



Educational Programming Highlights ~ FEBRUARY 2012 ~

The programs listed below air on Idaho Public Television, and can be recorded for use in the classroom. Most are accompanied by teacher guides and additional information on the accompanying websites. A calendar with additional programs, professional development courses, telecourses and more can be found at <http://www.idahoptv.org/learn/toolbox.cfm>.

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

FOR ELEMENTARY CLASSROOMS

Math & Science:

D4K: PREDATORS. Airs Tuesday, Feb. 21 at 2:00/1:00 pm. Joan Cartan-Hansen and her guest scientists will answer questions about predators. <http://www.idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/> (30 min)

NASA "WHY" FILES/NASA SCIENCE FILES. Airs Tuesdays at 3:00/2:00 am. This program emphasizes the integration of mathematics, science, and technology for young viewers. February episodes: Case of the Mysterious Red Light (2/7), Case of the "Wright" Invention (2/14), Case of the Inhabitable Habitat (2/21). <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. Airs 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. Airs 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)

FOR MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

Math & Science:

INSIDE NATURE'S GIANTS. Airs Wednesdays Feb. 1 & 8 at 9:00 pm. In each episode, scientists explore the anatomy of a distinct giant predator to reveal how it works. February topics: great white sharks (2/1), big cats (2/8). <http://www.pbs.org/programs/inside-natures-giants/>. Repeats Mondays at 2:00/1:00 am. (60 min)

NOVA. Airs Wednesdays at 8:00 pm. NOVA is the highest rated science series on television, and the most watched documentary series on public television. February topics: ice age fossils (2/1), separating twins (2/8), extreme cave diving (2/15), Japan's killer quake (2/29). Repeats Saturdays at 4:00/3:00 pm and Mondays at 1:00/12:00 am. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova> (1 or 2 hrs)

SCIENTIFIC AMERICAN FRONTIERS. Airs 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. February topics: prairie restoration (2/7), engineered body parts (2/14), chimpanzees (2/21). <http://www.pbs.org/saf/index.html> (60 min)

NATURE. Airs Wednesdays at 7:00 pm. NATURE brings the beauty and wonder of the natural world into homes, and is the benchmark for natural history programs on American television. February topics: wolverines (2/1), raccoons (2/8), the Himalayas (2/15), whales and dolphins (2/22; 3 hrs), elephants (2/29). <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature> Repeats Sundays and Tuesdays at 1:00/12:00 am (60 min)

Social Studies, History and Economics:

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD: THE WILLIAM STILL STORY. Airs Monday, Feb. 6 at 10:00 pm. The first generation of his family born free, the black abolitionist and historian (1821-1902) set out to get as many escaped slaves as he could across the U.S. border to safety in Canada, and to document their stories. Classroom resources at <http://www.pbs.org/wned/underground-railroad>. Repeats 2/8 at 1:00/12:00 am (60 min)

SLAVERY BY ANOTHER NAME. Airs Monday, Feb. 13 at 9:00 pm. This film explores the post-Emancipation era and the labor practices and laws that effectively created a new form of slavery in the South, which persisted well into the 20th century. <http://www.slaverybyanothername.com>. Repeats 2/15 at 1:00/12:00 am. (90 min)

300 MILES TO FREEDOM. Airs Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 1:00/12:00 am. The film chronicles John W. Jones' journey to freedom on the Underground Railroad and his remarkable life as a free man in Elmira, New York. <http://300milestofreedom.com/> (60 min)

PROHIBITION. Airs Fridays, February 3 to 17 at 10:00 pm. This three-part documentary tells the story of the rise, rule, and fall of the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the entire era it encompassed. <http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/prohibition/> (2 hrs)

NOT IN OUR TOWN: CLASS ACTIONS. Airs Monday, Feb. 13 at 10:30 pm. The program, part of an intermittent series on human rights, profiles students and community members who are creating change in the wake of racism, anti-Semitism, and the traumatic consequences of bullying. School resources available at <http://www.niot.org/classactions>. Repeats 2/15 at 2:30/1:30 am. (30 min)

SENECA FALLS. Airs Wednesday, Feb. 15 at 3:00/2:00 am. This is the story of nine teenage girls on a road trip, bound for the birthplace of women's rights in America. The first women's rights convention, held in Seneca Falls, New York in 1848, is a revolutionary act barely mentioned in history books. <http://www.senecafallsfilm.org/> (60 min)

NOURISH: FOOD + COMMUNITY. Airs Monday, Feb. 6 at 1:30/12:30 am. This special traces people's relationship to food from a global perspective to personal action steps, asking how to create a more sustainable food system. Classroom resources at <http://www.nourishlife.org/> (30 min)

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Airs Monday/Tuesday at 8:00 pm. American Experience brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that have shaped America's past and present. February programs: freedom riders (2/7), Bill Clinton (2/20 & 2/21), the Amish (2/28). Teacher resources at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/teachers> (2 hrs)

FREE RESOURCES FOR TEACHING FINANCIAL LITERACY. 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>

PBS NEWSHOUR. Airs 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>

Music, Art & Literature:

MICHAEL FEINSTEIN'S AMERICAN SONGBOOK. Airs Fridays, February 3 to 17 at 9:00 pm. This three part program chronicles Feinstein's mission to preserve classic 20th century popular song by celebrating the lyrics and melodies of great American songwriters. Teacher resources at <http://www.pbs.org/michael-feinsteins-american-songbook>. (60 min)

ZORA'S ROOTS. Airs Thursday, Feb. 16 at 2:00/1:00 am. This documentary tells the story of anthropologist and author of "Their Eyes Were Watching God" Zora Neale Hurston. Zora came from the small, all-black township of Eatonville, Florida, and emerged in the Roaring Twenties as the most prolific woman writer of the Harlem Renaissance. <http://www.pbs.org/zorasroots> (60 min)

MASTERPIECE TEACHER GUIDES. Browse the selection of online teacher guides to help you use Masterpiece films in the classroom. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/learn/guides.html>

FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS

MOTHER NATURE'S CHILD: GROWING OUTDOORS IN THE MEDIA AGE. Airs Wednesday, Feb. 1 at 1:00/12:00 am. This new documentary looks at how nature - an increasingly rare influence on today's children - is essential to their health and development. The film focuses on ways that nature supports cognitive and physical development, creativity, emotional balance, and spiritual awareness - and to inspire action to get our children out of doors. <http://www.mothenaturesmovie.com> (60 min)

DEMYSTIFYING DYSLEXIA. Airs Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 1:00/12:00 am. Compelling personal stories, innovative educational methods and cutting-edge scientific research highlight the important contemporary issues surrounding dyslexia. <http://www.thinkbright.org/dyslexia/about/default.asp> (60 min)

HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUTS. Airs Monday, Feb. 27 at 2:30/1:30 am. The high school dropout rate is rapidly increasing in many cities throughout the U.S. Teachers, counselors, lawmakers and parents are teaming up to reverse this disturbing trend. http://www.kvie.org/programs/kvie/viewfinder/high_school_dropouts/default.htm (30 min)

TEACHING CHANNEL. Airs Thursdays at 3:00/2:00 am. Teaching Channel takes you inside America's K-12 classrooms with programs that showcase inspiring and effective teaching practices. For detailed topic information and to subscribe to the newsletter, visit <http://www.teachingchannel.org/> (30 min)

FREE BULLYING RESOURCES. The We Do Listen Foundation has created an illustrated children's book to help make it more comfortable for young children to come forth and report bullying to a teacher. Visit the website www.wedolisten.com for free teacher endorsed tools and resources to help 4-8 year olds and their parents and teachers deal with bullying.

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

Thanks for reading!
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