New Study Finds Positive Effect of PBS KIDS Digital Media on Young Children’s Learning

Iowa History Month

Bring Creativity and Imagination Back to the Classroom

NOVA Announces Upcoming LAB

Contact Us

Iowa PBS
6450 Corporate Drive
P.O. Box 6450
Johnston, IA 50131-6450
800.532.1920 | 515.725.9722

eNewsletter Signup:
iowapbs.org/education

Iowa PBS Local

Iowa History Month

Governor Renyolds has proclaimed March as Iowa History Month! If you are looking for ways to celebrate with your class, dive into these classroom-ready resources from Iowa PBS! Hundreds of standards-aligned resources exploring natural history, politics, civil rights, industry, agriculture, and conflicts are ready for use with your students! Explore the video, images, stories, activities and first-person accounts that make Iowa a unique state.

New Study from EDC and SRI International Demonstrates Positive Effects of PBS KIDS Digital Media on Young Children's Science and Engineering Learning

Education Development Center and SRI International announced the release of their new study Early Science and Engineering: The Impact of The Cat in the Hat Knows a Lot About That! on Learning. The study's goal was to understand the extent to which providing access to media resources focused on critical science and engineering concepts can help children living in low-income households learn. The study found that providing four and five year old children with access to these new resources had positive, meaningful effects on their knowledge of physical science and their ability to engage with science and engineering practices. Many children, while innately curious about the natural and built world, do not have the support that allows them to explore important and age-appropriate science and engineering concepts and practices. A 2017 national survey of parents found parents wish to support children's science learning but wanted more help to do so. This new study was conducted to investigate the premise that digital media platforms—television, video, apps, and digital games—can be powerful tools to support young children's science and engineering learning. Learn about this study [here](#).
Join NOVA and High School Quiz Show on an Adventure to the Polar Extremes

Test your knowledge of Earth science, climate change and baby seals in a series of Instagram quizzes co-hosted by NOVA and High School Quiz Show! Starting Wednesday, January 22, they will be publishing a series of Polar Extremes quizzes featuring questions about the content of the Polar Lab, the Antarctic Extremes digital series and the Polar Extremes film. Encourage your students to complete the quizzes to get a sneak peek at some of the stories and topics explored in this multi-platform project.

The Poison Squad

By the close of the Industrial Revolution, the American food supply was tainted with frauds, fakes and legions of new and untested chemicals, dangerously threatening the health of consumers. Based on the book by Deborah Blum, The Poison Squad tells the story of government chemist Dr. Harvey Wiley who, determined to banish these dangerous substances from dinner tables, took on the powerful food manufacturers and their allies. Wiley embarked upon a series of bold and controversial trials on 12 human subjects who would become known as the “Poison Squad.”

Iowa PBS Receives Grant

The Corporation for Public Broadcasting has awarded grants to four locally owned and operated public media stations to develop new educational media for youth. Iowa PBS was selected for the grant to help fund the Iowa Science Phenomena Project. Iowa PBS will work with Iowa teachers and organizational partners to develop an online service that curates and shares a growing collection of science phenomena media for use in classrooms. (Science phenomena are observable science events which can help drive student inquiry.) Browse resources from Iowa Science Phenomena on our website.

The Planets: Jupiter

Jupiter's massive gravitational force made it a wrecking ball when it barreled through the early solar system. But it also shaped life on Earth, delivering comets laden with water—and perhaps even the fateful asteroid that wiped out the dinosaurs. NOVA brings you breathtaking footage and simulations of Jupiter as well as resources for your classroom from PBS LearningMedia. View the full length show The Planets: Jupiter, or use clips from this program to support themed units.
PBS LearningMedia is your destination for direct access to thousands of classroom-ready, curriculum-targeted digital resources. It builds on the strength of public media and is designed to improve teacher effectiveness and student achievement.

All Grades

Do you want to use PBS LearningMedia in your classroom?
If you are interested in learning about PBS LearningMedia for your classroom, contact us! We travel to schools across the state to showcase more than 100,000 resources that are waiting for you online! We can customize a session to meet your needs and even help your students create accounts. Iowa PBS Education is finding great success in providing teacher trainings first, allowing teachers to become familiar with our resources, then returning to train your students and help them to create accounts. We can also return to assist in a parent or community night to show families how to use our resources to further learning at home. To learn more, contact Angela Hiatt at angela.hiatt@iowapbs.org.

PreK–1

Celebrating Winter
Turn your classroom into a winter wonderland with these festive activities, videos and interactive games for grades PreK-12. Explore different winter holidays, investigate snowflakes using math and science, create winter-themed crafts and boost your students’ energy levels during the colder months!

Grades 1–2

Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum
Support students’ social-emotional, literacy and social studies skills with these educator resources for Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, the PBS KIDS series based on the Ordinary People Change the World books. Use video clips, teaching tips and historical figure biosketches to engage students and build classroom character. Learn more about the series and find full episodes, digital games, and home activities at the Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum website.

Grades 7–12

Reconstruction: America After the Civil War
Henry Louis Gates Jr.’s documentary series, Reconstruction: America After the Civil War, explores the transformative years following the American Civil War, when the nation struggled to rebuild itself in the face of profound loss, massive destruction and revolutionary social change. Teachers may utilize these lesson plans drawn from the series to explore the ways that the Reconstruction shaped our country, the South and African Americans.

Grades 9–12

The Providers
This collection features resources from The Providers film. Set against the backdrop of the physician shortage and opioid epidemic in rural America, The Providers follows three healthcare providers in northern New Mexico. Amidst personal struggles that at times reflect those of their patients, the journeys of the providers unfold as they work to reach rural Americans who would otherwise be left out of the healthcare system. With intimate access, the documentary shows the transformative power of providers’ relationships with marginalized patients.

How We Can Bring Creativity and Imagination Back to the Classroom?

Why is learning with imagination just as important as having knowledge? Why must both teachers and learners use imagination in learning? Let’s examine how imagination and knowledge support each other in the quest for authentic learning. Imagination is defined as “the faculty or action of forming new ideas or concepts of external objects not present to the senses.” On the other hand, knowledge is about facts and information. It encompasses the skills we acquire through experience or education—the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject. How do these two divergent ideas compliment each other in learning? Find out on the PBS Teachers Lounge.
Early Childhood

Moonlight Mazes

Buster and D.W. are visiting the Read family farm, exploring the corn mazes at night. It's your job to help them collect animals and rocks in each maze, but be careful: the mazes get harder as they go along. So bring your sense of adventure (and your sense of direction) to explore the quiet wonder of nature at night! And in case you get nervous, rest assured that Buster and D.W. will be with you all the way!

Elementary

Lollipop Flower Valentines

Valentine's Day is just around the corner and stores are full of premade options. We encourage children to be creative and make their own holiday gifts. For an easy and inexpensive DIY Valentine project, make these flower lollipops for classmates and friends! Using inexpensive materials children can create unique Valentine's Day gifts. Find more fun activities on PBS Parents. Make as many as you like! What a sweet treat for Valentine's Day.

Secondary

NOVA Announces New Upcoming Lab

Take students on a quest to see how the poles are key to understanding Earth’s climate in the upcoming NOVA Polar Lab. The interactive NOVA Polar Lab uses 360 videos, interviews with scientists and minigames to send students on an immersive quest to understand how the poles are key to understanding Earth’s climate—past, present, and future. Stay tuned for more updates in the coming weeks! NOVA Labs Evolution, Cybersecurity, RNA, Cloud, Energy and Sun are also available.

Upcoming Events

Each month IPTV Educational Services attends conferences, contributes to events and even offers customized webinars. Our list of upcoming events is below. Contact us if you'd like to schedule a training or invite us to one of your events.

February 18
Linn County STEM Festival
Hiawatha, IA

February 22
Southeast IA STEM Festival
West Burlington, IA

March 2
Harlan Literacy Night
Harlan, IA

March 10
Earlham Elementary STEM Night
Earlham, IA

Find ongoing information on iowapbs.org/education or email Angela Hiatt to request Iowa PBS Education to be a part of your event.