

Introduction to Yahoo!Groups tutorial

The Arts in Therapy online discussion forum uses Yahoo! Groups collaborative software to manage group discussion. Four years in existence (July 2003), certain usability problems with the registration process and technical know-how deficiencies needed to be addressed to help everyone get access to group features and master basic internet collaborative skills. 6 modules were planned, three are delivered here. These represent efforts to improve the quality, frequency and variety of web skills necessary in taking full advantage of online possibilities within the Yahoo! Groups online environment. Note that these skills and competencies are transferable to other online environments, and therefore constitute competencies that are well worth the effort.

Identified Problem areas

Here are some of the problems identified. The various modules in the tutorial

part one (registration) and two (basic web skills). Part three (interactive leadership) is scheduled next, when most feel more comfortable with basic web

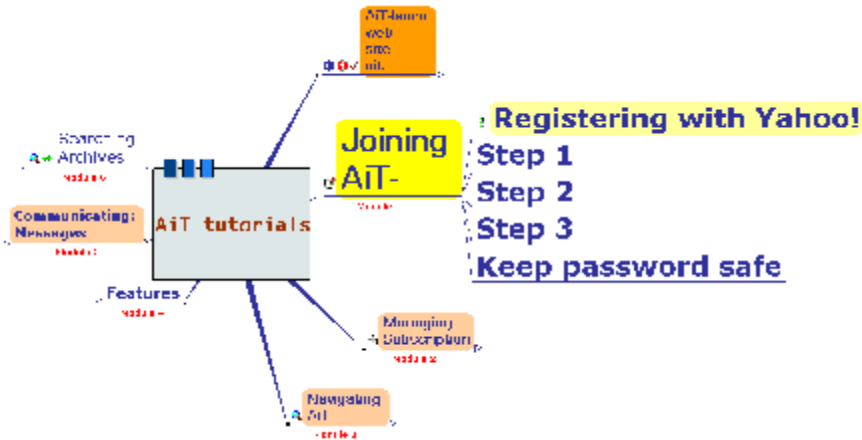
Identified problems

- **Registration not user friendly**
 - necessary to get access to all web group features
 - necessary to manage account
 - necessary to take full advantage of knowledge base collected in the AiT space
- **Basic web skills**
 - large discrepancy between members
 - result only the more able communicate & respond to opportunities to collaborate and use web technology for learning
- **Leadership & direction needs**
 - studies of online dynamics underline the necessity of structured events to feed interest and continued participation
 - without the face to face cues, more interactive possibilities

skills needed for enhanced participation. These are necessary first steps in building the skills infrastructure needed to support web learning events that are planned for the near future.

There are 6 modules in the Arts in Therapy tutorials
(only 3 found here at the moment)

Joining AiT-

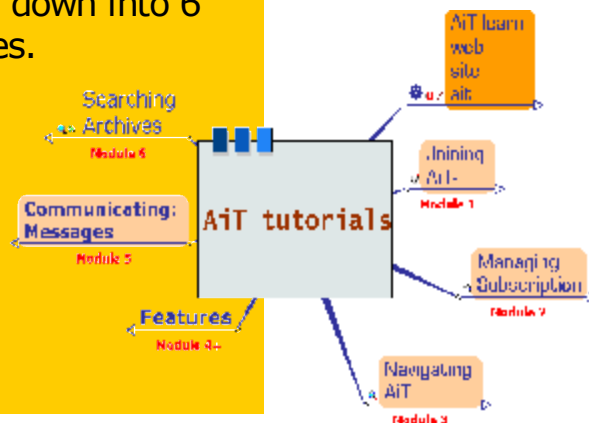


The first step

Registering with Yahoo! Groups

Task related abilities to master

- There are 6 identified **task related abilities** broken down into 6 modules.



- ▶ It is obviously assumed everyone is ***subscribed*** as you are all members of AiT.
- ▶ This step is necessary to get access to all features (managing account, files, links, etc) inside the AiT web space.

EXCEPTION

- ▶ If you have a Yahoo email account you do not need to go through this process. Simply ***sign in*** on the pages shown below

Continue process through next sections

Read general instructions first (see web site)

View 3 first modules (which is a visual instructions map)