

NOAA Science On a Sphere Users Collaborative Network Workshop
NOTES

Day 2, LINKING WITH FORMAL EDUCATION EFFORTS AND ADDITIONAL CONTENT

SOURCES Session

Bishop Museum

July 30, 2008

Honolulu, HI

Teachers and Students Building Interactive Content

Student Projects, great impetus for interactive projects. Worth noticing: regardless of the position on the globe, the images and font automatically format so that it is easily read. Also, it can be controlled remotely. Geographic games can be created, encouraging group participation.

Q: Was it the software that was formatting pictures and text?

A: Yes, it is user friendly.

Q: Microsoft is doing some R&D to make it touch capability. Questions asks about how it works-Very technical answer with cameras and mirrors.

Q: How big and how much are Magic Planets?

A: Available in a variety of sizes from 16" to 6'. Prices vary with size and components.

Q: Charge for current owners for new software?

A: No, as long as you have current maintenance package.

Q: Museum environments? Wear and tear issue?

A: People do touch them. When PSC takes theirs out, the kids touch but as long as they are gentle, they don't break them. They can be rather rough and it holds up. Very durable.

Magic Planet Lesson Plans, Formal Education Connections, and New Content

(Shannan Lewinski presenting)

Narratives and Magic Planet outreach

Q: Where do you get the funds?

A: We are an earmarked program. Because we are introducing it to schools, we get great support from the Office of Education, and we get a lot of autonomy in using the funds that are giving to us for outreach.

(Matthew McBride presenting)

Data Sets for the Magic Planet, the process he uses to create the new data sets

Q: Process to convert SOS to Magic Planet?

A: DES convert- on the website, converts any image to DES file format which plays best in MP. Found that this format is faster than using mpegs and jpegs.

Q: Will this be able to use this interactively?

A: Yes, can be imported. The touchscreen is from MP, and will explain the data set. Can do video lessons, and utilizes the data that is for SOS.

Q: Flash makes an MP format?

A: Up it through a compressor? Program on Macs that converts video, changes the size.

PBS Presentation

Q: Licensing issues?

A: Lots, which is why we need funding. If there are no clearances, then they have to get those licenses.

Q: To incorporate this for exhibits, how does that work?

A: Has to be restructured specially for exhibits. Can't use PBS content at the moment.

Comment: There are downloadable materials on PBS website, and there are others that are streaming. Streaming is OK, but to make a good teaching package, then you need to manipulate the data. PBS is also introducing this idea to new programming. Harder with ongoing series like Nova

Q: Are you changing the licensing requirements?

A: Yes, eventually.