.

If you would like to book a session, please just check my calendar and let me know what works for you. As always, you can go ahead and book the lab to be sure it is available.

Thanks,

Kris

Hi,

Most of you are starting the TCW project when you get back. I am in the process of checking that all template pictures are in your outboxes.

You will also need to load a face shot of your students into your shared folder. It may be easiest if you take the pictures against the green screen in the laptop lab. Just check its availability and you can bring your class down to shoot the photos. If you don't want to use the green screen, just take the pictures against as solid of a background as possible as this will make it easier for your kids to select their head.

Also, you may want to change the settings on your camera to a lower quality so the photos do not take up a lot of room.

Thanks,

Kris

Hi,

I thought some of you might be interested in this tool. It is a social network that would allow your students to create a bookshelf of the books they have read, critique the books, and look at what other classmates have read. Check out the link for more information and let me know if you are interested.

<http://www.shelfari.com/>

Kris

Hi,

I have some time after the meeting if any of you want me to book time with you. Let me know. Things some of you are doing that others may want to do also right now are:

Blogging -- many of you have done the first lesson. Should we start the second -- adding pics and documents?

Graphing -- Steve and Erian have expressed an interest in starting this and Steve is starting this afternoon. He is graphing the number of Asian countries visited. We are using excel again.

Ning - Char is setting up a ning for her class. This is a class management/social environment that you can use to communicate with your class -- post assignments, have discussions, etc.

Anything else? Let me know if there is anything else anyone is interested in doing.

Kris

Grade 2

Hi,

Just a summary of the topics/activities I spoke about at our meeting:

Kidspiration/Brainpop - rural and urban

Seasons Kidspiration

Kidspiration - This week's weather

Kidspiration KWL

Community Activities -- My cool school

Make your own neighborhood map

Science -- Weather Photostory

Let me know if you want more information or if you want to book times. I am happy to come by if you have a lot of times to book.

Hi,

Monster project - please email me if you are interested in participating this year.

ABC book - I will come by and we can book times and discuss what you are interested in doing as everyone has done this differently. I would like to start with a searching lesson for info and images.

Balance and motion activities - book a time with me if you would like to do these activities and have not yet done them.

Mathletics -- registration starts on Feb. 1. I am happy to help with this. We can meet after a meeting or after school one day if you would like.

Thanks,

Kris

Hi,

Summary of meeting:

ABC Book

Robyn printed out pages

Email me when you are done and we will put together in powerpoint.

Put on blog

Animal

May be matched with Puxi class

Draw animal (make sure it can be drawn in kidpix – focus on simple shapes and color)

Write about animal

Draw animal on kidpix

Write step by step or descriptive piece

wiki is at: <http://shanghaigoeswild.wikispaces.com/>

Plant Introduction

Let me know when you are ready

Project for this section?

Nonfiction activity

Web Detectives – determining validity of web sites

Keyboarding

I'll come by tomorrow or next week to set up times.

Kris

PreK and K

Hi Everyone,

I would love to do an intro activity with your kids. Perhaps the kindergarten brainpop like we did last year... Let me know if you want me to come by and book a time.

Thanks,

Kris

Hi,

The kids have been working on the letters in tech class and I think we should think about doing an alphabet project in the near future. We could do it one of two ways:

1. Students could do like we did last year and use Kidspiration to bring in words that start with certain letters of the alphabets.
2. Students could use Kidpix and draw pictures or bring in clipart from Kidpix of words that start with certain letters.

I think it would be best if we all did the same type of project. Just talk amongst yourselves and let me know. If you don't want to participate, that is fine also.

We will then put the pictures into a class project and I would pull kids out to record their voices like we did last year.

Thanks,

Kris

Hi,

I just wanted to summarize what we discussed at yesterday's meeting so Aimee is also in on the plan:

1. We will continue to meet on day 4 to discuss ideas for the week. I will attend your meetings and just listen much of the time to get a better feel for what you are doing in the classroom.
2. For the first trimester, we will explore the tools we have available while still integrating with your curriculum
3. This is a team effort. In order for tech to be integrated with your curriculum, we all need to participate in the planning and in the lesson. As time goes on, we will probably not need the TA's. That is your decision to make. I will keep Betty with us probably for most of the year.
4. While we will all be doing basically the same thing, I am willing to differentiate so please talk to me if you want to alter a bit from the plan.
5. Please feel free to interrupt me, talk over me, etc. if you want to do something differently during the lesson. You know your kids a lot better than I do. I am happy to adjust the lesson as you see fit.
6. Please let me know if you have any curriculum ideas, want to try anything out that I have not thought of, etc.
7. I am open to try almost anything. We won't know if it works unless we try.

This is new to all of us, so let's keep an open mind and I think we can make this work REALLY well. We have a great pre-k team.

Thanks for your help. I am looking forward to a great year. Let me know if I missed anything.