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PBS Teachers.

PBS Teachers Newsletter

August 19, 2010

Welcome to the PBS Teachers Newsletter, the weekly newsletter from PBS designed specifically for PreK-12 educators.

[Create a profile](#) at PBS Teachers and identify your local PBS station, your subject area, and/or the grade level you teach.

The program times listed below are for PBS's national schedule and may not be accurate for your station. Please check your local station [TV Schedules](#) for the most accurate dates and times.

PBS IN EDUCATION	GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES	THE ARTS	PBS PARENTS	SCIENCE AND TECH
HEALTH AND FITNESS	READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	PBS BLOGS	SOCIAL STUDIES

PBS IN EDUCATION

The PBS Teachers Innovation Awards program honors teachers who are transforming classroom learning and providing students with the tools they need to reach their full potential and succeed in the 21st century. In the spring of 2010, 60 winners received prizes and the top 10 winners and representatives from their local PBS stations attended the PBS annual meeting in Austin, Texas. Over the next several weeks, we will introduce you to our top 10 educators for the 2010 PBS Teachers Innovation Awards and share how they are inspiring their students everyday. You can see a full list of winners <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/winners/>.

PBS Teachers Featured Innovator: Colleen Howard

Students in Colleen Howard's Mesa, Arizona classroom don't sit at their desks during math lessons. They launch into space, or operate mission control.

Howard solicited grant funding to build a mock orbiter, space station, and mission control so students could learn math and science principles while putting them into action during day-long missions. Now dozens of classes from throughout the school district are able to explore space as well.

Students are so engaged with the space mission activities that any anxiety or boredom with math or science instantly evaporates. The Space Integration Module, explains Howard, provides students with “an opportunity to apply knowledge to real-life scenarios. Using technology, robotics, and inquiry, students experience the importance of leadership, collaboration and communication as they work toward a common goal.” During the mission students “constantly analyze information and make inferences in an effort to propose solutions to the difficulties presented to them. Problem solving as a team becomes an invaluable tool to success, creating confidence and an eagerness to learn more.”

Watch a demonstration of Colleen’s students at work on their space mission at <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/innovators/gallery/entries/177/>.

BACK TO SCHOOL NEWS

Many kids are starting school this year in need of school supplies. As teachers, you build their future, and can help by telling your friends and family about Create The Good's supply drive for children (K-12). Click below to find ways to help and share with your friends.

<http://createthegood.org/equipped-to-learn>

THE ARTS

Citizen Architect: Samuel Mockbee and the Spirit of the Rural Studio

On-Air | Monday, August 23, 10pm

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

Architect Samuel Mockbee created a radical approach to involving the community in architecture with his Rural Studio in one of the poorest parts of Alabama.

<http://video.pbs.org/program/1548466406/>

Great Performances: Vienna Philharmonic Summer Night Concert 2010

On-Air | Wednesday, August 25, 8pm

Grade Range: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Listen to stellar music about the moon, planets, and stars as Franz Welser-Möst leads the Vienna Philharmonic in selections such as the theme from Star Wars and Gustav Holst’s The Planets.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/>

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HEALTH AND FITNESS

Fizzy's Lunch Lab: Mixie's Boogie Buffet

Interactive

Grade Range: PreK, K-2, 3-5

Dance, wiggle, and spin around the kitchen (or the classroom) with cool new moves demonstrated by the cooking crew from Fizzy's Lunch Lab.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/7657/preview/>

To the Contrary: Preventing Teen Pregnancy

Lesson Plan

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

Examine what influences teens' sexual attitudes and behaviors and brainstorm ways to disseminate positive messages to teens.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/1721/preview/>

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MATH

Sid the Science Kid: Exploring Measurement

Lesson Plan

Grade Range: PreK, K-2

Learn about measurement using non-standard units of measure, like a child.

<http://www.pbs.org/parents/sid/activities.html?exploringmeasurement>

Jazz: Jazz and Math: The Beat Goes On

Lesson Plan

Grade Range: 3-5, 6-8

Enjoy listening to jazz classics while collecting data about beats to learn about ratios, proportions, graphing, and reporting.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/3512/preview/>

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READING AND LANGUAGE ARTS

AdLit.org: Free Writing with Sensory Stimuli

Video

Grade Range: 3-5, 6-8

Observe how sounds, visual cues, and tactile sensations affect students' writing about a related topic.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/5805/preview/>

How Art Made the World: Show and Tell

Lesson Plan

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

Make your own hero or villain using collage while learning how storytelling influences our culture.

<http://www.pbs.org/teachers/connect/resources/3424/preview/>

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SCIENCE AND TECH

We Can Waste Wise: Recycling Game

Interactive

Grade Range: K-2, 3-5

Learn what can be recycled and what can't and how to be smart with trash.

<http://wfsu.org/wcww/>

Nature: Rhinoceros

On-Air | Sunday, August 22, 8pm

Grade Range: 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

Meet rhinoceroses, some of the most ancient animals in the world, which have nearly been driven to extinction by humans eroding their habitat.

<http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature/episodes/rhinoceros/introduction/1179/>

NOVA: The Four-Winged Dinosaur

On-Air | Tuesday, August 24, 8pm

Grade Range: K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12

The fossils of the microraptor reveal a tiny flying dinosaur with four wings that have prompted great debate and study into how the creature evolved.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/microraptor/>

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SOCIAL STUDIES

History Detectives: Jackie Robinson All-Stars, Modoc Basket, Special Agent Five

On-Air | Monday, August 23, 9pm

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

Understand how a baseball scorecard may have influenced integration, learn the secret of a basket that leads to an unusual war heroine, and find out why J. Edgar Hoover endorsed a radio script based on an FBI case.

<http://www.pbs.org/opb/historydetectives/investigations/index.html>

POV: The Edge of Dreaming

On-Air | Tuesday, August 24,

Online | August 25 through November 24

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

A documentarian dreamed one night that her horse died, only to wake up to find it was true. When she dreamed of her own death, then became ill, Amy

Hardie decided to explore the relationship between the subconscious and reality.

<http://www.pbs.org/pov/edgeofdreaming/>

Frontline: Law & Disorder

On-Air | Wednesday, August 25, 9pm

Grade Range: 9-12

Follow the investigation into New Orleans police officers suspected of covering up inappropriate lethal force.

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/pages/frontline/law-disorder/>

Washing Away: After the Storms

On-Air | Wednesday, August 25, 10pm

Grade Range: 6-8, 9-12

Hear from six survivors of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita about the successes and setbacks they've experienced since the devastation of their communities, narrated by New Orleans native Patricia Clarkson.

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PBS BLOGS

PBS NewsHour: The Rundown: What's Behind This Summer's Severe Weather Around the World?

Scientists investigate the causes of the extreme weather in recent months and whether it's linked to climate change.

<http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/2010/08/whats-behind-the-summers-severe-weather-events.html>

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PBS PARENTS

Parent Helpers: Make a Difference Children do care about the world, and with a little parental guidance can act on their empathy by helping others in a meaningful way. <http://www.pbs.org/parents/parenthelpers/change.html>

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GRANTS AND FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Pioneer Drama Service: Touching Lives Through Theatre Grants

Pioneer Drama Service is awarding 10 grants of \$500 in credit, good for play and other theatrical materials, to qualifying middle and high schools in the US and Canada. These grants are designed to create or strengthen drama experiences for students in school, and must be used to stage at least one theatrical production. For over 40 years, Pioneer Drama Service has published plays and musicals with the unique needs of educational and amateur groups in

mind.

<http://www.pioneerdrama.com/>

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