



SCIENCE BYTES

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“With Eyes to the Skies”

Freelance author, Laura Schoenbohm, has written a very nice article "With Eyes to the Skies", about the Hooper Bay Build A Plane project. It is in the September issue of ALASKA Magazine which just came out on Saturday. The article is in a special section called "Alaska Inside" which follows page 80 of the regular magazine. It is on page 20 of the Alaska Inside section which has it's own table of contents.

On another note, the Alaska Airmen's Association is sponsoring an evening of inspiration with Barrington Irving on Friday September 19 at the Downtown Anchorage Marriott. The theme is "Inspiration: Challenging Alaska's Youth through Aviation". Barrington is the first African American and the youngest pilot to fly solo around the world. The evening begins with Buffet Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and a presentation by Barrington Irving at

7:00 p.m. For tickets or to sponsor a table so that youngsters ages 12 through college may attend, contact the Alaska Airmen's Association at 245-1251.
Angie Slingluff

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FLINN Scientific - “Practical Solutions to Reduce Teacher Liability”

Could you be held legally responsible for an accident in your science lab? You may not have thought about it before, but the startling reality is YES, you could be liable! In preparing this month’s safety training notes entitled “Practical Solutions to Reduce Teacher Liability” Flinn Scientific consulted an experienced science teacher who is now a lawyer. The steps presented here will not only help you protect yourself legally, they will also prevent accidents and improve safety in your school.

Flinn Scientific is able to provide these free monthly Science Department Safety Training Notes thanks to the support of our customers. By ordering from Flinn you are making a difference by helping us improve science safety.

To print “Practical Solutions to Reduce Teacher Liability” please go to:

<http://www.flinnsci.com/Sections/Safety/Snotes/snotes.aspx>

Free Membership to AIAA & Design Challenges

The American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) offers a free membership for educators. Their website includes many items of specific interest to K 12 educators (<http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=217>) . Check it out.

Here are some design challenges for your gifted students:
<http://www.aiaa.org/content.cfm?pageid=210>

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From NSTA: Elementary Science Class -Astronomy

Here is a collection of online resources we've compiled that relate to Astronomy:

In the News: Astronomy

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-09/news_stories_elementary.htm

Too busy to sift through the news in search of interesting stories? Click on the link to read current news stories, collected for you by NSTA staff members, that are related to this theme.

On the Web: Astronomy

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-09/web_elementary.htm

With so much on the web, it's hard to know what's really useful. In this section, you'll find web-related opportunities related to this theme.

From the S&C Archives: Astronomy

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-09/journalarticles_elementary.htm

Readers tell us again and again how timeless our journal articles are. So in this section, we've compiled theme-related articles from the Science and Children archives.

Books, Books, Books: Astronomy

http://science.nsta.org/enewsletter/2008-09/books_elementary.htm

Tired of your textbook? Click on this link for a list of some of the elementary-level books we've found related to this theme.

IGES 13th Annual Art Contest for Children in Grades 2-4

Entries Due: Oct. 24, 2008

Arlington, Va.-- Imagine if you could fly above the treetops. Think of all the amazing things you might see. Mighty redwoods soaring high into the sky. Snow-covered pines and spruces with needle-like leaves. Weeping willows with drooping branches. Trees that thrive in the dry, hot desert. And trees in the rain forest that are home to colorful parrots and monkeys. These are just a few of the many trees you might see.

But trees are much more than their beauty. We couldn't live without them! Each and every tree helps to create a healthy environment.

An art contest for grades 2-4 challenges students to explore trees and their importance to the world. Students can go outside and directly observe trees in their community, do science activities with their class or at home, read stories and books, search Web sites, and then draw a picture showing what they learned.

This is the 13th annual art contest held by the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in Arlington, Va. The contest supports national education standards for grades K-4.

The first-place artist will receive a \$100 gift certificate to Crayola.com or Amazon.com and his or her artwork will be used as IGES's holiday e-card. Second-place and third-place winners will receive \$75 and \$50 gift certificates, respectively. New this year, certificates of participation will be available online as PDF files for teachers or parents to download and print.

For more information, including detailed contest instructions, information for teachers and parents, a list of educational resources, and to view artwork of past winners please visit:

www.strategies.org/artcontest

CONTACT

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About IGES Located in Arlington, Va., IGES was established in 1994 and is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization supported by public and private entities. IGES is a trusted leader in Earth and space science education, communication and outreach, and in fostering national and international cooperation in observing the Earth.

WGBH - Teachers' Domain (PBS) (RESOURCE)

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/c5ec6e0b61>>

Why should I register to use Teachers' Domain?

Registration is quick and easy, and gives you FREE access to hundreds of high-quality digital media resources from public broadcasting, such as NOVA, Frontline, and American Experience, and other trusted sources. In addition to digital media, resources on TD generally include background essays and discussion questions or teaching tips, and are incorporated into lesson plans. When you register, the resources correlate to the state standards of the institution you selected in your profile.

Teachers' Domain Has Expanded!

Just in time for back to school, Teachers' Domain has expanded resources in Science, Math, Social Studies, Art, English Language Arts for grades K-12. We have also added a Teachers' Domain College Edition, which includes resources in science and engineering for higher education, and VITAL New York, K-12 resources for NY state educators. Click here

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/e909b07685>> to read the full story press release. Let Teachers' Domain help supplement your lesson plans this

school year! Browse our expanded collection now
<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/33bacf5b12>> .

OR Recommend Teachers' Domain to a friend
<http://oi.verticalresponse.com/f2af/v4/send_to_friend.html?ch=67df1f8d5e&lid=551000683&ldh=c19edddb5>

Online Science Professional Development for K-12 Teachers!

Check out our graduate-level online science courses that feature digital media from public broadcasting shows such as ZOOM, NOVA, A Science Odyssey, and more.

Online - access anytime, anywhere

Graduate credit available

Discussion Boards connect you with your colleagues

Trained Facilitators lead the way

For information or to enroll in a course in your area, visit our course catalog at <http://www.pbs.org/teacherline/>
<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/e52d653d06>> . Click "Science" in left bar, input your zip code, then click "Scheduled Courses" directly above the "Key Words" window on the left.

Questions? Call (617) 300-3631.

NSDL K-6 Science Refreshers Whether you want to build your content knowledge or need a quick refresher just in time to teach a topic, NSDL K-6 Science Refreshers provide quick and easy access to high-quality science content. Includes interactive tutorials, diagrams, and articles that are selected and organized by grade level and subject area.

<http://nsdl.org/refreshers/science/>
<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/1f54835e41>>

Top 5 New Resources You Can't Miss

A Science Odyssey

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/7381d3a2c5>> - Bubonic Plague

From The Top

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/bdec0bd93b>> - Young Musician Joshua Jones

Wide Angle

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/0c455d4533>> - Neeraj

CyberChase -

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/81c165cec5>> Solving the Sphinx's Fraction Problem
<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/2ec36938c1>>

NOVA ScienceNOW

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/6059af6f9f>> - Geneticist Pardis Sabeti

New Featured Special Collection:

From The Top at Carnegie Hall

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/fa35cc6a8e>>

Meet America's most extraordinary young musicians aged 8 to 18, and witness the excitement of their debut performances at Carnegie Hall! To access background essays, discussion questions for the classroom, and more, click here

<<http://cts.vresp.com/c/?WGBH/67df1f8d5e/c19edddb5/d8526f6571>> .

Teachers' Domain users now receive 10% off Shop

WGBH Take advantage of this special discount on media for your classroom by simply clicking on the shop logo from any Teachers' Domain resource page. This will direct you to the Shop WGBH homepage. At checkout, type in the Promo Code WEBTD. You will see automatic savings appear in your shopping cart! Also, from now until September 30th, save 15% on all NOVA DVDs.

AV REMINDER

I want to remind all of you about the large collection of science related videos, DVDs, interactive programs and kits that the district AV department makes available for all of us. I have added several titles to the district collection that secondary science teachers requested over the past two years.

Here is a mini-lesson/reminder of how to find and check out materials from the district AV department:

- Log onto the district home website at:
<https://home.asdk12.org/index.asp>
- Log in using the same name and password that you use for Entourage.
- Go down the page and look for Departments on the left.
- Click under Audio/Visual Department "[Media Catalog](#)."
- From that point I usually go to Search Full Catalog.

The search word that I usually use is "Science" for subject - the folks at AV suggest that you don't change any of the other buttons - I was told that it is ok to change

the format button though.

If you want to search for a particular topic – try to think “big.” For example for Global Warming – use the search word Weather. The NOVA programs you can search for using the word NOVA, and Bill Nye, use Bill Nye as your search word.

I then read through the titles presented and click on the title to read the description. There is a letter after the title and number: PS = Primary Science; IS = Intermediate Science; S = Secondary.

- As you decide which material you want, there is a button to click on the page with the description, or to check out materials you go to "Order Form".

- Your Client Number is the last 6 of your social security number and your password (for the first time you log on) is your school phone number-after that you can change your password.

Please take a few minutes and check out the great selection that the district has!

With any questions regarding how to check things out or materials available from AV - you can contact Susan Mills via email or call her at 742-6001.

CHALLENGER Center Heads to the International Space Station

Alexandria, VA - Richard Garriott, the next civilian to fly into space and son of NASA's Skylab Astronaut Owen Garriott plans to take up where Educator Astronaut Barbara Morgan left off to inspire the next generation. Garriott is conducting educational activities as a part of his scheduled flight to the International Space Station, slated for October in partnership with the Challenger Center for Space Science Education.

Garriott's efforts will continue Barbara Morgan and Christa McAuliffe's legacy of teaching from space and will reach children around the world from the International Space Station during a series of recorded on orbit activities and live downlinks with students.

Over the past several months, Richard has conducted interactive webcasts about his astronaut training in Russia, and recorded a series of podcast interviews with Challenger Center for students. Teachers and their students can replicate various activities to demonstrate important concepts in physics that Richard plans to do in space; and share their predictions about what might happen during the same experiment in the microgravity (weightless) environment of space online.

Lessons in support of Richard Garriott's on orbit activities, plus his archived webcasts, podcasts, and blogs, and student's predications submitted by YouTube video are available on the Challenger Center's national website,

www.challenger.org.

Challenger Center for Space Science Education was founded in 1986 by the families of the astronauts of the space shuttle Challenger 51-L mission. It is dedicated to the educational spirit of that mission and impacts over 300,000 students and 25,000 teachers each year. Challenger Learning Center programs at 50 centers around the world continue the crew's mission of engaging teachers and students in science, mathematics, engineering and technology. To locate a Challenger Learning Center near you, visit www.challenger.org.

For program information, please contact:

Rita Karl, Director of Educational Programs

Challenger Center for Space Science Education, Alexandria, VA

703-535-1345; rkarl@challenger.org

SEA TRAIN

The 5th grade classes taking part in the SEA TRAIN complete several lessons ahead of time in the classroom. These include lessons introducing technical drawing, mapping the SEA TRAIN route, insulators and conductors, marine mammal thermal adaptations, and working cooperatively with other students.

During the trip to and from Seward, students will be participating in a number of lessons and tasks relating to the area through which they are traveling and energy topics. All work is done in the SEA TRAIN Journal.

At the Alaska Sealife Center, classes will rotate through eight stations, spending 12 minutes in each area. At each area, students have questions to investigate from their journals that will help focus their observations.

On return to the classroom the students will complete several wrap-up lessons to tie the components of the trip together.

For your Calendar:

NSTA Conferences 2008-2009

NSTA Regional Conferences – 2008

October – Charlotte, NC: October 30-November 1, 2008

November – Portland, OR: November 20-22, 2008

December – Cincinnati, OH: December 4-6, 2008

2009 National NSTA Conference

New Orleans, LA – March 19-22, 2009

Science Fair 2008-09

Alaska Science and Engineering Fair

March 27-29, 2008
