Enhancing Learning With Technology: Using Digital Storytelling

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Agenda

• definitions, benefits, and applications of digital storytelling
  – break
• demos of digital storytelling
  – break
• brainstorming: how might you use it?
• wrap up
How would you define digital storytelling?
Definitions of Digital Storytelling

• Dana Atchley, Center for Digital Storytelling
  – began digital storytelling in the early 1990s
  – makes use of multimedia elements to create narrative
  – interactive experience which is participatory and immersive
Definitions of Digital Storytelling

• Constance Mellon, East Carolina University
  – used computer software and the internet to facilitate storytelling
  – used threaded discussion lists to share stories
Definitions of Digital Storytelling

- Joe Lambert and Nina Mullen, San Francisco Digital Media Center
  - “using a computer to create narratives that are personal but meant to reach a broad audience”
  - must incorporate multimedia: hypertext, still images, audio, video
Definitions of Digital Storytelling

• My definition is broad
  – learning object which uses digitally produced or enhanced materials to create narrative
  – delivered through Web browser, PowerPoint, CD ROM
In what ways might you adapt traditional storytelling techniques to a digital medium?
Why do we tell stories in class?
Benefits of Digital Storytelling

• Digital stories can be used educationally in two basic ways:
  – as a strategy to present information to students
  – as student assignments
Benefits of Digital Storytelling

- Digital stories as a way to present information
  - stories are ways to capture, refine, and share knowledge
  - stories grab students’ attention
  - encourage interaction and community building
Benefits of Digital Storytelling

• Digital stories as student assignments
  – individual “webographies”
  – “essays” about historical or current events
  – narratives about other works of art
Digital Storytelling in Education

- Used for training at PriceWaterhouseCoopers
  - create a sense of community
  - shared sense of corporate values
Digital Storytelling in Education

• Used for training at Xerox
  
  – stories: ways of organizing information and making it available for use
  
  – facilitate problem solving through shared community of knowledge
  
  – saved Xerox $100 million per year in training
How might you use digital stories in your class?