Audacity + Movie Maker for Pre- and In-service Teachers' Technology Training

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Abstract: Audacity and Movie Maker in Windows are two free and easy-to-use editing software packages for audio and video production. While presenters implemented Audacity and Movie Maker in pre- and in-service teachers' technology training, they found that teachers are highly motivated to learn, and have greatly enhanced their technology skills to produce pod-casts and web-casts for instruction. This presentation will share presenters' experience of adopting Audacity and Windows Movie Maker in undergraduate, graduate, and doctoral classes, demonstrate students' productive learning achievements, and explore online resources and implementation strategies for effective use of technology in education.

Along with the advancement of computing technology and internet technology, pre- and in-service teachers' technology training becomes more challenging. For example, pod-casts and web-casts have increased in popularity and their ability to be implemented in today's educational arena. Additionally, quite a number of pre- and in-service teachers have built up their own WebPages or Blogs for instructional or sharing purposes. Therefore, it is necessary for them to master certain levels of audio and video production skills that will certainly enhance the effectiveness of integration of technology in their respective classrooms. Presenters have adopted Audacity and Movie Maker in pre- and in-service teachers' technology training at Kennesaw State University. The undergraduate, graduate and doctoral students in Elementary and Early Childhood Education programs have participated in training and showed very impressive achievement in learning. This demonstration will share presenters' experiences of working with pre- and in-service teachers, and demonstrate students' successful learning achievements. Meanwhile, presenters will provide discussions on how to make audacity and movie-maker more productive for teaching and learning, display the online resources that are available for educators and teachers to create impressive and multimedia presentations, and demonstrate sample movies produced by students.

What is audacity? Audacity is a free, easy-to-use audio editor and recorder. It can be used under Windows, Mac OS X, GNU/Linux, and other operating systems. It allows users to record live audio, convert tapes and records into digital recordings or CDs, edit Ogg Vorbis, MP3, and WAV sound files, cut, copy, splice, and mix sounds together, change the speed or pitch of a recording, and more (Audacity, 2007). This software for education is free and easy-to-use.

Windows Movie Maker is a free video-editing tool included with Microsoft Windows XP. With Movie Maker, one can turn home movies into awesome videos that onecan share across the Internet, or burn to a CD or DVD. One can produce his or her own movie with digitalized video clips or still pictures. Like Audacity, Movie Maker is easy for anyone to use (Video, 2006).

Using Audacity and Movie Maker together, teachers can make their own instructional movies with standard based instruction, motivate objective-oriented learning, and enhance the integration of technology in education.

This demonstration and presentation will be hyperlinked with the following topics on site.
1. Sample of students' Movie Maker projects
2. Online resources for learning and practice
3. Tips for effective implementation of Audacity and Movie Maker
4. Tips for integration of audio, video projects in web-based environment

References

Audacity. (2007) Retrieved December 9, 2007 from http://audacity.sourceforge.net/about/

Video: See what you can do with Windows Movie Maker. (2006). Retrieved December 9, 2007 from
http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/moviemaker/getstarted/possibilities.mspx