



Kathryn Riva – A Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert Using Sway



Kathryn Riva, a Grade 5 teacher from Micklefield School in Cape Town, has shared a number of her learning activities with other teachers on the Microsoft Educator Community. As a Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert, Kathryn was selected to attend the Microsoft Global Forum in Dubai in February 2015 along with three other South African teachers. She loved the networking experience and meeting teachers who are also inspired by using technology in education.

It was at this Forum that Kathryn was first introduced to Microsoft Sway, an online presentation tool, and she was eager to use it in as soon as she returned to school for class projects and presentations to colleagues. She says, *"Sway looks so modern and it really looks fancy. It's so quick, it's so efficient, and it just looks so professional. You can access it from anywhere. It blows people away!"*

Overview

Country: South Africa
Location: Cape Town, Western Cape
Industry: Education

Software and services:
Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert program

Websites:
www.micklefield.co.za/
education.microsoft.com



Microsoft Innovative Educator Experts advance the conversation about improving student outcomes through innovative uses of technology in teaching and learning.





"I think most people would find it easy to use all of Microsoft's amazing resources if they took the time to explore and try new things. Some of our less exposed staff members are worried that they'll do something wrong and they don't realise how helpful Microsoft products can be in teaching or creating teaching resources."

- Kathryn Riva, Micklefield School



"Sway is a fun website where you can do creative presentations for school. I really enjoyed the experience of Sway."

"I loved making my Sway; it's like putting all your thoughts on a page and swaying through images in your imagination."

"Sway in three words: fast, efficient and fun!"

- Grade Five Learners at Micklefield School

For More Information

For more information about Microsoft in Education, visit:

www.microsoft.com/education/ww/solutions/Pages/index.aspx

To find out about the Microsoft Innovative Educator Expert program, see: <http://www.educatornetwork.com/Sites/Educators/Index>

Try out Sway for Education, here: sway.com/education

For more information about Micklefield Primary, visit: www.micklefield.co.za/

Sway for learners

During the Grade 5 Blended Learning Week at Micklefield the girls were given the task of exploring countries and cities in Africa. This task was carried out using research skills and the girls presented their findings as a Microsoft Sway. For each section, namely finding facts, adding relevant videos, including appropriate pictures and creating a link to an article to back-up ones findings, the girls were required to follow different instructions. "The girls loved the task and have been requesting to use Sway again. After trying out Sway for the first time some of the girls went ahead and made their own Sways about their pets at home over the weekend."

In addition to the activity using Sway, Kathryn has developed and shared a further thirteen learning activities. Kathryn says, "My learning activities are all projects or ideas that I altered or created to become Blended Learning Projects, to promote deeper learning in our girls. These projects were across all my subject areas and included English, Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Technology, Social Sciences and Life Skills."

Support for colleagues

Kathryn says that her Principal and the Head of Computers at Micklefield School both encouraged her to enter the Microsoft Innovative Teacher competition as she had been using and experimenting with Microsoft tools and Web 2.0 tools in her classroom for the past few years. Kathryn says that she has been personally using Microsoft products for eighteen years and she has kept up to date exploring all the updated features.

At Micklefield School, Kathryn runs a staff computer upskilling program. She helps the teachers to develop their computer skills for their personal growth or to create lessons using technology in their classrooms.

She says, "I had to do a presentation for the staff last week and I presented my information using Sway. I also shared the Sway with the staff as well as the URL to try it out. It has now become one of the topics on my staff computer upskilling program. The computer teacher was very eager to give it go too and created her own Sway."

Global Forum Inspiration

Global Forums are a great way to be introduced to new products and to see how other teachers are using them in their classrooms. Kathryn says that in addition to being introduced to Sway at the Forum, she started taking notes at the Dubai Global Forum using OneNote and she can't wait to start using Office Mix.

"The Dubai Global Forum inspired me to keep on learning" says Kathryn, and whilst not every teacher will have an opportunity to attend a Global Forum, any teacher can access the tools, courses and learning activities that use them on the Microsoft Educator Community.

Key Technology

Microsoft Office
Microsoft Sway
One Note