

Exploring eduBlogging

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MOE/ETD

ICT Seminar

Nanyang Girls' High School
Dec 27 2006

What's up doc?

- Introduction to (edu)blogs
- Different 'types' of blog
- Q&A

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Defining the term ...

- **Weblog, or blog**
 - Term coined by Jorn Barger in 1997
 - Most common definition:
Online journal/diary
 - Key features
 - Ease of creation, use and content update
 - Expression through text, graphics/pictures, audio clips & video clips
 - Commenting by others
 - Auto-archival
 - Searchable

Why blog ?

- **Blog**
 - Key benefits of using blogs
 - Sense of ownership
 - Authentic writing, writing for an audience
 - Encourages communication
 - Encourages reflection

Using blogs...

- **Blog** used as an (e)portfolio
 - Portfolio:
 - a **purposeful collection** of pupils' work that tells the story of a pupil's achievement and growth in one or more areas **over time**. (Chua, 2006)
 - **promotes reflective learning** as pupils reflect on their strengths, weaknesses, achievements, learning experiences

Using blogs as an eportfolio...

- For Chinese Language writing
 - A study conducted in 2004
 - 2 classes of Sec 3 express students
 - A 'replacement' for newspaper articles reflection exercise (剪报)

Some findings ...

- Portfolio Building in Chinese Language Learning Using Blogs (Tan, Teo, Aw & Lim, 2005)
 - ICT vs 'traditional' mode
 - more interesting than the traditional newspaper cutting book
 - felt a greater sense of ownership over the portfolio than the traditional newspaper cutting book

Some findings ...

- Portfolio Building in Chinese Language Learning Using Blogs (Tan, Teo, Aw & Lim, 2005)
 - Interactions in blogs
 - believed they are able to improve on their own reviews after reading friends' reviews
 - felt encouraged when they see others post positive comments to their blogs

Not just text and pictures

- In another study
 - **Audioblogging: Supporting the Learning of Oral Communication Skills in Chinese Language** (Tan, Ow & Tan, 2006)
 - conducted in a primary school, 3 classes of CL students
 - voice recording (audio files) in blog posts
 - captured with portable mp3 players

Learning about speaking ...

- *Improving on pronunciations*
 - “some words which I don't know and my friends know and I heard he said and we write the *hanyu pinyin* (Chinese phonetics) in the passage paper and we know how to read.”
- *Awareness of pacing*
 - “if our reading speed is too fast if we listen to other people then we can we will know how to sometimes the speed must put slower sometimes ”

It needs not be 'solo'

- Use group blogs for teaching and learning

"Like a book
being written by
many people" and
the ideas "just
flow"

"Sort of like a
chat room with
the posts"

"More like a
forum than
a blog"

Gives a feeling of
"community,
almost like
fellowship"

There is "an
objective to
achieve"

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Source: Chua, G.K., & Tan, Y.H. (2006). *Building a group blog for learning*. Dec 27 2006

References

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3. Tan, Y.H. (2005). Weblogs in education (a literature review). Retrieved from <http://www.moe.gov.sg/edumall/rd/litreview.htm>
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5. Tan, Y.H., Ow, E.G.J., & Tan, S.C. (2006). *Audioblogging: Supporting the Learning of Oral Communication Skills in Chinese Language*. Paper presented at the AECT Research Symposia, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, Jun 22-25.

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Q&A

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Just one URL ...

<http://eduBlog.NET>

where you can find the papers and this set of slides

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Thank you 😊

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