



Educators' Technology Clinics

Student Project Profile

Course: LTMS 600 Web 2.0 in the Classroom

Project Name: Mythological Encyclopedia on Issuu

Project Audience: 8th graders - 14 yr olds

Derry Township School District

Project Description: Students were asked to publish a page in a class encyclopedia/online resource to share their knowledge of the major players in Greek Mythology while also demonstrating their knowledge of characterization as well as citations (pictures, books, websites, databases). As a group, the students created an online book to serve as a resource for their classmates and future “mortals.” Issuu was the online site used. It is a free and easy to use online resource. I worked with the other Communication Arts teachers and the librarian—a media specialist—to ensure the success of this project. We worked together as a team to determine the authentic performance goals. Research skills, specifically citing sources, characterization -writing using indirect characterization, writing with a clear focus and elaborating on ideas were the most conducive and important skills/concepts taught through this project.

Audience Response: Since students had an authentic audience, the project became real for them. They were excited that other students would be learning from their online resource.

Improved Learning Outcomes: Students learned from each other to enhance their understanding of Greek Mythology, characterization, and indirect characterization. Without my prompting, students discussed interesting facts they learned about their characters. They were excited about “becoming” their character, which helped them understand point of view because they had to write from their perspective. Another focus was indirect characterization, which students grasped more easily because they had to have other “friends” write on their “wall” using indirect characterization.

What I Learned: Students need to be taught how to use easybib and create a Works Cited. The choices of characters should be narrowed down because some characters did not have a lot of information. In order to publish to Issuu, it took time to compile the different pages together. Also, some students had trouble copying and pasting pictures onto the template, which I should have taught prior to the project.

For more information about the courses and projects that are part of the Educators' Technology Clinics go to www.EdTechClinics.net, call 717.901.5101, or email EdTechClinics@HarrisburgU.edu.