

SCARFE Digital Sandbox - Come Play!



in the classroom

PRACTICE

<https://education.skype.com/>

There are so many potential uses for Skype and other web-conferencing software. In addition to the technological affordances, Skype has also put together a community that lends itself to supporting teachers. I put out a call for classes and experts to Skype in to a class and received over 20 replies within only a few hours! Now that's support!

<http://www.teachingdegree.org/2009/06/30/50-awesome-ways-to-use-skype-in-the-classroom/>

A recent example and review of a Skype in the Classroom 'Global Classroom Project' <http://mrparkinsonict.blogspot.ca/2013/01/the-power-of-skype-in-classroom.html>

Consider Skype as a means of sharing language models or for 'tandem language learning' – while research is mixed on the effectiveness of this form of language learning and still favours face to face, sometimes models just aren't locally available.

Please visit Dean Shareski's Blog for some caution and kudos:

<http://ideasandthoughts.org/2011/03/28/the-anatomy-of-a-skype-call/>

ALWAYS consider your purpose for inviting any guest into the classroom. How will it advance the learning? The visit should have a purpose that is connected with the learning and the students.

Scientists and innovators in the schools from 'our own' Telus World of Science offers f2f visits from working scientists in this volunteer based program.

<http://www.scienceworld.ca/sis>

Try the [Flat Stanley Project](#) with Elementary aged students: an old-school project via snail mail that has begun to harness the value of the web. Classes create their own Stanley and send it on a trip around the world – learning about the people and places he visits.

Think outside the box with [KIVA](#) and try some 'challenge based learning' with your class or family. KIVA crowd sources small loans (micro-funding) for individuals and groups around the world. I met an educator who used KIVA as a way for his students to learn more about world geography while also participating in global community service. The students even visited local businesses, Rotary clubs and their municipal government office to do presentations about their chosen project in order to raise funds. [Visit the blog of one educator from Salem Middle School:](#)

Sandbox Session - October 2013 @yvonnedehtalk

<http://blogs.ubc.ca/scarfesandbox/>