



## *Educational Programming Highlights* ~ MAY 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: RIVERS. Aired Tuesday, May 18 at 2:00/1:00 pm. Joan Cartan-Hansen navigates the topic of "Rivers" this month. The guest scientists are Dr. Jan Boll, Associate Professor of Biological and Agricultural Engineering, University of Idaho, and Cindy Busche, Environmental Education Coordinator, Boise Watershed Project. 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 Shaky Quake (5/6), the Biological Biosphere (5/13), the Galactic Vacation (5/20), the Wacky Water Cycle (5/27). <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:**

GREENWORKS. Aired Mondays, May 3 to 17 at 2:00/1:00 am. Episodes are: Trash Is A Failure of the Imagination & Powered by the Sun - Solar Decathlon (5/3), Farming on the Edge & Erie and Its Environment (5/10), and The Environmental Classroom & Enviro-Pioneers (5/17). Visit <http://www.idahoptv.org> for full episode descriptions. (2 x 30 min)

KILOWATT OURS: A PLAN TO RE-ENERGIZE AMERICA. Aired Monday, May 24 at 2:00/1:00 am. This award winning film asks "How can I make a difference?" by looking at one of America's most pressing environmental challenges: energy. Many free resources are available at the website <http://www.kilowattours.org> including lesson plans, activity ideas and energy-saving tips. (60 min)

WHERE WORDS TOUCH THE EARTH. In this online collection, get a Native American perspective on climate change and its effects on their communities. Videos are available for download, and touch on key environmental science issues and indigenous knowledge of the depleted salmon population in Washington State, the ecological function and spiritual role of wetlands, and the relationship between humans and nature. <http://www.teachersdomain.org/special/nasawords/>

TRASH TO TREASURE CONTEST. Calling all inventors! Turn your trash into treasure, and be on TV! Recycle, reuse, and re-engineer everyday materials into an out-of-the box invention. Get all the contest details at <http://pbskids.org/designsquad>. Deadline for entries is September 5<sup>th</sup>.

EYES OF NYE. Aired Sundays beginning May 9 at 11:00/10:00 am. Bill Nye's mission is to encourage scientific literacy and to help viewers understand the science issues that impact their everyday lives. May topics: addiction (5/9), cloning (5/16), nuclear energy (5/23), sports (5/30). <http://www.eyesofnye.org> (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. May topics: hidden motives & the Secret Canyon (5/4), synthetic senses & robots (5/11), neuroplasticity (5/18), superpeople (5/25). <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. May topics: Mt. St. Helens (5/4), twisters (5/11), Hurricane Katrina (5/18), Asian megavolcano (5/25). 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. May topics: Kilauea volcano (5/2), first days of life (5/9), horseshoe crabs and red knots (5/16), cats vs. dogs (5/23). 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:***

JEWISH AMERICANS. Aired Saturdays, May 8 to 22 at 4:00/3:00 am. This program is about the struggle of a tiny minority who make their way into the American mainstream while, at the same time, maintaining a sense of their own identity as Jews. The lesson plans explore immigration, identity, contribution, assimilation, discrimination, change, and confrontation. <http://www.pbs.org/jewishamericans> (3 x 2 hrs)

GERMANS IN AMERICA. Aired Sundays May 9 & 16 at 4:00/3:00 am. This 4-part series recounts the story of German immigrants and their significant mark on America's cultural, business, and public life for centuries until their identity fell victim to feelings of shame and repression during and after two World Wars. Teacher resources available at <http://www.goethe.de/ins/us/lp/ges/en1544734.htm>. (2 x 2 hrs)

PERILOUS FIGHT: AMERICA'S WWII IN COLOR. Aired Sundays, May 30 & June 6 at 4:00/3:00 am. This program brings America's wartime experience to life by combining original color film footage with compelling passages from diaries and letters written by people who were part of an unforgettable period of history. Lesson plans at <http://www.pbs.org/perilousfight/teachers> target social studies, history, communication arts, journalism, film study, and psychology classes. (2 hrs)

THE STORY OF INDIA. Aired Mondays May 3 to June 7 at 3:00/2:00 am. Michael Wood journeys across the Indian subcontinent. Teacher resources at <http://www.pbs.org/thestoryofindia> include information on the history, culture, arts, sciences, and historic figures of India, including an interactive photo gallery and timeline. (2 hrs)

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Aired Mondays at 9:00 pm. American Experience brings to life the incredible characters and epic stories that have shaped America's past and present. May topics: James Earl Ray (5/3), whaling (5/10), Hurricane of '38 (5/17), Depression-era freight train riders (5/24), Civilian Conservation Corps (5/31). <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/> Repeats Wednesdays at 1:00/12:00 am. (various durations)

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/> Note: This program airs on our digital channels only.

**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/>

**AMERICA'S HEARTLAND.** Airs 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:***

**MASTERPIECE TEACHER GUIDES.** Browse the selection of online teacher guides to help you use Masterpiece films in the classroom. Now available: Teaching Dickens: A Masterpiece Guide. This guide helps teachers engage students in their study of Dickens in print as well as on film. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/masterpiece/learn/guides.html>

FOR PARENTS AND EDUCATORS
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**AUTISM: MAKING IT WORK.** Airs Tuesday, May 18 at 3:00/2:00 am. This program explores the growing needs of adolescents and young adults with autism. In 1991 the number of autism cases began to increase sharply, and that population is now exiting the school system to enter the general population. [http://www.kvcr.org/TV/Initiatives/Autism\\_Initiative](http://www.kvcr.org/TV/Initiatives/Autism_Initiative) (60 min)

**THESE KIDS MEAN BUSINESS\$.** Airs Wednesday, May 19 at 2:00/1:00 am. This documentary tells the tale of underserved youth creating and living their own versions of the American success story. It looks at the role of entrepreneurship education as a character-building practice in the lives of at-risk youth. <http://www.pbs.org/thesekidsmeanbusiness> (60 min)

**CALIFORNIA'S SCHOOLS: AMERICA'S FUTURE.** Airs Thursday, May 27 at 2:00/1:00 am. This new program updates the 2004 documentary, First to Worst, about the history of California public schools. The program both informs and points the way toward solutions. <http://www.pbs.org/merrow/tv/calischools> (60 min)

**TEACHERS & THEIR COACHES.** Airs Thursdays, May 6 to 20 at 2:00/1:00 am. This 6-part series is designed to provide practical information and inspiration for teachers. (2 x 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/](http://www.centerforsocialmedia.org/resources/fair_use_and_teaching/).

VIDEO WORKSHOPS BEGINNING THIS MONTH

LEARNING MATH: MEASUREMENT. Aired Fridays, May 7 to June 11 at 1:00/12:00 am. A 12 part video course for elementary and middle school teachers that examines some of the major ideas in measurement. <http://www.learner.org/resources/series184.html> (2 x 30 min)

THE ARTS IN EVERY CLASSROOM: A WORKSHOP FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TEACHERS. Aired Fridays, May 28 to July 16 at 3:00/2:00 am. This 8 part video workshop provides new ideas about working with the arts for K-5 classroom and arts specialist teachers. <http://www.learner.org/resources/series174.html> (8 x 60 min)

Thanks for reading!  
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