



Educational Programming Highlights ~ MARCH 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:

D4K: FOOD CHAIN. Airs Tuesday, March 16 at 2:00/1:00 pm. Host Joan Cartan-Hansen will be joined Evin Oneale, Conservation Educator, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game and Adare Evans, Wildlife Education, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game. The D4K web site offers facts, links, reading lists, a glossary, podcasts of programs, special D4K web exclusive programming and more.

<http://www.idahoptv.org/dialogue4kids/> (30 min)

NASA "WHY" FILES. Airs Thursdays at 1:00/12:00 am. This program emphasizes the integration of math, science, and technology for young viewers. March cases are: the Unknown Stink (3/4), the Barking Dogs (3/11), the Electrical Mystery (3/18), the Challenging Flight (3/25).

<http://scifiles.larc.nasa.gov/treehouse.html> (60 min)

SCI GIRLS. Airs Saturdays beginning March 27 at 12:30 pm/11:30 am. SciGirls is a program that offers fun science experiences for girls across the country. Find out more at

<http://www.pbskids.org/dragonflytv/gps/scigirls.html> (30 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. 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:

TREASURING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE. Aired Mondays, March 1 to 15 at 2:00/1:00 am. This three-part miniseries on biodiversity uses the language of economics to convey ecological concepts and biological diversity. Produced by IdahoPTV and the Natural Heritage Center in Pocatello. (60 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. March topics: weight loss (3/2), memory (3/9), future cars (3/16), global warming (3/23), astronomy (3/30) <http://www.pbs.org/saf/index.html> (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. March topics: Pluto (3/2), Mayan hieroglyphics (3/23), bamboo blooms (3/30) 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. The award-winning web site <http://www.pbs.org/wnet/nature> offers teachers guides and more than 40 free downloadable video segments ranging in length from 30 seconds to 5 minutes. March topic: monkeys (3/28). Repeats Tuesdays and Sundays at 1:00/12:00 am (60 min)

Social Studies, History and Economics:

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. Aired weeknights at 6:00 pm. NewsHour Extra teacher resources 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/>

SENECA FALLS. Aired Monday, March 22 at 3:00/2:00 am. This history lesson is the story of nine teenage girls on a road trip, bound for the birthplace of women's rights in America. America's 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)

GOING GREEN: EVERY HOUSE AN ECO-HOME. Aired Thursday, March 4 at 2:00/1:00 am. This program answers the question, What can I personally do to help solve the environmental problems facing us today? Tour the original Eco-Home with a group of middle-school kids who see first-hand some simple, inexpensive ways to become more earth friendly. <http://www.goinggreenproductions.com/> (30 min)

E2. Aired Tuesdays at 3:00/2:00 am. From energy consumption to design efficiency, policy to industry, this series documents the innovators whose work is reducing humans' impact on the environment. The e2 website http://www.pbs.org/e2/teachers/teacher_overview.html has downloadable video segments accompanied by discussion questions, background readings, and classroom activities and projects. (2 x 30 min)

AMERICAN EXPERIENCE. Aired Mondays at 9:00 pm. Airing March 15 at 8:30 pm is DOLLEY MADISON. America's first "First Lady" brought opposing sides together socially, established the White House as a public space, adopted a cause and defined the president's wife as a public position. Teacher resources available at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/dolley>. Other March topics: lobotomy (3/22), WWII in the Pacific (3/29). Find out more at <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/> Repeats Wednesdays at 1:00/12:00 am. (2 hrs/1 hr)

AMERICA'S HEARTLAND. Aired 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)

CONQUISTADORS WITH MICHAEL WOOD. Four part series airs Wednesdays, March 3 to 24 at 3:00/2:00 am. Join Michael Wood as he sails back half of a millennium to a time when the Americas were new and Spain was a superpower, a nation of crusading adventurers whose quest for gold, land and souls destroyed ancient civilizations and created the modern globe. Visit <http://www.pbs.org/conquistadors> where you'll find an online learning adventure for middle and high school students and other teacher resources. (60 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

INDEPENDENT LENS: WHATEVER IT TAKES. Airs Tuesday, March 30 at 10:00 pm. At an innovative new public high school in New York City's South Bronx, can the principal lead a dedicated group of teachers, students and parents to live up to its promise, and inspire new stories of achievement and excellence? Find out more about the film at <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/whatever-it-takes/> Educators can visit the website to find curricula paired with specially edited video modules taken from the best of Independent Lens films, web original projects and online activities. (60 min)

STREET STOPS HERE. Airs Wednesday, March 31 at 10:00 pm. This story of basketball coach and teacher Bob Hurley Sr. is the chronicle of a man's lifelong commitment to improve the lives of inner city kids and save the high school that gives them hope. The show follows the journey of his team's national record-setting 25th state championship season from a school where all but two team members during his tenure have gone on to college. <http://www.thestreetstopshermovie.com/> (90 min)

DEMOCRACY LEFT BEHIND. Airs Friday, March 26 at 3:00/2:00 am. How effectively do our public schools prepare students for active participation in democratic society? Is there a relationship between an often ill-informed public and the manner in which social and political issues are addressed in our nation's classrooms? <http://www.docmakeronline.com/democracy-left-behind.html> (30 min)

CULTURE OF HATE: WHO ARE WE? Airs Wednesday, March 10 at 2:00/1:00 am. Through interviews with San Diego's "white power" kids, the program reaches far beyond the skinhead personas so often portrayed and reveals an unprecedented glimpse into their lives. It is a world they describe as riddled with drugs and violence from early childhood. (60 min)

COLLEGE TRACK. Airs Mondays, March 1 to 15 at 3:00/2:00 am. The three-part series examines how low expectations and lack of rigorous preparation limit students' choices and hamper their chances for success. The series illustrates how innovative programs designed to bridge gaps can make all the difference. Find resources at <http://thecollege-track.com/> (60 min)

SURVIVING ABUNDANCE: OVERWEIGHT KIDS IN CRISIS. Airs Thursday, March 4 at 2:30/1:30 am. This documentary examines the epidemic of childhood obesity and paints a grim picture for the future of overweight children unless we begin to make systemic changes that support more healthy choices. (30 min)

CALL OF STORY: AN AMERICAN RENAISSANCE. Airs Wednesday, March 3 at 2:00/1:00 am. Explores the unique power and pervasiveness of stories and storytelling in family and community life. Storytelling's renaissance is exemplified in part by the ever-growing wave of storytelling festivals in more than forty states across the country. <http://www.callofstory.org/> (60 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

CONNECTING WITH THE ARTS: A WORKSHOP FOR MIDDLE GRADES TEACHERS. Aired Fridays, March 5 to April 23 at 1:00/12:00 am. The 8-part workshop shows teachers why and how to integrate the arts (dance, music, theatre, and visual art) with other subjects (language arts, social studies, science, and math). <http://www.learner.org/resources/series199.html> (60 min)

CRITICAL ISSUES IN SCHOOL REFORM. Aired Fridays, March 5 to 26 at 2:00/1:00 am. This 8-part workshop takes you to eight places around the country where teachers, parents, administrators, civic leaders, and others are collaborating on new practices in public engagement and professional development. <http://www.learner.org/resources/series109.html> (2 x 30 min)

Thanks for reading!
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