

# Learning Resources and Technology Newsletter January 2000

## Happy New Year!

### New Year, New Newsletter

Beginning in March, the Learning Resources and Technology Newsletter will be available on the State Department of Education web site. If you do not have web access and wish to receive a printed copy please contact Betty Goyette (860-566-6660). This change should provide more timely access to newsletter items and the schedule for the Knowledge Network. The SDE address is:

<http://www.state.ct.us/sde/>

Look under the Division of Teaching and Learning.

### Lt. Governor's Technology Report

On November 26, 1999, Lt. Governor Jodi Rell presented a report to the Governor regarding a plan to ensure that Connecticut's schools and libraries are prepared to meet the computer and information technology needs of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The plan included sections on the critical role of technology in a quality education, an overview of the digital divide, and the need to prepare students for tomorrow's workforce. Further, the report contains 19 recommendations that, when implemented, will help educators, students and parents integrate educational technology into teaching and learning and prepare Connecticut's citizenry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. In brief, the recommendations are:

1. **That all Connecticut students be "Cyber-Ready by the Sixth Grade"** in terms of competency in the use of technology for life-long learning. Specific technology skill training, such as computer and technology literacy, information literacy and the ability to integrate technology effectively in all aspects of learning, should be made a formal part of local curriculum and should be measured by appropriate and periodic grade-level benchmarks.
2. **That all Connecticut K-12 classrooms be fully wired** to the Internet and to a local area network by January 1, 2004.
3. **That the State Department of Information Technology (DOIT) develop a plan**, by June 1,

2000, for implementation by January 1, 2003, of a Connecticut Education Network.

4. **That a new independent authority be established**, via legislation, to manage, plan and advocate for a statewide high speed, flexible, robust network, known as **the Connecticut Education Network (CEN)**, as well as a **Digital Library**, in order to provide reliable universal communication links to Connecticut schools, libraries and institutions of higher education.
5. **That a Connecticut Digital Library be established** as a component of CEN to ensure online access by all students and citizens to essential library and information resources.
6. **That a Parent Academy be established**, under the auspices of the CT Voices for Children, for the training of parents of K-12 students in computer technology usage.
7. **That we require that all candidates**, beginning with the 2000-2001 academic year, enrolled at an accredited institution of higher education in CT and taking a course of study leading to an initial, provisional or professional teaching certificate, **to participate in compulsory course work and achieve minimum standards of proficiency in understanding, using and implementing technology in education.**
8. **That we revise continuing education unit requirements for licensed teachers to include enhanced training**, as designed by the State Board of Education, to promote the integration of technology into teaching and learning and to further develop professional skills that will augment their ability to enable their students to become life-long learners using technology.
9. That each licensed and currently employed teacher who purchases or upgrades a home computer shall have their **Connecticut adjusted gross income reduced, up to a maximum of \$1,000.**
10. **That higher education institutions in CT** incrementally, but aggressively, **expand on-line**

**learning opportunities** in terms of course offerings and full degree programs.

11. **That the State Department of Education be required to develop**, by July 1, 2000, in conjunction with DOIT, specific **minimum technology infrastructure standards**, as well as suggested model technology infrastructure standards, for use in guiding local school districts in school construction and reconstruction projects.
12. **That Connecticut-based businesses that donate new computers** (defined as 2 years old or newer) **or computer consulting services to local school districts receive a credit on their annual corporation tax obligation** to the state in an amount equivalent to fifty percent of the purchase price of the computers or fifty percent of the fair market value of computer services donated.
13. **That DOIT oversee the preparation and submission of a statewide application for Universal Service Funds** in December, 2000, to enhance connectivity to the Connecticut Education Network.
14. **That the State Department of Education develop and provide a centralized web site** on which CT educators could post and share lesson plans, best practices, and resources about technology in education.
15. That CT teachers, through their professional organizations, be encouraged to **formally establish a "Technology Partnering Program"** by which more technologically-skilled educators could team with colleagues wishing to enhance their personal and professional technology skills.
16. **That the State Department of Education be required to biennially update the statewide educational technology plan.**
17. **That local school districts be encouraged to target at least two percent of their annual budget appropriations solely for technology-related purchases, programs and services**, including, but not limited to, professional development, hardware and software acquisition and connectivity needs.
18. **That the CT Congressional delegation seek federal funding** for the development and administration of a new Information Technology Resource Program for local school districts.
19. **That the State Office of Policy and Management dedicate personnel resources to identifying and securing all available funding** from the federal government, private corporations and philanthropic foundations to support this initiative or components of this initiative.

The entire report and full recommendations are available on the Lt. Governor's web site:

<http://www.state.ct.us/otlg>

Click on New

Watch for these recommendations to appear as proposed legislation during the 2000 legislative session.

### **The JASON Project: Going to Extremes**

Again this year, the SDE instructional television schedule, broadcast on CPTV, includes live programming from the JASON project. Consult the *Instructional Television Schedule and Resource Guide* for times. The JASON Project suggests the following as resources that will facilitate and extend participation.

Archbold, Rick. *Deep-Sea Explorer: the Story of Robert Ballard, Discoverer of the Titanic*. Toronto: Madison Press Books, 1994.

Fredericks, Anthony. *Exploring the Oceans*. Golden: Fulcrum Resources, 1998.

Conley, Andrea. *Window on the Deep: The Adventures of Underwater Explorer Sylvia Earle*. New York: Franklin Watts, 1991.

Coral Reef monitoring of the Florida Keys from space.

<http://www.cofc.edu/coral/epawork.htm>

Hydroponic activities developed by NASA:

<http://stellar.arc.nasa.gov/stellar/Activities/hydro/Hydroponics.html>

NASA International Space Station web site:

<http://www.spaceflight.nasa.gov>

National Geographic Society's education and map resources:

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com/maps>

Pringle, Laurence. *Coral Reefs*. New York: Simon and Schuster for Young Readers, 1995.

Redfern, Martin. *The Kingfisher Young People's Book of Space*. New York: Kingfisher Books, 1998.

Many additional resources and novels linked to the program can be found on the JASON web site:

<http://www.jasonproject.org>

### **Reading Rainbow**

If you use Reading Rainbow as a reading motivation series or want to know about the series, visit the Reading Rainbow web site. There are focus areas for librarians, teachers, parents and students. Each links selected books with others related to the topic and a wealth of on-line resources. As you start to think about summer reading programs, visit the Librarian area and select the "Math is Everywhere: Read All About It! program. The address is: <http://gpn.unl.edu/rainbow/>

## Knowledge Network January Schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>10</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Cover to Cover Programs 9-16	<b>11</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Know It All Programs 1-7 <b>10:35 – 12:10</b> Know It All Programs 8-13	<b>12</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Japanese Language and People Programs 1-4 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Japanese Language and People Programs 5-8	<b>13</b> <b>8:30 – 9:30</b> Japanese Language and People Programs 9, 10 <b>10:00 – 11:00</b> “A Day in the Life” Electronic Fieldtrip <b>11:05 – 12:25</b> Econ and Me Programs 1-5	<b>14</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Electronic Fieldtrips “Crossroads” and “Enslaved” <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Electronic Fieldtrips “Washington: Man and Myth” and “A Day in the Life”
<b>17</b> <b>Martin Luther King Holiday No Broadcast</b>	<b>18</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Science is Elementary Programs 1-7 <b>10:35 – 11:25</b> Science is Elementary Programs 8-10	<b>19</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Real Science 4 Programs 1-4 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Real Science 4 Programs 5-8	<b>20</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Real Science 4 Programs 9-12 <b>10:30 – 11:00</b> Real Science 4 Program 13 <b>11:00 – 11:30</b> “Geometry of Exploration: Wings Over Mars” - NASA <b>11:35 – 12:35</b> Pyramid Programs 1-3	<b>21</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Well, Well, Well/ Slim Goodbody Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Well, Well, Well/ Slim Goodbody Programs 9-15
<b>24</b> <b>8:30 – 9:30</b> Television Can Teach <b>9:35 – 11:35</b> Landscape of Geometry Programs 1-8 <b>11:40 – 12:10</b> Net Files “Social Science” Black History Month	<b>25</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> NASA specials “Measurement of All Things: Tools of the Aeronautics Trade” and “Atmospheric Detectives” “Geometry of Exploration: Water Below the Surface of Mars?” and “Wings Over Mars” <b>10:35 – 12:25</b> Race to Save the Planet Programs 1-7	<b>26</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Read On: Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Read On: Cover to Cover Programs 9-16	<b>27</b> <b>Request Day</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Request Day</b>
<b>31</b> <b>Request Day</b>				

Program descriptions for NASA programs are available on the web site: <http://edu.larc.nasa.gov/connect>.

Information about Electronic Field Trips is available at <http://www.history.org/trips> or call 800-761-8331.

Other program descriptions are in the *Instructional Television Schedule and Resource Guide*.

Call Betty Goyette (860-566-6660) with Request Day requests.

## Knowledge Network February Schedule

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>
	<b>1</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Geography Skills Programs 1-12 <b>10:35 – 11:35</b> Castle Programs 1-4 <b>11:40 – 12:40</b> Cathedral Programs 1-4	<b>2</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Finding Our Way Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Finding Our Way Programs 9-16	<b>3</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> America Past Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> America Past Programs 9-16	<b>4</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Global Geography Programs 1-7 <b>10:35 – 11:25</b> Global Geography Programs 8-10 <b>11:30 – 12:45</b> Civics at Work Programs 1-5
<b>7</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Art History: Survey of the Western World Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 11:35</b> Art History: Survey of the Western World Programs 9-12	<b>8</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Tracks Programs 1-7 <b>10:35 – 12:00</b> Tracks Programs 8-12	<b>9</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Arts Alive Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:00</b> Arts Alive Programs 9-13	<b>10</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> More Books from Cover to Cover Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> More Books from Cover to Cover Programs 9-16	<b>11</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> America Past Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> America Past Programs 9-16
<b>14</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Art Maker Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Art Maker Programs 9-16	<b>15</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Art Maker Programs 17-24 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Art Maker Programs 25-32	<b>16</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Return of the Art Maker Programs 1-8 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Return of the Art Maker Programs 9-16	<b>17</b> <b>9:00 – 10:00</b> “A Day in the Life” Electronic Field Trip <b>10:00 – 11:00</b> “Trail of Whispers” Electronic Field Trip <b>11:00 – 11:30</b> NASA special “Proportionality: Modeling the Future”	<b>18</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Return of the Art Maker Programs 17-24 <b>10:35 – 12:35</b> Return of the Art Maker Programs 25-32
<b>21</b> <b>Repeat of February 14</b>	<b>22</b> <b>Repeat of February 15</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Repeat of February 16</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Repeat of February 17</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Repeat of February 18</b>
<b>28</b> <b>8:30 – 10:30</b> Net Files “Interdisciplinary” “Social Sciences” “Multicultural” “Language Arts” <b>10:35 – 11:35</b> Net Files “Social Science” “Arts”	<b>29</b> <b>Request Day</b>			

Net Files is a Telly Award winning series of in-service magazine programs that show the tools and equipment needed to be use Internet resources by taking viewers to classrooms where teachers integrate the Internet into curriculum. Complete information is available at: <http://www.netfiles.org>