

Wolf Creek Local Schools	
Waterford High School	
Carol Chase	Sharon Baumgard
Titles: “Using INFOhio Resources to Enhance and Support Research Projects in the Social Studies, Science and Language Arts Classrooms” and “Evaluating Web Sites”	

Report on ILILE Grant
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1. Staff Development Program - Report

Planning:

Mrs. Baumgard and Mrs. Chase met after school on September 22 and began planning the first of three information literacy workshops. One workshop was to be on social studies resources, one on science, and one on language arts. It was decided to begin with the social studies workshop since that was the summer session they had attended with ILILE. That is also the subject Mrs. Baumgard teaches. It quickly became clear that the original plan called for them to provide more information than could be covered adequately in the two-hour time period. Knowing that keeping teachers interested for longer than 2 hours at an after school workshop is virtually impossible, the amount of information to be shared was cut back. It was decided to leave in introducing INFOhio and other outstanding sites teachers could use for classroom projects, and to briefly discuss the academic content standards and library guidelines, but time for sharing actual project ideas was dropped. This may be scheduled later in the school year.

The Social Studies Workshop:

The information shared with teachers at this first workshop, which took place on October 28, consisted of the following: an introduction to the ILILE home page, particularly the pathfinders and lesson plans; the Instruction Management System site for ODE and its major components; INFOhio resources for social studies, including major aspects of the sites; MarcoPolo sites for social studies; and a list of other good sites for social studies teachers.

Based upon previous technology workshop attendance, it was anticipated that about 6 teachers would attend each workshop. However, 12 notebooks containing handouts were optimistically prepared. Surprisingly, 16 teachers, including the 2 facilitators, attended. Most were elementary teachers, with only 2 from the high school. It should be mentioned that Wolf Creek is a very small district with a total faculty is only about 50 teachers. To have almost 1/3 of the staff attend a non-required workshop was impressive! Eleven teachers returned the evaluation survey, with all positive responses.

The Language Arts Workshop:

Several people who attended the social studies workshop verbally suggested that time be given toward the end of the workshop for them to browse through the sites on their own. This was done for the language arts workshop, which took place on November 22. The information presented was the same as that presented in the first workshop, except the sites used related to language arts.

This time teachers were asked to RSVP so that there would be enough materials for everyone. 14 teachers responded that they would be attending, so 16 notebooks of handouts were prepared. 18 teachers showed up! Of those, 8 were teachers who had also attended the social studies workshop. 10 teachers returned our evaluation survey, with all positive responses. Many expressed their appreciation for having time for browsing through the sites on their own.

The Science Workshop:

This workshop was originally planned for October, but because of other events it did not take place until December 7. The information presented remained the same, except targeted sites were those appropriate for teaching science, health, and math.

Again teachers were asked to RSVP so that enough materials would be available. 13 responded that they would be attending, 18 notebooks of handouts were prepared, and 16 showed up for the workshop. Of these, 4 were teachers who had not attended either of the other two workshops. 15 teachers returned our evaluation survey, with all positive responses. Several individuals even asked that hold follow-up workshops later in the winter or early spring.

2. Student Lesson – Report

Planning

Mrs. Baumgard and Mrs. Chase met after school on November 8 to finalize plans for the student lesson. It was agreed that Mrs. would prepare the actual lesson and teach it to all 5th through 8th grade classes in the computer lab. The lesson was adapted from one found on the Internet at www.quick.org.uk. This site is devoted to teaching web evaluation to students and contains some cute graphics along with examples and good information. The site was used for teaching the lesson to the 5th and 6th grade classes. For the 7th & 8th grade classes, the same basic information from this site was used, but other sites were located to use as examples.

5th & 6th Grade Lessons

The 5th & 6th grade classes at Waterford Elementary each get one period per week in the computer lab. Mrs. Baumgard is the teacher who takes them to the lab, in addition to being the 5th & 6th grade social studies teacher. There are two 5th grade classes and three 6th grades, and each gets the lab the last period of the day, one day per week. Mrs. Chase was able to teach the first two 5th and 6th grade classes, but because of other commitments was unable to be at the school the rest of the week. Mrs. Baumgard taught

those lessons herself. The students seemed to enjoy the lesson, particularly some of the examples and graphics. Unfortunately, they had trouble completing the lesson with some of the classes. The information will be useful in preparing future class projects.

The 7th & 8th grade classes at Waterford Elementary get to go to the lab more often. Their computer teacher is Mrs. Oliver, who is currently working on a Master's in educational technology. Mrs. Chase met with her prior to the first class to discuss what would be included in the lesson. Mrs. Chase met with each class one time and was not only able to complete the lesson, but found they finished with 3-5 minutes to spare. The junior high students obviously knew more about using the Internet already, and were able to log into the system and get on the Internet much more quickly than the lower grade students. The classes were also smaller in size, with three sections of each grade. The basic information from the quick.org site was used, but different sites were used as examples. Some of these examples were good sites, others were hoaxes. The students particularly enjoyed the hoax sites. The classes seemed interested and will use the information on their upcoming project for their reading teacher.

3. TIMELINE AND BUDGET

Timeline:

- September 22 LMS and 5&6th grade social studies/technology teacher met to begin plans for student lessons and projects, and the staff development sessions.
- October 28 Staff development workshop on INFOhio Resources for the Social Studies
- November 8 LMS and 5&6th grade social studies/technology teacher met to finalize plans for student lessons and projects, and the staff development sessions.
- November 22 Staff development workshop on INFOhio Resources for Language Arts
- December 7 Staff development workshop on INFOhio Resources for Science and Math
- Nov. 15-19 Student lessons on Evaluating Web Sites with grades 5 & 6.
- Nov. 30/Dec. 2 Student lessons on Evaluating Web Sites with grades 7 & 8.
- November 17 LMS and 7&8th grade technology/health & careers teacher to discuss student web evaluation lessons and projects.
- March Follow-up evaluation survey for teachers who attended the workshops.