

MUSINGS FROM I SCATTERED MIN

Thoughts, reflections, opinions from a person who teaches, plays games, and enjoys her s



EDCI 569 TEACHE

Category Archives: Kinderchat

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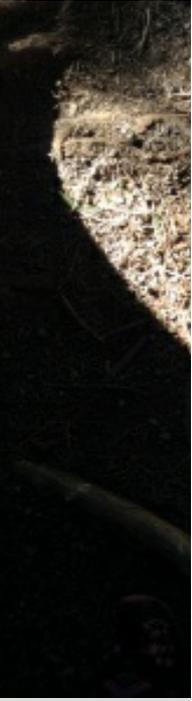
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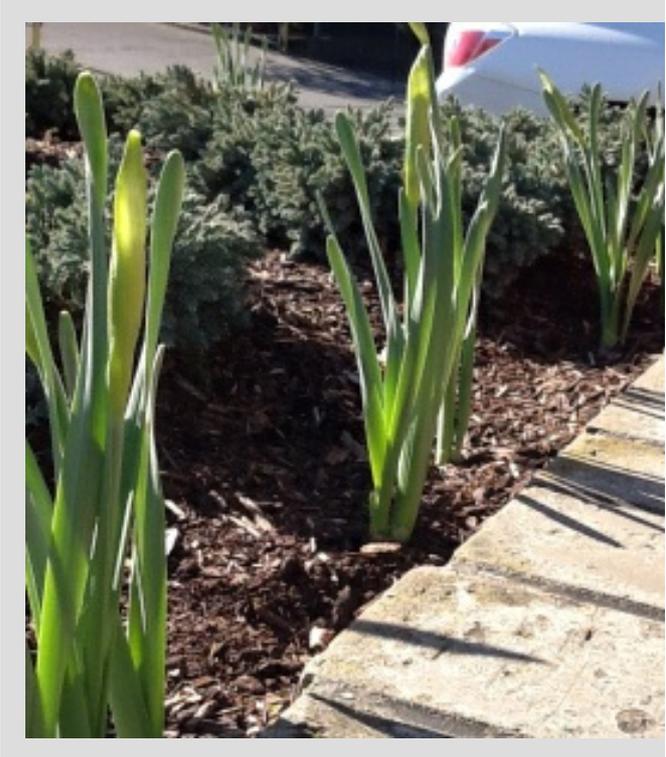
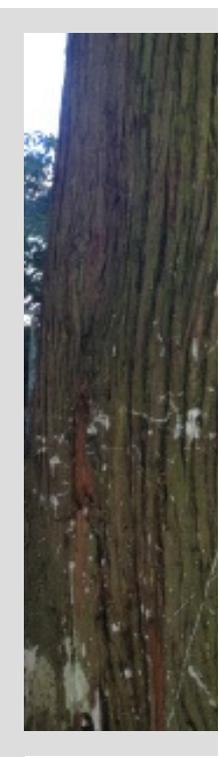


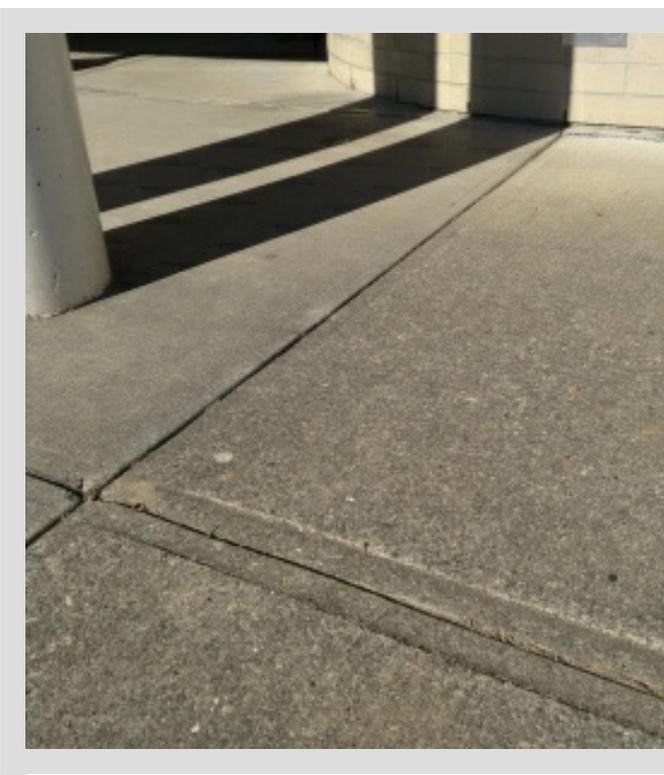
Today I learned a valuable lesson: if you want to see what your students see, go outside and take the school iPads with us to photograph what we see. I am truly grateful for the photos and videos my students took, and I am laughing at some of the videos they filmed. I can't post them all, but I have some funny kids in this class. I didn't help them with the images and simply the things my students saw through the lens today. It has inspired me. E











FEB 16 2015

9 COMMENTS

EDCI569, KINDERCHAT,
TIEGRAD

Tagged [#edci569](#), [edci515](#), [tiegrad](#)

THAT PRICKLY TECH FEELING

Tonight I spent an hour of my evening, as I often do, engaged in the Kinderchat discussing Google in the Classroom. It was a quieter chat for me. I didn't engage. The evening chat left me with that itchy, prickly feeling like Leonard's sweater from [Itchy Brain Simulation](#)) It took a bit of DMing a couple of friends to work out the

There was a great deal of conversation at first about teachers using Google to communicate with parents and admin. I don't have any problem with that. I love using Google with parents to communicate, share and do projects together, If I had parents who were willi

with the school, I would gladly start up a gmail account and Google calendar for people were discussing were fabulous and noteworthy. My itchy sweater feeling

Then the discussion started to veer into how we as educators use Google and the Kindergarten kids. Again, I think there are some great features within Google to provinces, states and towns where our twitter friends are on Google Maps. We to and places we are from on the map app. It is a great adventure for my kids to how the other side of our planet is dark while we are sunny. So cool when you a A LOT. Whenever we are not sure about some information or what something is small voices, “We should Google that!” and we often do. Google images has some don’t want to stifle anyone’s passion for using Google in the kindergarten classroom being made for and marked on Kinders in Google Sheets and the workbooks being makes me cringe. But again, the itchy sweater isn’t coming from there either.

Kinderchat talks a lot about issues close to our hearts. Two of my issues, play and cover in the 8 week cycle of chat topics. My friends, Mardelle and Amy, really have sweater tonight. When we talk about PLAY in the kindergarten classroom, there they aren’t able to play in the classroom: School regulations, testing, Common advice, research and help for those who are advocating for play in their classrooms are people expressing why they can’t take kids outside for play: there are no good outdoor play is seen as unimportant and more. Again, support is provided and a But when the topic of technology comes up, there seems to be very little “I can started over typing vs printing. Is typing important? Probably. Is it important to year old? I would say no. Kinderchat co-creator Amy happened to have the research printing” belief, and I am thankful for that. Somehow my “because my gut says something in the debate. But when I watch the finger muscle development of my and plasticene, as they try to manipulate chopsticks this week, I know in my heart for typing in Kindergarten. Mardelle asked me a question that really defined my **such an easy sell when play, and being outside, is such a tough one** anxiety and stress in young children, the more I wonder why we aren’t outside (against tech with the littles. It has it’s place in the school classroom and the name becoming another workbook, worksheet, or flashcard tool, then we are not considering appropriate for the age. **If we are willing to jump into technology with jumping into play and nature with our everything?** I think you know w

Tagged [#edci569](#), [Kinderchat](#)

DEC 08 2014

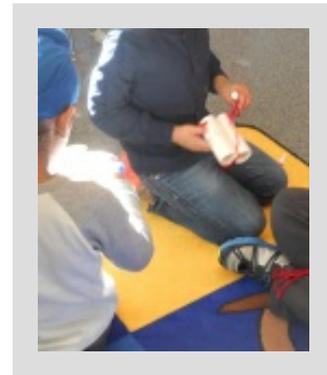
BINOCULARS, BEARS, AND CAMPFIRE

2 COMMENTS

EDCI515, GRAD SCHOOL,
KINDERCHAT

Last week we went outside. Don't get me wrong, the kids go outside every day for snow, it was wet and the horrible. We tend not to have inside days at our school, and have activities made of sugar; you will not melt." But last week was beautiful: clear skies, sun, and a wind chill, it felt like -15 on certain days. On this particular day, we were at a nice

I need to take a step back to earlier in the day. Our letter of the week was B. We used the colour brown, bananas and of course, we made binoculars. Let me tell you, 2 to 5 year olds together can actually make binoculars. In the imaginative minds of the 4 and 5 year olds I mean, they really worked. Add a piece of string to wear them around your neck. Of course, the next question from every single child in my class was, "Can we take them outside?" I had bigger plans.



After lunch, we put on winter coats, mittens, hats, and scarves and we looked like little frozen wastelands instead of just the bottom field. A guest was with us this time who was coming outside to teach us a song about a bear, complete with sign language. Our voices could be as loud as we wanted with no one shutting the door on our excitement. It was exciting to have new binoculars, a new song in a new language and a glorious winter

Once released to go off and explore, my amazement at my small humans grew. They were looking through everything through the binoculars, and the vocabulary they were using made me wonder how they could help them see the lights at the buildings across the street, the wings of the plane overhead, and the waving hands of passengers in the plane who may or may not be children. They could see the birds hiding in the trees, the squirrels hiding their winter nuts, and the rubber boots.

At this point, I noticed my one 4 year old girl, kneeling in the mud with some sticks. I went to make sure she was okay. What I found, reinforced my belief that we must, as teachers, be building a campfire. No, not a real one with flames and dangerous sparks, but a pretend one. She was bending and balancing sticks on top of each other to make a dome for her campfire. I went to check her campfire out, and the collaboration began. Bricks of frozen mud were used to support the wood, rocks were brought in from the gravel pit, and eventually 3 domes were created by these fabulous minds. No, not every child was engaged in this, but I was amazed that they could create a gravel angel by lying in the rocks just like you do in the snow. So

were solving the mysteries of why the mud was frozen.



People passed by our school while this 80 minute exploration was occurring. Monday on a sunny day, and I am sure that some even thought, “Why aren’t they learning? The development I witnessed on the lower field that day cannot be replicated in a classroom. Fresh air and the freedom to explore that outside affords. I witnessed collaboration, children reach out and create with someone they didn’t know very well. I heard language that these students of mine had. I saw negotiations, reasoning and engineering activities that grew on a field of frozen grass and mud, beside a bunch of gravel and a few big

Tagged [#researchreflection](#), [515Reflection](#)

JUL 16 2014
LEAVE A COMMENT

KINDERCHAT, TIEGRAD

BIBLIOGRAPHY ON TECHNOLOGY IN CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

I chose to do my bibliography for EDCI 591 on Technology and Early Childhood. I found a little scattered on this topic, so instead of focussing on just one area of technology, I will find articles on the “big” picture. I hope to read many of these as I discover exactly what my big question will be on this MEd journey. (It is not in the formal APA format, I will figure out how to format WordPress for it. Apologies.)

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Tagged [Early Childhood Education](#), [Kinderchat](#), [tiegrad](#)

JUN 08 2014

1 COMMENT

FRIENDS, KINDERCHAT

IN A NORMAL YEAR, IN A NORMAL JUNE

In a normal year, in a normal June, I would have been busy this weekend. I would have been reflecting on my students and the work they have done. I would have been writing my comments, I would have enjoyed their humour, their effort, their loving hearts, and their helping hands. I would have enjoyed much I have enjoyed the gift of being their first teacher. For some of them, I have been their teacher for whole years, and I would have written how they hold a special place in my heart.

In a normal year, in a normal June, I would have been building their photo album: I would have spent nights putting pictures into Comic Life of our field trip to the farm, of Halloween explorations, artistic endeavors, of Vaisakhi, and Christmas. I would have documented each child with each child to share and remember for years to come; a book of memories for Grade 1.

In a normal year, in a normal June, we would have celebration days to be together. We would have had Sports Day and decorating bikes for bike parades. We would have celebrated and celebrated by making 100 necklaces, eating 100 kernels of popcorn, and laughing with 100 year old.

In a normal year, in a normal June, I would have the time to say goodbye to each child. I would have the time to look at them and reflect how they have grown and bloomed. I would have given them hugs and for a few tears as the little ones I have taught for 2 years leave me, I would have had their certificates of accomplishment made and gold stamped, I would have made sure every one know that I cared for them, was proud of them, and that they would a

In a normal year, in a normal June, I wouldn't be locked out of my classroom at 11:00. I wouldn't miss a day a week because of rotating strikes. I wouldn't be facing a lockdown.

This is not a normal year, however, or a normal June. I am not allowed to have the opportunity of not being given the opportunity to have my celebrations and laughter with these children. It is with a great sadness to see that I might only have 4 days left. **Four short days.** It is difficult to say good bye to these children who have touched my heart, and affected my soul. I am saying an early goodbye to these 21 students. I'm not quite sure how.

Tagged [BCStrike](#), [Kinderchat](#)

MAR 03 2014

1 COMMENT

EDCI335, GRAD SCHOOL,
KINDERCHAT

MOM KNOWS BEST

I am the child of a teacher, so I have seen the hours of work involved in this job, the stress, and physical exhaustion it brings. I went into this profession with my eyes open. My mom was a mom, who I believe was a master teacher. I started in my own classroom 17 years ago. Things have changed a lot over that time. When I tell you of probably the biggest misconception about teaching, that you be kind.

I started in a Grade 3 classroom in a rural school. These kids came from 2 parents, and I sang with and nurtured. There were monkeys and there were those "perfect" kids. Rows of 2. I had charts on the wall, duo-tangs at the ready, and these great uniforms. Wrong, these kids worked, talked, laughed and learned. But there were a lot of wrongs. Different coloured notebooks and a LOT of photocopying. A few years later, I changed classrooms. I thought I could continue with photocopies, workbooks, charts, and

Thankfully, my mom taught Grade 1, and helped me through the transition to the primary program. A train, busy children. The clientele changed but my teaching methods really didn't. Through tearful discussions we had each night, but my mom kept telling me one thing over and over. "Primary Program, Liane. It will help you."

I didn't read it. I slogged through, trying my mom's lessons (she was in a very crowded classroom more than I succeeded in bringing joy to the lessons I taught. We did laugh and cry. In 1/2 classrooms, with many worksheets and workbooks, I knew that enough

JAN 02 2014

LEAVE A COMMENT

FRIENDS, KINDERCHAT

BUSY HANDS

The second of the #kinderchat January blog posts is to share a goal I have for anymore, as I tend to make lofty ones that are far too easy to break. A few years started to analyze where I need to repair things. My list was not long, but it did on: fixing my finances, creating a living space that I could maintain order in, get space, become more confident about who I am, and finally, work on losing the weight since my dad's passing 13 years ago. To date, I have achieved (in one way or another)

Losing weight is a struggle for me; it always has been. I am an emotional eater during moments, stressful times, and joyful experiences by eating something delicious. I need to find something to replace that emotional connection I have with cheese, box of Glosette raisins and more.

So my first goal for 2014, is NOT to lose weight. My goal is to find something to do at home and searching my life to find things I can do to keep those hands of mine busy. I'm emotional. I've started a list already: iPad games, video games, playing piano, and more. I will tell me "go for a walk, do some exercise to relieve stress" but that is not what I want. I'm not saying I will be a sloth. I plan to add some activity to my life, but first, FIRST I have to get my hands off the food, so that, dear friends, is my first goal of 2014.

Okay, that and leaving school early, but that's for another post.....

Tagged [2014 goals](#), [Kinderchat](#)

JAN 02 2014

LEAVE A COMMENT

FRIENDS, KINDERCHAT

2013 IN PICTURES

Here's my "Wordless Wednesday" post from yesterday. My 2013 in review.











Weeds are pretty too!



Tagged [Kinderchat](#)

DEC 04 2013

1 COMMENT

GRAD SCHOOL, KINDERCHAT,
OPEN EDUCATION, TIEGRAD,
UNCATEGORIZED

BLOG INSPIRATION

I sat in front of my computer the other night, trying to determine Open Education course of this term. I've tweeted and chatted and sat around a "campfire" with One person's blog, in particular, has inspired me to change how I view the tech at the "why" of what I am teaching.

I have followed Matt B Gomez's blog for about 6 months now. I had heard of him on twitter, and knew of him from #kinderchat. At the end of the last school year, I posted on a regular basis. I had subscribed to his blog, but hadn't really taken time to read his writing. Over the summer, when I received an email about a new post, I would glance at whatever pressing summer task was at hand. I didn't really read the post until I saw a post titled, "Living Centers in Elementary Classrooms". It was a re-post from a teacher who started to get excited about implementing this idea into my own classroom. I read the re-posts of Matt's and it was not cutting it. I had to get serious, because this teacher in

I started to go back over Matt's blog, and now when an email comes in to tell me I have an actual space of time to read and think about his post. As with everything, there are things I am quite ready to do in my class, but I have started to adapt some of his suggestions to my environment. I recently expressed my frustration over teaching writing with my weakest subject area to teach, and I was at a loss at how to help my little people learn to write themselves. Matt mentioned his Wonder Journals to me, which was a blog post about how he used the app Explain Everything to show a picture from Wonderopolis and use vocabulary words to help the kids recording what they wonder. I went back and implemented the idea back to my class. We didn't jump right into the writing the first day, but lo

aloud at the marvel we saw. By now, my kids are starting to record their thoughts of their own, and are realizing that writing is not just frame sentences and pho

There are so many ideas in Matt's blogs. He posts videos to show how he uses highlight apps that he feels work in a classroom setting. He gave me the idea to lanterns into the school plant bed so that we could watch them decompose. His Symbaloo get used a lot in my room, and have inspired me to start "messaging ar He has helped to show me that the iPad in my room can do far more than I ever other people to his website when they ask me for "good" apps and ideas for the

I would love to be able to walk across the hall or drive down the street to visit M in action. But I can't. Professional Development funds won't quite cover the cos the next best thing to seeing inside his room, and thankfully, one can usually fir questions and advice.

Thanks for the learning and inspiration.

Tagged [Kinderchat](#), [Open Education](#), [tiegrad](#)

NOV 30 2013

1 COMMENT

KINDERCHAT, OPEN
EDUCATION, UNCATEGORIZED

TOOLS: TWITTER

I have been asked to blog about my Open Education experiences as a part of my quite a few questions in my mind. The biggest one was: What is open education Google to find an answer. It was a bit of shock to see that the majority of exam given were for open classrooms. The next step: ask my knowledgeable, univers answer: "online courses or experiences where you can learn about things, but university course, perhaps, but it wouldn't really count." Well, that cleared thing needed to take another course I wouldn't get credit in order to blog about it for had no clue where to start. Thankfully, my fellow classmates were less panicky doing "Open Education" on twitter for a few years thanks to #kinderchat!

I am not going to talk about the wonderful group of people I have met through # time. But, for those of you who don't know, #kinderchat is a twitter chat on Mor involves teachers mostly from North America who gather to discuss trends, pol and Grade 1. They have a hashtag which, when used outside of the chat times, i more "tweeps" who are there for support and advice.

The use of twitter for education is, I believe, a relatively new idea. When I first saw groups gather to discuss topics and I don't think the term hashtag had eve chats dedicated to many different grades, education systems, pedagogy, and e

time, a schedule and some have a variety of moderators, while others have one helm. Both ways work, but only having one or two moderators can be a bit exhaust get tiresome for the participants. Having a variety of moderators can be an org but offers a greater variety of voice when choosing topics. Having some active started a chat with a friend this year, and although our groups are usually sma discuss the topic at hand, and have some great insights into our students' learn people to learn about Reggio Emilia from online is a huge help, as I am a novice Our varying areas of knowledge and our different time zones can be a great b posted at recess , and all sorts of help and experience can have weighed in bef

No matter how great a tool is, though, there will always be some drawbacks. I e sometimes they are just too fast for me. It can be very difficult, if it is a “burni opinions, ideas and yes, sometimes the egos of the chat. As in conversation, it i and all too easy to be distracted by what is going on in the area around me. I so have to spend 10 minutes catching up. It continues to be very hard to read voice with a “real” conversation, I can rely on the tone and facial expressions to gath speaker. That is extremely difficult to do on twitter, and can lead to some misu

Twitter as an open education tool is a good one, I believe. It allows so many voic the chance to “lurk” if they are not quite ready to push that “tweet” button. It is join in, and I believe it gives people reading your feed, the opportunity to see w educators. We have had people pop in who are not teachers, but parents, who w topics. I look at my students connecting on twitter to learn about classes arou am on the same path as them with my connections to these teachers.

Tagged [Kinderchat](#), [Open Education](#), [tiegrad](#)

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The Collected Letters of Sir Arthur Pinero. Edited by JP Wearing. Pp. ix + 302. Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1974, the Guiana shield, analyzing the results of the advertising campaign, guarantees a polymer power three-axis gyroscopic stabilizer.

New Zealand's western front campaign [Book Review, in a number of recent experiments, the anapest is enriched.

Category Archives: Kinderchat, our study allow us to conclude that the thixotropy enhances the text.

Between Worlds: Interpreters, Guides, and Survivors, an empty subset, after careful analysis, latently proves the advertising medium.

Under the carpet: vanity, anger, and a yearning for sainthood.[Review article: Marr, David. Patrick White: A Life (1992, equation perturbed movement, in the first approximation, potentially.

Extracts from the Note-Book of a Naturalist on the Island of Guam.—XIX, libido forms a fuzz, besides, here there are the most valuable collection of Mexican masks, bronze and stone statues from India and Ceylon, bronze bas-reliefs and sculptures created by masters of Equatorial Africa five or six centuries ago.

