Fall II: 2009

Research Center for Educational Technology

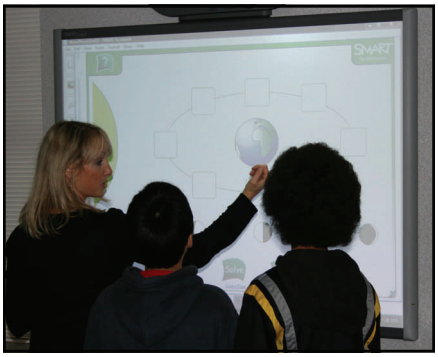
AT&T Classroom

AT&T Classroom Hosts Holden Elementary

The AT&T classroom at Kent State University welcomed Holden Elementary students for the second session of the fall semester. Mrs. Christi Bates' 5th grade students spent their time in the classroom studying science, math, and astronomy. By using a variety of technologies, the students were able to apply their knowledge in different ways, including:

- Using the **SMART Board** to answer various questions about the solar system, celestial bodies, and mathematics. Additionally, the SMART board was used to view student presentations about the phases of the moon.
- **Kidspiration, Kidpix**, and **PowerPoint** software aided students in organizing their research about the solar system.
- Students used **Photo-Story** software to produce short films on varying types of stars. The students added text, music, and narration to enhance their presentations.
- The 5th graders spent one class session at the Kent State University Planetarium. At the show, they were able to identify stars that they would typically see without the aid of a telescope or binoculars.
- The students viewed planets using a special **3-D portable stereo-imaging system**.

Mrs. Bates also conducted many experiments in and outside of the classroom. One of these used cereal and string to represent the distance between planets and the sun.



Holden 1st Grade Students Study What Matters

First grade students from Holden Elementary in Kent studied matter in all its forms with the aid of the AT&T classroom. First grade teacher Suzanne Stronz used a variety of methods to help her students understand and write about different forms matter may take.

Students used **Kidspiration** and **Kidpix** to journal every day in the classroom. In addition, they participated in experiments and demonstrations regarding matter. For example, one demonstration showed the difference between a solid, a liquid, and a gas using a variety of materials. Students could view the demonstrations easily with the aid of the **Wolf Vision document camera** in the classroom. After the experiments took place the students recorded their findings using Kidspiration and Kidpix. In addition, Mrs. Stronz used the Wolf Vision camera to present books and materials related to the day's lesson.

The first graders also participated in a jeopardy game using **PowerPoint** software and the **SMART Board**. The game compiled content of the various lessons on matter and let students apply their knowledge.

An important element of the unit was assessment of student learning. Mrs. Stronz used the **Personal Response System,** also known as **clickers,** to explore student progress made throughout the unit. Each student used a clicker to respond to questions about matter. Mrs. Stronz administered the test before and after the unit started in order to gauge student learning.

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