



Educational Programming Highlights ~ APRIL 2010 ~

Here are some highlights from Idaho Public Television's programming this month. Our Classroom Calendar can be found at <http://www.idahoptv.org/learn/toolbox.cfm>. It lists additional programs suitable for use in the classroom, professional development courses, telecourses and more.

**Time zones are MT/PT where two times are shown.

FOR ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS

Math & Science:

SCI GIRLS. Aired Saturdays at 12:30 pm/11:30 am. Every girl can be a SciGirl with a groundbreaking new TV show and interactive website that will transform the way tween girls look at science, technology, engineering and math. Find out more at <http://pbskids.org/scigirls/> (30 min)

D4K: SALMON. Aired Tuesday, April 20 at 2:00/1:00 pm. Salmon are amazing! Ask questions and learn more about them this month on D4K. Host Joan Cartan-Hansen will be joined by Brenda Beckley and Jeff Hindel from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Great resources can be found on the D4K website <http://www.idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/> (30 min)

NASA "WHY" FILES/NASA SCI FILES. Aired Thursdays at 1:00/12:00 am. This program emphasizes the integration of math, science, and technology for young viewers. April cases are: The Mysterious Red Light (4/1), The "Wright" Invention" (4/8), The Inhabitable Habitat (4/15), The Phenomenal Weather (4/22), The Powerful Pulleys (4/29). <http://scifiles.larc.nasa.gov/treehouse.html> (60 min)

History:

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. The American Experience website includes a section with a format designed especially for kids called WayBack: U.S. History for Kids. The web pages accompany many of the American Experience programs airing each month, and include resources for parents and teachers. Topics include civil rights, U.S. Presidents, the gold rush, and more. Check it out at <http://www.pbskids.org/wayback/>

Music, Art & Literature:

THE ELECTRIC COMPANY. Aired weekdays at 3:00/2:00 pm. This program teaches children ages 6 to 9 crucial areas of literacy: decoding, vocabulary, comprehension of connected text, and motivation. Check out the educator tools at <http://www.pbs.org/parents/electriccompany/> (30 min)

WORDGIRL. Aired weekdays at 3:30/2:30 pm. WordGirl aims to enrich children's vocabularies and

close the gap between those who don't grow up in language rich environments and those who do. The program is for everyone, but mainly ages 4 to 9. Teacher lesson plans and activities can be found at <http://www.pbs.org/parents/wordgirl/> (30 min)

BETWEEN THE LIONS. Aired weekdays at 2:00/1:00 pm. Each episode takes an interactive approach to reading by encouraging children age three to seven to think about the phonic elements, vocabulary, and grammar that make up a story. Find out more about the series at <http://www.pbskids.org/lions> (30 min)

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Math & Science:

MINDS BEHIND THE STATION. Aired Wednesday, April 7 at 1:00/12:00 am. This documentary is about the International Space Station and the scientists who maintain the floating laboratory that is used as a base for space exploration, observation and research. (30 min)

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN FRONTIERS. Aired Tuesdays at 2:00/1:00 am. Host Alan Alda takes us from the depths of the conscious mind to the outer reaches of the universe. Each program is accompanied by an online teaching guide filled with science activities. April topics: early North Americans (4/6), surgical slimmers & cars that think (4/13), the ocean floor & chimp minds (4/20), global warming & harvesting hydrogen for fuel (4/27). <http://www.pbs.org/saf/index.html> (30/60 min)

NOVA. Aired Tuesdays at 7:00/8:00 pm. NOVA is the highest rated science series on television, and the most watched documentary series on public television. April topics: powerful telescopes (4/6 & 4/13), sustainable energy (4/20), behavioral economics (4/27). Visit <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/> to find numerous classroom tools, links to watch many episodes online, and many more resources. Repeats Thursdays at 3:00/2:00 am and Saturdays at 4:00/3:00 pm. (60 min)

NATURE. Aired Sundays at 8:00 pm. NATURE brings the beauty and wonder of the natural world into homes, and is the benchmark for natural history programs on American television. April topics: the moment of impact (4/4 & 4/11), vanishing frogs (4/18), whale migration (4/25). The award-winning web site <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature> offers teachers guides and resources, and free downloadable video segments ranging in length from 30 seconds to 5 minutes. Repeats Tuesdays and Sundays at 1:00/12:00 am (60 min)

Social Studies, History and Economics:

FREE RESOURCES FOR TEACHING FINANCIAL LITERACY. Now available! A special collection of educational digital media resources for use in school and home learning environments to help students understand complex economic concepts is now available. Access, Analyze, Act: From Economic Theory to Financial Reality is available for free at <http://www.pbs.org/teachers/access-analyze-act-economy/>.

HISTORY DETECTIVES. The program website allows teachers to use the lesson plans to help engage middle and high school students in rich history investigations to support national history

standards in unique ways. Many lesson plans include video. Find out more at <http://www.pbskids.org/historydetectives/> This program airs on our digital channels only.

PBS NEWSHOUR. Aairs weeknights at 6:00 pm. The online NewsHour Extra provides unique current events resources for busy teachers, news stories, pictures, maps, video, in-depth lesson plans, stories written by students and more. <http://www.pbs.org/newshour/>

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Aairs Mondays at 9:00 pm. American Experience brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that have shaped America's past and present. April topics: polio (4/12), Earth Day (4/19), 1968 My Lai Massacre (4/26).
<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/> Repeats Wednesdays at 1:00/12:00 am. (times vary)

AMERICA'S HEARTLAND. Aairs Saturdays at 3:30/2:30 pm. This series tells stories about the world of agriculture from all across America. Learn how our agriculture producers provide food, fuel and fiber for America and the world. The website <http://www.americasheartland.org> provides information for students interested in exploring the vast career opportunities in agriculture, and teacher resources to accompany select story segments of the show. (30 min)

Music, Art & Literature:

GREAT PERFORMANCES: HAMLET. Aairs Wednesday, April 28 at 8:00 pm. Shakespeare's tortured Danish prince receives a contemporary spin in this television adaptation of the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2008 stage production. Visit <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/gperf/> for more information on the program. (3.5 hrs)

MASTERPIECE CLASSIC: THE DIARY OF ANNE FRANK. Aairs Sunday, April 11 at 9:00 pm. This new adaptation airs on April 11, Holocaust Remembrance Day. There are some great educator resources available at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/annefrank>, including a free webinar, Resource Guide, a discussion guide for book and film clubs, and more. (2 hrs)

IN SEARCH OF MYTHS AND HEROES. Aairs Mondays, April 5 to 26 at 3:00/2:00 am. Host Michael Wood explores four powerful myths: the Queen of Sheba, Jason and the Golden Fleece, King Arthur, and Shangri-La. Teacher resources at <http://www.pbs.org/mythsandheroes> illustrates the presence of mythological themes across cultures and reveal how these four myths are pervasive in modern literature and film. (60 min)

FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

GROWING GREENER SCHOOLS. Aairs Tuesday, April 13 at 3:00/2:00 am. This program gives us a better understanding of the potential impacts today's green school buildings have, not only on the environment, but on our children's and their teachers' health and development. The website <http://www.growinggreenerschools.org/> includes resources for the classroom. (60 min)

DISSED-RESPECT: THE IMPACT OF BULLYING. Aairs Wednesday, April 7 at 1:30/12:30 am. This program encourages dialogue about the need to reduce the high-risk behavior of bullying. It reveals the relationship between bullying and dysfunctional aspects of diversity. (30 min)

YOUR KIDS ARE DRINKING. Airs Monday, April 19 at 2:00/1:00 am. This documentary examines the most under-reported aspect of under-age drinking by youths - the adults who allow it to happen. <http://www.netnebraska.org/extras/kidsdrinking/> (60 min)

VALUES GO TO SCHOOL. Airs Friday, April 2 at 2:30/1:30 am. Host singer-songwriter James Taylor explores how teachers at four suburban and urban schools address cultural understanding, non-violent conflict resolution, friendship and self-respect, along with lessons on caring, sharing and more. http://slc.edu/cdi/Values_Go_to_School.php (30 min)

WHERE DO THE CHILDREN PLAY? Airs Monday, April 12 at 1:00/12:00 am. Told largely in the voices of children, this documentary examines the dramatic disappearance of play and nature from the daily lives of children. The film explores the impact of such isolating environmental factors as sprawl, congestion and endless suburban development on children's mental and physical health and development. <http://www.wfum.org/childrenplay/> (60 min)

WHEN A CHILD PRETENDS. Airs Monday, April 5 at 1:00/12:00 am. This program presents the view that pretend play is not an "add-on" but an essential arena for a child's intellectual, social, emotional and imaginative development. (30 min)

WHEN LEARNING COMES NATURALLY. Airs Monday, April 5 at 1:30/12:30 am. This program documents innovative outdoor-education programs around the country created to help children understand and experience the wonders and joys of nature. More information is available at <http://www.thelearningchildseries.org>. (30 min)

MOTHERS AND SONS: RAISING COMPASSIONATE MEN. Airs Friday, April 30 at 1:00/12:00 am. This documentary explores the bond between mothers and sons and the role that bond can play in helping a boy develop compassion and empathy. The program features diverse mothers and sons of various ages, who share their stories. (30 min)

WHEN FAMILIES GRIEVE. Airs Wednesday, April 14 at 8:00 pm. Katie Couric and the Sesame Street Muppets help families cope with the death of a parent. They present strategies that are child-appropriate and useful for the whole family. <http://www.sesameworkshop.org/grief> (60 min)

ST. JUDE TEACHERS: CHEMO ATE MY HOMEWORK. Airs Monday, April 19 at 1:00/12:00 am. In the safety of the classroom, away from surgeries, radiation, and chemotherapy, young cancer patients at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital teach their teachers how to cope with grief, live for today, and value the life of the mind. (30 min)

HEARTS & MINDS: TEENS AND MENTAL ILLNESS. Airs Monday, April 19 at 1:30/12:30 am. Four Idaho teens relate their struggles with mental illness in this Peabody Award-winning documentary produced by Idaho Public Television for the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare. (30 min)

GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS. Media literacy experts have created a guide that simplifies the legalities of using copyrighted materials in an academic setting. The Code of Best Practices in Fair Use for Media Literacy Education can be found online at http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/fair_use_and_teaching/.

VIDEO WORKSHOPS BEGINNING THIS MONTH

PRIVATE UNIVERSE PROJECT IN MATHEMATICS. Airs Fridays, April 16 to May 21 at 3:00/2:00 am. A 6 part video workshop on teaching mathematics for K-12 educators utilizing research that shows children formulate extraordinarily interesting and complex mathematical ideas, even at a very young age. <http://www.learner.org/resources/series120.html> (6 x 60 min)

Thanks for reading!
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