Grandparents, Grandchildren, and Google

Lindy Scripps-Hoekstra, Grand Valley State University

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GRANDPARENTS, GRANDCHILDREN, & GOOGLE!

BACKGROUND

- G3 (Grandparents, Grandchildren, Grand Valley) is an educational summer camp hosted by the university
- Grandparents and elementary-age grandchildren from the community enroll, select programs, and stay together at GVSU
- The library created a program for the 2013 G3 camp and 34 participants opted to attend

GOALS & FRAMEWORK

- Help develop Google searching skills for grandparents and grandchildren
- A Google Site game was created to allow for a self-paced, hands-on learning experience without the need for log-in information or prior computer skill
- The Google Site game involved participants working in teams to solve an imaginary campus theft and impress the "police lieutenant"

GOOGLE SITE GAMIFICATION PROCESS

1. Created a silly, kid-friendly mystery with multiple clues (suspects, motives, location of stolen object)
2. Determined which search strategies participants should learn and utilize to solve each clue
3. Created a Google Site, selecting a simple design template
4. Created a homepage with simple, bulleted directions
5. Created sequential subpages--1 for each clue
6. Linked search strategies and outside webpages to a resources page located in the sidebar
7. Created publicly accessible Google Documents to work as answer keys and linked to the site's sidebar
8. Changed the settings for the site to make publicly accessible

RESULTS

- Session evaluations showed that the game structure allowed for an engaging atmosphere of friendly competition:
  - "Big fun! I learned a lot."
  - "Very fun way to engage adults and kids and learn new methods of searching efficiently."
- On a scale of 1-5, the 34 participants rated the session an average of:
  - 4.7 for engagement
  - 4.4 for organization
  - 4.6 for usefulness

https://sites.google.com/site/catchathiefgvsu/

Lindy Scripps-Hoekstra, MLIS
Area Studies & Religious Studies Librarian
Grand Valley State University
scrippsl@gvsu.edu  616-331-5073