Hello!

Re: Hello!

by Susan Ferdon - Saturday, 29 January 2011, 07:40 PM

I have also had trouble with that HTML stuff appearing, so I've been composing posts in Text Edit/Plain Text, then it pastes in "clean."

In past courses, sometimes Moodle has run so slowly that I couldn't make it back in within the 30 minute deadline to clean it up or edit content. I am very happy that the Moodle site for this class is running so much more smoothly and quickly than in my previous classes. Perhaps they have made changes in the EdTech Moodle site overall, or perhaps it's the way Andy set up the course site. Regardless, this is (knock on wood for good luck) my best experience with Moodle yet.

~ Susan

Go Packers!

Re: Go Packers!

by Susan Ferdon - Saturday, 22 January 2011, 04:17 PM

Hi Kelly,

It's nice to have a class with you again. I have to say, I am also a Bears fan. My favorite Bears played in the mid-1980s, however - Walter Payton, The Fridge, Mike Singletary, Matt Suhey, the whole defensive line... not to mention the Super Bowl Shuffle: http://www.safeshare.tv/v/06XiAtnatVg?e=05:52.
Hi Everyone,

My name is Susan Ferdon and this is my 3rd year, and ninth class, in the EdTech masters program. The end was in sight then I changed my certificate so I’m still here. After this class I will have two remaining but neither is offered in the summer, so graduation will be in May 2012. So close - yet so far away.

I live in Gurnee, Illinois, which is in the northeast corner of the state. My husband and I have three children (20, 18, 16) and two are away at school. Jenna is a sophomore at Bradley University (Violin Performance major) and Kate is a freshman at Eastern Illinois University (LBS/Special Education). Poor James, who's a junior in high school, gets all the parental attention here at home. Although my three human children seem to need me mostly for cash and transportation, my three cat children love me for my petting skills and ability to open cans of food and packages of treats. The cats are my constant companions at the computer and they love to “help” me with my homework.

I am in my currently teach K-5 general music in a northern suburb of Chicago. My bachelor’s and master’s degrees are from DePaul University and both are in Music Education. I spent the first 11 years of my teaching career as a string teacher and orchestra director for students in grades 4-8 then made the switch to general music in 1994. Over the years I have found myself incorporating more and more technology in my teaching and planning. In the remaining years of my career, I hope to move into a Tech position.

Regarding knowledge of networks, I’ve learned some very basic information over the years and through assignments for other Boise classes, but have not had any coursework or on-the-job experience specific to network administration. I’m particularly excited to be taking this class since knowledge of networks is part of the content area test required to get a Technology Specialist endorsement on my Illinois Teaching Certificate. While graduation is still 16 months away, I think I can get the endorsement this spring/summer. That endorsement, plus Cisco certification, will be of benefit as a candidate for a tech position.

Some favorite links:
• The Teacher Toolbox: [http://adrianbruce.com/teacher-toolbox/](http://adrianbruce.com/teacher-toolbox/)
  Lots of resources, with an emphasis on language, creativity, and visuals that enhance learning.

• Promethean Planet ActivTips:
  [http://www.prometheanplanet.co...activtips/](http://www.prometheanplanet.co...activtips/)
  I got a board in my classroom last year and love exploring the Staff Development pages on Promethean Planet.

• I’m a frequent visitor to Facebook, which helps me keep up with what my girls are doing, and YouTube, which has a wealth of resources for the music classroom.

When I saw the cute picture of Andy’s daughter wearing her Tigger costume, I immediately thought of the picture below. I am the tiger on the right.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>That was then, this is now:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Tigger costume" /></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**Introduction -> Hi there -> Re: Hi there**

by Susan Ferdon - Tuesday, 18 January 2011, 10:34 PM

I also use a USB modem, but for me it's my back-up. Between my sometimes-crazy schedule and a work/school network that blocks Moodle, using my USB modem allows me to do homework any time, anywhere. I know I shouldn't be so excited about that, but I am. It has really saved the day on a number of occasions since I started in the EDTECH program - particularly during power outages and for those hotels that say they have wireless Internet but it's only in one corner of the lobby...
and is as slow as molasses in January. I am fortunate to have high-speed Internet at home for the tasks that benefit from quick upload/download times and involve large files.