



Working together
to improve
teaching and
learning



December 2005 Issue 62 Time Warner Cable – Your Education Connection

Happy Holidays! The December issue of Time Warner Cable's education newsletter is featuring Cable in the Classroom free educational resources for teachers, students, and parents that are available for you to videotape and download off the Internet for use in your classroom or at home. Website links are provided for downloading lesson plans.

Leaders in Learning

We all know someone -- a teacher, administrator, community leader, or public official -- who has made a difference in education. In school or out, on a large or small scale, in practice or policy, these leaders in learning improve teaching and learning. Whether that describes you or someone you know, these agents of change deserve applause and recognition. And that's the thinking behind Cable's [Leaders in Learning Awards](#). Learn more or apply at www.leadersinlearningawards.org. Applications accepted December 1st through January 31st.

Articles explore Who Teaches Media Literacy?

Five Key Questions

Simple ways for teachers to integrate media literacy into their teaching.

Teachers are uniquely positioned to guide students from an early age through an increasingly complex media landscape that often blends entertainment, opinion, and information in a swirl of fact and fantasy. But how can teachers mine the rich resources that media offer while also promoting awareness about the ways in which they shape our views?...



Collaboration Station

How library media specialists can help classroom teachers incorporate media literacy in core content areas.

Where does your school library media program fit in with your school? Is it the place where all the media is kept, the hub of knowledge, or the starting point for classroom collaborations? Whether your program is one or all of these, as the library media specialist, you can help provide media-literacy instruction in nearly every curriculum area...

News Perspectives

Broadband Tools: Multimedia sites help students see, hear, and read news from various perspectives.

An integral part of any media-literacy lesson is that all media have a point of view -- even the news. These interactive news sites allow students to view news and current-events reporting designed for specific audiences and reported from different perspectives. These sites can also teach students how to utilize streaming audio and video, blogs, podcasts, and other technologies to stay informed about world events...

Educational Resource Guides

Download, print, and forward these subject-specific guides to educational video and online resources that can help you teach.

Arts Shakespeare's Globe, Ella Fitzgerald, and more

English/Language Arts Elementary reading, Charles Dickens, and more

History The Great Depression, ancient Egypt, racial inequality throughout history, and more

Math Problem-solving strategies, algebra, an Incan abacus, and more

Languages Online language resources and more

Preschool Holidays, online adventures, heroes, and more

Science/Health Elephants, dinosaurs, navigating at sea, a volcano cam, scientific inquiry, and more

Social & Personal Development The holiday season, women's soccer, and more

Social Studies AIDS/HIV in Africa, news media, the British Parliament, and more

Articles about New Literacies for a Changing World

The Search for Truth

Chris Sperry explores how the core concepts of media literacy help teach academic content and essential skills for a healthy democracy.

At the end of last year, one of my 10th-grade students commented that our English/global-studies class had been very difficult for her. It had led her to question everything and lose her idealistic innocence -- but she was grateful because she felt that she now had a more accurate view of reality and was prepared to make the world a better place. She was followed by a self-described cynic, who said the practice of critical thinking had the opposite effect on her -- it forced her to reject the simplistic notion that everything is screwed up and there is nothing you can do about it. She said the power of rigorous, informed, and reasoned thought could help her to identify better and worse decisions...



Educational Resources for Teachers, Parents, and Students

A&E Classroom

A&E Classroom Online

A&E has redesigned its classroom Web site so that it is easier to navigate, is updated more frequently, and is more user friendly. A&E has added an internal navigation bar, graphics, and interactive components.

<http://www.aetv.com/class/>

Biography--Donald Trump: Master of the Deal

This program looks at the highs and lows of the billionaire's career through interviews with colleagues, friends, associates, and him.

Airs December 2 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0188.html

The Great Pharaohs of Egypt - Part 1

This series examines the pyramid complex of Snefru and the ancient burial ground of Abydos.

Part 1 of 4 airs December 5 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0144.html

The Great Pharaohs of Egypt – Part 2

This series explores the transitional period between the Old Kingdom and the New Kingdom.

Part 2 of 4 airs December 6 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0145.html

The Great Pharaohs of Egypt – Part 3

This series profiles the radical Akhenaten, who attempted to change Egypt's religion and shared power with his legendary queen, Nefertiti.

Part 3 of 4 airs December 7 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0146.html

The Great Pharaohs of Egypt – Part 4

This series profiles Ramses II, considered by many to be the greatest of all pharaohs, and concludes with the death of Cleopatra, Egypt's last pharaoh.

Part 4 of 4 airs December 8 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0147.html

Biography--Cleopatra: Destiny's Queen

A profile of Egypt's last pharaoh, from her noble birth to her legendary suicide.

Airs December 9 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0040.html

Faith of My Fathers

Based on the 2000 memoir of the same name, this two-part 2005 film follows Senator John McCain's journey from the naval academy to the Vietnam War and his public service.

Part 1 of 2 airs December 13 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

Part 2 of 2 airs December 14 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

<http://www.aetv.com/faithofmyfathers/index.html>

<http://www.aetv.com/class/>

Biography--F. Scott Fitzgerald: The Great American Dreamer

This program profiles the American writer whose lifestyle and works, such as *The Great Gatsby*, epitomized the excesses of his time.

Airs December 15 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0074.html

Biography--William Shakespeare: A Life of Drama

This program explores the poet and playwright whose work is at least as popular now as it was during his own lifetime.

Airs December 16 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0550.html

Biography--Charles Dickens: A Tale of Ambition and Genius

This program profiles the life of one of the world's first literary stars, from his troubled childhood to the successes of *Oliver Twist* and *A Tale of Two Cities*.

Airs December 19 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0047.html

Biography--Norman Rockwell

A profile of the artist and illustrator for the *Saturday Evening Post*.

Airs December 20 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0548.html

Biography Close-Up: Sesame Street

This two-part program takes a look behind the beloved children's series.

Part 1 of 2 airs December 21 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

Part 2 of 2 airs December 22 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0815.html

Biography: Santa Claus

This program profiles the myth, character, and religious connections of Saint Nicholas.

Airs December 23 at 7:00am ET. A&E Network (1:00)

http://www.aetv.com/class/admin/study_guide/archives/aetv_guide.0165.html

AOL@School

Bright Kids, Dim Grades

Why do intelligent students fail to live up to their potential? The universal reason is that they don't yet know how to learn. Discover learning strategies and techniques kids need to know.

<http://homeworkhelp.aol.com/leapfrog?id=20050531135809990001>

Sign up for free AOL@School software that will help you integrate the power of the Internet into the curriculum: <http://www.aolatschool.com/order/index.adp>

BET Classroom

The Naked Truth 3

In the third installment of this series, African American individuals and families discuss homophobia, the rising rates of HIV infection, how discrimination and disenfranchisement affect personal decision-making about sexual health, and the importance of social networks. Mature subject matter.

Airs December 18 at 3:00am ET. Black Entertainment Television (0:30)

For lesson plan email vicki.johnson@bet.net.

CNN Classroom

CNN Student News

CNN Student News is a 10-minute, cost-and-commercial-free educational program airing Monday-Friday throughout the school year on CNN Headline News at 3:12am ET. CNNStudentNews.com offers the full 10-minute CNN Student News program streamed on the Web. A daily e-mail, the "Daily Education Alert," allows educators to obtain free daily curriculum and features the day's top story as well as the latest industry news from the education section of CNN.com. Does not air 12/19-1/2.

<http://cnnstudentnews.com>

<http://cnnstudentnews.cnn.com/fyi/retelecast/>

Court TV Classroom

Activate Your Mind: Protect Your Ideas (Los Angeles)

U.S. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales hosts a special question-and-answer session with 120 California high-school students about intellectual-property piracy and education. The special culminates with student presentations on the importance of developing and protecting original ideas.

Airs December 2, 9, 16 and 23 at 5:00am ET. Court TV (0:30)

http://www.courttv.com/choices/activate_your_mind/index.html?sect=2

C-SPAN Classroom

"American Politics" and "Road to the White House 2008"

These programs, alternating weekly, look at the electoral process in the United States and the candidates, issues, and events shaping the 2008 presidential race.

Airs Sundays on at 6:30pm ET & 9:30pm ET. C-SPAN (1:30)

<http://www.c-spanclassroom.org/>

In Depth on Book TV

Live, viewer call-in interview program with current nonfiction authors. This month's guest is John Updike.

Airs December 4 at 12:00pm ET and December 5 at 12:00am ET. C-SPAN2 (3:00)

<http://www.booktv.org/indepth/>

DiscoverySchool

Racial Inequality: Remnants of a Troubled Time

This program examines the history of equal rights in the U.S., with segments about slaves' living conditions on plantations, the American Civil War and the period of reconstruction that followed, and the Brown v. Board of Education court decision.

Airs December 1 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/racialInequality/>

Battling Beyond U.S. Borders

A look at the history of relations between the U.S. and Latin America, with segments on the colonial U.S. after the Spanish-American War.

Airs December 2 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/battlingUsBorders/>

From the Great War to the Great Depression

This program explores early 20th-century America with a look at the role of the U.S. in WWI, a profile of life as a soldier in the trenches, the birth of the Roaring Twenties, the evolution of jazz music, and the effect of prohibition on crime.

Airs December 5 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/greatWarGreatDep/>

America's Economy: Sorrow and Hope

A look at the causes and effects of the Great Depression, the individuals who suffered and survived, and their migration as depicted in John Steinbeck's The Grapes of Wrath.

Airs December 6 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/amerEconSorHope/>

World War II: Causes and Consequences

This program examines Hitler's European occupation and the Allies' efforts to fight it, dramatic shifts for women on the home front, post-war prosperity, and the subsequent cold war between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

Airs December 7 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/ww2CausesCons/>

Social Activism in the United States

This program explores social activism in the 1960s and '70s with a look at the civil rights movement, the fight to end U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War, and how these events have shaped American lives.

Airs December 8 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/socialActivism/>

Modern-Day America

This program looks at Ronald Reagan's presidency, international conflict resulting from globalization, and the heroes and impact of 9/11.

Airs December 9 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/modernDayAmer/>

Alkaline-Earth Metals

A look at soft metals such as calcium, strontium, and radium and explores why they react quickly with water, particularly when heat is introduced.

Airs December 13 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/alkalineEarth/>

Concepts in Geometry

This program examines the roles of triangles, quadrilaterals, circles, and polygons in architecture and shows how the ancient Greeks developed some of the first geometric proofs and theorems.

Airs December 21 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Channel (1:00)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/conceptsInGeometry/>

Discovery Health Classroom

Taking Care of Me

This program looks at the influences and experiences that shape an individual's emotional health.

Airs December 3 at 5:00am ET. Discovery Health Channel (0:30)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/takingCareOfMe/>

Disney Classroom

Even Stevens: Heck of a Hanukkah

Louis learns how much his family needs him when his wish to never have been born is granted.

Airs December 6 at 3:00am ET. Disney Channel (0:30)

<http://psc.disney.go.com/disneychannel/evenstevens/index.html>

The Proud Family: Seven Days of Kwanzaa

The Proud family shares their celebration of Kwanzaa with a homeless family.

Airs December 6 at 3:30am ET. Disney Channel (0:30)

<http://psc.disney.go.com/disneychannel/theproudfamily/index.html>

Higglytown Heroes: Twinkle's Wish

Twinkle gets her wish to become a Christmas elf, but she runs into trouble when she accidentally leaves Santa's sleigh in Higglytown.

Airs December 6 at 4:00am ET. Disney Channel (0:30)

<http://disney.go.com/disneychannel/playhouse/higglytown/>

ESPN Sportsfigures

SportsFigures

Professional athletes use sports to demonstrate math and physics concepts.

Airs December 5 at 4:30am ET. ESPN2 (0:30)

<http://sportsfigures.espn.com/sportsfigures/lessonplan.htm>

<http://sportsfigures.espn.com/sportsfigures/>

Food TV Classroom

Good Eats--The Egg Files 5: Souffle-Quantum Foam

Alton Brown uses science to control egg foam when making a souffle and shows how to manage oven temperature while baking.

Airs December 10 at 4:30am ET. Food Network (0:30)

http://www.foodnetwork.com/food/cable_classroom/0,1904,FOOD_9789,00.html

HGTV Classroom

Homes of Our Heritage: The Presidents

A two-part tour of the homes of our nation's presidents, including Dwight D. Eisenhower, John Adams, and Abraham Lincoln.

Part 1 of 2 airs December 5 at 5:00am ET. Home and Garden Television (0:30)

Part 2 of 2 airs December 19 at 5:00am ET. Home and Garden Television (0:30)

http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/spcl_prsntn/episode/0,1806,hgtv_3909_12581,00.html

http://www.hgtv.com/hgtv/about_us/article/0,1783,HGTV_3080_4009525,00.html

History Classroom

Conquest of America: The Southwest

A look at Coronado's 1540 expedition that reached the Grand Canyon.

Part 1 of 4 airs December 5 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/admin/study_guide/archives/thc_guide.3093.html

Conquest of America: The Southeast

This program examines the New World fight between Spain and France for dominion over Florida.

Part 2 of 4 airs December 6 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

<http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/guides/>

Conquest of America: The Northeast

This program looks at Henry Hudson's search for a northern sea route to the East Indies.

Part 3 of 4 airs December 7 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

<http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/guides/>

Conquest of America: The Northwest

This program follows Vitus Bering's trip to determine whether Asia and America were connected.

Part 4 of 4 airs December 8 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

<http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/guides/>

Decoding the Past! Prophecies of Israel

Explores Old Testament prophecies about the Jewish people and their relationship to the modern state of Israel.

Airs December 12 at 9:00pm ET. History Channel (1:00)

http://www.historychannel.com/global/listings/series_showcase.jsp?EGrpType=Series&Id=15346957&NtwCode=THC

The History of Toys and Games

This two-part program looks at playthings, from the handcrafted dolls of early civilizations to the complex video games of today.

Part 1 of 2 airs December 13 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/admin/study_guide/archives/thc_guide.0241.html
<http://www.historychannel.com/exhibits/toys/>

Christmas Unwrapped: The History of Christmas

This documentary looks at how a Roman holiday became a centerpiece of the Christian year.

Airs December 16 at 6:00am ET. History Channel (1:00)

http://www.historychannel.com/classroom/admin/study_guide/archives/thc_guide.0299.html

Languages

CNN en Español

Cable News Network's Spanish-language version of CNN.com offers news and current events information from around the world. CNN en Español could be useful in high school Spanish classes

<http://www.cnn.com/espanol/>

Planeta Extremo

Discovery Channel's Web site explores dangerous and potentially deadly weather events around the world. Students of the Spanish language can strengthen their vocabulary and comprehension skills while learning about extreme weather conditions.

http://www.tudiscovery.com/earth/_home/

meteo123.com

The Weather Channel's French-language version of The Weather Channel's Web site allows students to test their French skills by reading about the weather forecast for France.

<http://fr.weather.com/>

N-TV.de

Students studying German can read current events and news stories on this German-language version of CNN's Web site.

<http://www.n-tv.de/>

Lifetime Classroom

Intimate Portrait: Terry McMillan

A profile of the author who helped open the door for other female African American writers with the success of such novels as *Waiting to Exhale* and *How Stella Got Her Groove Back*.

Airs December 14 at 4:00am ET. Lifetime (1:00)

http://www.lifetimetv.com/shows/ip/portraits/0024/0024_index.html
http://www.lifetimetv.com/community/olc/cable/bio_mcmillan.html

MTV Classroom

Diary of Angelina Jolie and Dr. Jeffrey Sachs in Africa

This documentary follows actor/United Nations Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie and Dr. Jeffrey Sachs, a world expert on poverty, through Kenya to explore the challenges of hunger, disease, and isolation in Africa.

Airs December 12 at 4:00am ET. MTV (0:24)

http://www.mtv.com/thinkmtv/features/global/diary/angelina_jolie/

Rocked: Sum 41 in Congo

This special follows rock band Sum 41 as they film a documentary about the impact of war on the children of the Democratic Republic of Congo and shows how their efforts went awry amidst a sudden outbreak of violence.

Airs December 19 at 4:00am ET. MTV (0:24)

http://www.mtv.com/partners/cic/sum41_congo.jhtml

<http://www.mtv.com/news/articles/1488128/20040603/story.jhtml>

Nickelodeon Classroom

Blue's Clues--Blue's Room: Holiday Wishes

Blue and his friends celebrate Christmas and Chanukah together and learn about generosity by singing updated versions of holiday songs.

Airs December 7 at 6:00am ET. Nickelodeon (0:30)

<http://www.nickjr.com/home/shows/blue/index.jhtml>

Nick News

The Courage to Live: Kids, South Africa, and AIDS

Linda Ellerbee travels to South Africa for a firsthand look at the AIDS epidemic, interviewing local specialists, adults, and children, who are among the hardest hit by the disease.

Airs December 9 and 19 at 6:00am ET. Nickelodeon (0:30)

http://www.nickjr.com/teachers/lesson_plans/south_africa_and_aids.jhtml?_template=teachers

TLC Elementary School

Problem-Solving: Math II

This program examines the problem-solving capabilities of architectural plans and mechanical drawings, how discussions can generate solutions, how clear explanations lead to new understandings, and the importance of gathering and organizing information.

Airs December 2 at 6:00am ET. The Learning Channel (0:30)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/probMath2/>

Reading Strategies

This program explores reading concepts, including prewriting, sentence evaluation, and descriptive words, asking and telling sentences, and spelling.

Airs December 9 at 6:00am ET. The Learning Channel (0:30)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/readingStrat/>

Writing Strategies

This program illustrates the elements of writing, including consonants, sight words, self-correction, and fiction vs. nonfiction.

Airs December 16 at 6:00am ET. The Learning Channel (0:30)

<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/writingStrat/>

Listening and Speaking Strategies

This program explores the rules of conversation, word choice, research questions and sources, story retelling, and how beginnings, middles, and ends are blended together.

Airs December 23 at 6:00am ET. The Learning Channel (0:30)
<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/listenSpeak/>

Scientific Inquiry I

This program investigates causes of and solutions to the pollution problem, the space-occupying substance known as matter, and sound vibration and waves.

Airs December 30 at 6:00am ET. The Learning Channel (0:30)
<http://school.discovery.com/lessonplans/programs/scientificInq1/>

VH-1 Classroom

VH1 News Presents: Tracking the Monster

This program chronicles the journeys of actor Ashley Judd and musician India.Arie to Africa as they witness the effects of HIV/AIDS and volunteer their time to help with the crisis.

Airs December 6 at 4:00am ET. VH1 (1:00)
http://www.vh1.com/partners/vh1_music_studio/

The Weather Classroom

Forecast Earth: Road Risk

This program investigates how the nation's transportation department uses weather technology to keep roads open and safe.

Airs December 3 and 4 at 4:30am ET. The Weather Channel (0:30)
<http://www.weatherclassroom.com/index.php>
http://www.weatherclassroom.com/home_students.php

The Christmas Tree Ship: A Holiday Storm Story

This two-part documentary explores the history behind Chicago's century-long tradition of transporting Christmas trees to its navy pier for needy families.

Part 1 of 2 airs December 10 at 4:30am ET. The Weather Channel (0:30)
Part 2 of 2 airs December 11 at 4:30am ET. The Weather Channel (0:30)
http://www.weatherclassroom.com/home_students.php

Elementary Weather

This program explores basic weather concepts through field trips and interviews with experts.

Airs December 17 and 18 at 4:30am ET. The Weather Channel (0:30)
<http://www.weatherclassroom.com/index.php>

Forecast Earth: Coastal Storms

This program explores the dangers of coastal storms and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) efforts to protect seaside cities.

Airs December 25 at 4:30am ET. The Weather Channel (0:30)
<http://www.weatherclassroom.com/index.php>
http://www.weatherclassroom.com/home_students.php

Contests and Educational Opportunities

VISUALIZE WITH VIDEO

Using videos to boost kids' reading and writing skills? You bet! A television dramatization of a work of literature can bring to life settings, moods, and characters that students would otherwise find difficult to imagine. Some teachers use video clips as writing prompts. A short video clip can also help students visualize a complicated math concept, life in a village halfway around the world, or the inside of an atom. To share your favorite tip for using video, e-mail CIC at frank@ciconline.org.

New C-SPANClassroom.org Web site Enter StudentCam Documentary Contest

C-SPAN Classroom has a brand new Web site for middle and high school civics and government teachers. Educators can log on to www.c-spanclassroom.org and find video clips and discussion questions linked to national standards, along with lesson plans, primary source materials, and other resources to help teachers use C-SPAN programs in their classrooms and research. When teachers sign up for the free service, they can access all of these resources and find opportunities for grants and fellowships.

In addition to the brand new site, C-SPAN Classroom is announcing the return of the C-SPAN StudentCam contest. Students create video documentaries exploring a current issue of their choice to compete for \$25,000. Entry forms and complete rules are at www.studentcam.org. Entries are due February 28, 2006.

Sign up for Media Smart: Your Family Guide E-Mail Newsletter

Sign up for Media Smart: Your Family Guide to Using Screen Time Well, a free, monthly e-mail newsletter from Cable in the Classroom and the National PTA. Each issue includes tips for parents and caregivers and recommendations of family-friendly TV shows and Web sites.
<http://www.ciconline.org/Resources/MoreResources/toolsforparents/default.htm>

Time for Kids

Timeforkids.com, the online version of Time for Kids magazine, is the news, information, and exploration destination for kids on the Internet. The site lets kids create, learn, get involved, explore, play, guess right, guess wrong, exercise their clicking fingers, and generally become news know-it-alls!
<http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/class/0,17446,,00.html>