Support For Using Data in the Classroom: NSDL Portals and User Interface Design

Basic Assumptions

- The visual and functional design of the NSDL UI is data-driven to support future Library scalability.
- The relationships among types of data in Metadata Repository records (collection -> item -> annotation) must be apparent in the UI, and is the underlying strength of what the Library Catalog has to offer users.
- Most core services are available across portals.

Discovery

- Advanced Search, available to all library visitors regardless of login status, allows users to narrow their search by selecting from among various criteria. Later NSDL releases will support additional criteria.

Aggregating Resources for Review and Display

- The NSDL Review Service will support saving specific resources for review and display in other portals.

At right: 1. Example of Main Portal instantiation featuring an auto-updating “Featured Collection” browse, a channel view of a Bill Nye Exhibit, and an auto-updating listing of Specialized Portals; 2. Advanced Search form with a channel view from a Bill Nye exhibit; 3. Search Results from an Advanced Search featuring an Exhibit based on user’s interest. Notice that results are aggregated in the browse feature on the right according to user-selected criteria indicated on the Advanced Search form; 4. Another example of Search Results showing “Review Services.” More information at http://portals.com/nuslid.org/cgi-bin/wiki.pl?User_Interface_and_Portsals