



Mississippi Public Broadcasting

EDUCATION CONNECTION

EDUCATION SERVICES e-NEWSLETTER *January 2008*

Welcome to **EDUCATION CONNECTION**—Education Services' monthly e-Newsletter designed to help the educational community stay current regarding Mississippi Public Broadcasting's educational services, programming and information!

This newsletter is part of a broader overall education communications plan to increase the exposure and use of Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Education Services Division. We hope you'll find this resource supports your own work to educate students and others in your community. Please feel free to copy or forward to teachers and others in your school or district.

If you would like to join our Education Services' distribution list and receive important updates for Educators, or if you wish to no longer receive these newsletters, please e-mail darrell.lee@mpbonline.org.

Educational Outreach

MPB Announces 2008 *Reading Rainbow* Contest

Calling all young artists and writers! Mississippi Public Broadcasting invites youngsters to participate in the 14th annual ***Reading Rainbow* Young Writers and Illustrators Contest**. Children from kindergarten through third grade are encouraged to write and illustrate their own stories and submit them to MPB by the **March 7, 2008, deadline**.

Each child who enters receives a special Certificate of Achievement signed by LeVar Burton, host of the *Reading Rainbow* series. First, second and third place winners are selected for each grade level, with each receiving a *Reading Rainbow* backpack, a DVD copy of a *Reading Rainbow* program, and being treated to a special Winners Celebration Event in Jackson. First place winners will advance to the national competition.

The contest is conducted in cooperation with MPB and WNED-TV of Buffalo, New York, and Smarterville Productions LLC. *Reading Rainbow* is broadcast Monday through Friday at noon on MPB.

Visit www.mpbonline.org for **2008 Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Contest** entry forms, rules and information.

Educational Technology

Discover Hidden Treasures in the DEN at MECA!

Discovery Education and Mississippi Public Broadcasting (MPB) will be at this year's MECA conference in Jackson, MS, **January 28-30** at the Hilton Conference Center and Hotel.

This is a great opportunity for administrators, teachers, technology gurus and other school personnel to meet the people who are bringing Discovery Education™ *streaming* to the state of Mississippi at no cost. Participants will also get a chance to obtain information on how to effectively integrate technology into the classroom through various sessions presented by MPB's Education Services Department and Discovery Education.

Here is a list of the sessions:

Mississippi Public Broadcasting - Bringing Technology to the Great State of Mississippi

Discovery Educator Network and Mississippi Public Broadcasting - Growing a Community of Educators Passionate about Sharing Technology

How to reach the 21st Century Mind - Using Multimedia in the Classroom to Impact Instruction

One Size Does NOT Fit All: An Administrator's Guide to Fostering a Learning Environment for 21st Century Students

Breaking the Linear Mold in PowerPoint!

Great Digital Storytelling with Free Software

Act for Today Rather than React to Yesterday: 21st Teaching for 21st Century Students

Development with a Difference: Defining Professional Development for Today's Teachers

All sessions will take place in the Hattiesburg presentation room at the Hilton. Administrators are encouraged to attend these hands-on workshops. For full conference information, please visit www.ms-meca.org.

To obtain your school's passcode to start using this dynamic multi-media resource, or to set-up a face-to-face training session at your school, please contact Education Services at 1-800-922-9698. Visit Discovery Education™ *streaming* at www.unitedstreaming.com and start exploring today!

MIVN News

High school Juniors and Seniors can get a "jump start" on preparing for the ACT by attending the ESF video conference "Taking ACTION on the ACT". The date for the event is **January 23, 2008** and times are as follows:

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:50 a.m.
- 10:00 a.m. - 10:50 a.m.
- 1:00 p.m. - 1:50 p.m.

Teachers, facilitators or counselors for the MIVN classes can register groups of students online at www.mpbonline.org. Up to eight school sites can connect to the conference per session, so please register as soon as possible. Look for the **Event Registration** icon on the MPB webpage. For more information, contact Jill Boteler at jill.boteler@mpbonline.org.

The BTL Preschool Literacy Library Project

Mississippi's largest energy company, Entergy has teamed up with the Foundation for Public Broadcasting in Mississippi, Mississippi Public Broadcasting, and Mississippi's public libraries to power up literacy in pre-kindergarten children statewide. The **Between the Lions Preschool Literacy Library Project** places the scientifically-based reading research curriculum of the seven-time Emmy® Award-winning PBS KIDS series into 17 public libraries, making these libraries a key community tool in teaching pre-kindergarten children ages three to five years old.

Through the **Between the Lions Preschool Literacy Initiative**, MPB provides resources, expertise, and encouragement to 51 child care centers in the Jackson area affecting more than 1,100 children with the help of its partners – the Barksdale Reading Institute, WGBH, Sirius Thinking and Mississippi State University's Early Childhood Institute. Serving as mentors, MPB learning specialists model teaching methods and provide books, materials, and an early reading skills curriculum of the *Between the Lions* series to the child care center directors and teachers.

The *Between the Lions* program airs weekdays on MPB TV at 12:30pm and 2:30 p.m., and on Saturdays at 11:00 a.m.

Adult Education

MPB's Adult Education programs now being streamed

Did you miss the episode on Ratios and Proportions? Do you want to brush up on your skills before that big job interview? No longer do you have to wait weeks before a particular episode broadcasts again. Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Adult Education programs *GED Connection*, *Workplace Essential Skills* and *TV411* are now being streamed on the MPB web site. Visit www.mpbonline.org and click on 'Education Services' in the navigation bar. Scroll down to 'Adult Education' to view the videos for the week.

Helpful Links and Resources

The following websites are available for additional teaching tips, professional development, activities and information:

PBS.org

[*Discovery Education streaming*](#)

[PBS Teachers](#)

[Mississippi Department of Education](#)

[PBS TeacherLine](#)

[State Board for Community Colleges](#)

[PBS Kids](#)

[Test Prep Review](#)

[PBS Kids Go!](#)

[Mississippi Institutions for Higher Learning](#)

[PBS Parents](#)

www.gedonline.org

www.TV411.org

www.NetSmartz.org

[PBS Literacylink](#)

How Can We Help – What Do You Want to See?

We want to hear from you, and learn what kinds of content you would like to see in the monthly MPB Education Services e-Newsletter. Was the information in this issue helpful? What more would you like to see? We are also seeking questions and comments about the format of this newsletter.

Finally, we want to use this newsletter to answer your questions about Mississippi Public Broadcasting's Education Services. Please email all comments and questions to darrell.lee@mpbonline.org, or you can call us at (800) 922-9698.

For more information about our services and programming, visit our website at www.mpbonline.org.

Our mailing address is:

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Educating Entertaining Enlightening