Task 11: Student Demo-Web2.0 Tool

**Team:** Aletha Lyons, Emily Maggard, and Kristen Wilson

**Tool:** Voki

**Access:** http://voki.com/

**Purpose:** Voki is a tool that enables users to express themselves, either with a talking character or using their own voice. The Voki can be designed to look like the user or take on another identity. There are many different types of characters, including animals and monsters. If a user decides to speak in his/her own voice, he/she can use a microphone, upload, or phone to record the voice.

**Resources:** “How to Create a Voki”: http://youtu.be/oyGTcH0ZefM

“Introducing: Voki Classroom”: http://youtu.be/pZwQTm\_5s6Q

**Classroom Connections:**

* http://teachweb2.wikispaces.com/Voki
  + Students can orally share their writing pieces once they are finished with them.
  + Can be used as a “classroom newscast” to share information
  + Students can use it as an item in an electronic portfolio.
* http://21centuryedtech.wordpress.com/2011/02/06/voki-creates-ad-free-site-for-education-plus-20-ways-to-use-talking-avatars/
  + “Student Book Talk”—Students try to persuade their classmates to read a particular book. They can provide title and author and could review, summarize, and/or encourage others to read the book.
  + Teachers can give a test with a Voki avatar asking questions or integrate with a written test. This is helpful for students with reading difficulties or second languages.
  + “Poetry and Music Composition”—Students can create poems or lyrics and allow their favorite avatar to read them aloud.

**Teacher Samples:**

1. One of the learning expectations for second grade reading is to “develop and maintain a motivation to read.” More specifically, one of the sub points under that expectation is to “relate literary experiences to others.” This includes book reports and sharing favorite stories.

**URL:** http://www.voki.com/pickup.php?scid=4814754&height=267&width=200

1. One of the grade level expectations for third grade science is to “investigate living things found in different places” and “realize that parents pass along physical characteristics to their offspring.”

**URL:** http://www.voki.com/pickup.php?scid=4786483&height=276&width=200

1. One of the grade level expectations for second grade science is to “investigate the relationship between an animal’s characteristics and the features of the environment where it lives.”

**URL:** http://www.voki.com/pickup.php?scid=4815600&height=267&width=200

**Notes:**