



LEARNING CURVE

NEWSLETTER

February 2008

by Libby Davis and Cindy Smith, Education Specialists

ACCESSING APTPLUS™

Generally, there are three categories of APTPLUS™ users: those who are currently enrolled and remember their Username and Password, those who are enrolled and don't remember their Username and Password, and those who have never been enrolled in APTPLUS™. Outlined below are scenarios and solutions for each of these situations.

Currently Enrolled:

If you are currently enrolled and remember your Username and Password, go to www.aptpplus.org and click the "Sign in now" button. You should be taken to the new "APTPLUS Federated Search" page which will provide access to all of the database content.

New to APTPLUS – NOT currently enrolled:

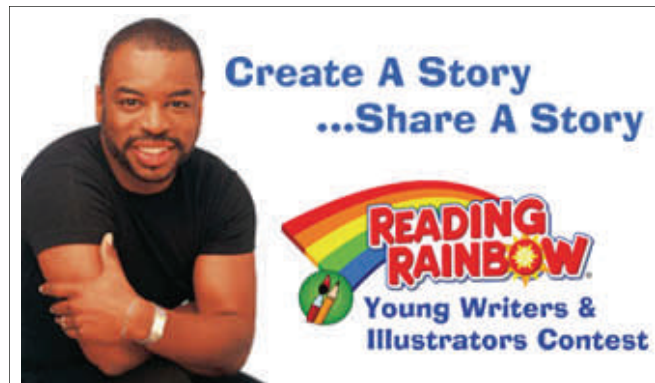
If you are NOT currently enrolled, you may obtain your unique school Passcode from APT and complete the enrollment process yourself or you may request enrollment from the APT staff. Enrollment will result in a unique Username and Password for you that will enable access to the content in multiple databases through a single sign-on from the APTPLUS web portal.

Those who have forgotten their Username and Password:

If you are currently enrolled and want to retrieve your existing Username and Password, log on to www.aptpplus.org, click on "Sign in Now," scroll down the page to bullet #4 ("I don't remember my unid-streaming Username and Password"), click on "click here and enter your email address." The system will send your existing Username to your email address. Upon receipt of your Username, repeat the procedure by typing in your Username and click "continue." Follow the prompts to answer your Security Reminder Question and click "continue." Your Password will be sent to your email address.

CAUTION: If you click on "Forgot Password?" underneath the Username and Password boxes instead of selecting bullet #4, you will create a NEW Password rather than retrieve your existing Password.

READING RAINBOW YOUNG WRITERS & ILLUSTRATORS CONTEST



Calling All K-3 Writers and Illustrators in Alabama

APT and READING RAINBOW are inviting kindergarten through third grade students to participate in the **Fourteenth Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest!**

The contest runs from January 7 through March 21, 2008. [Print an entry form](#) or [read contest rules](#).

Every child who enters the contest receives a special

Certificate of Achievement signed by LeVar Burton, host of the Reading Rainbow series--plus [the chance to win great prizes](#) like a laptop computer, flat panel TV, MP3 Player, Books-A-Million gift cards, and more!

Read national winning stories from previous years at the [Reading Rainbow Contest Website](#).

**2008 Contest Dates**

Jan. 7	Contest Opens
Mar. 21	Last day to Submit a Story
April 6	Judging Completed and AL Winners Announced
April 19	Award Ceremony at Old Alabama Town
April 25	1st Place Entries Submitted to the National Contest
May	National judging begins
June	National Winners Announced
July	National Prizes Presented

The 2007-08 Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest is an educational outreach initiative of Alabama Public Television. For further info and assistance, contact smartina@aptp.org.

TEACHING AND LEARNING CELEBRATION

THE 3RD ANNUAL TEACHING & LEARNING CELEBRATION

March 7-8, 2008, Friday/Saturday, New York, NY

Public Television honors educators with an exciting professional development experience for teachers, administrators, and everyone who cares about providing dynamic education for all!

Brought to you by New York's local public television stations

Thirteen/WNET and WLIW21, the Celebration has quickly become one of the nation's premier professional development events.

Themes: Science, Global Awareness and Instructional Technology
Featured Speakers include:

*Dr. Jane Goodall, legendary primatologist

*Jean-Michel Cousteau, star of PBS's Ocean Adventures

*Ann Curry, News Anchor/ Correspondent, NBC News

*PBS History Detectives

*Gwendolyn Wright, professor of architecture with Columbia University

*Public Television's Globe Trekker Megan McCormick, former English teacher and current world traveler

*And many more!

Please visit the conference site: <http://www.ThirteenCelebration.org> for complete speaker lineup and registration information.

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Focus on: Black History

Unitedstreaming

- The Playing Field (Gr. 6-8) (TG, WS & Q)
 - In Black & White: Conversations with African American Writers: Toni Morrison (Gr. 9-12)
 - The Road to Brown (Gr. 9-12)
 - The Underground Railroad (Gr. 6-8) (TG & Q)
- PowerMediaPlus**
- Cultural Contributions of Black Americans: Jazz Dawns in America & Jazz Sounds in America (Gr. 4-9)
 - Cultural Contributions of Black Americans: A Literary Renaissance & A Vision of Beauty (Gr. 4-9)
 - America's Multicultural Heroes: Harriet Tubman Tells Her Own Story (Gr. 4-9)
 - Black Americans: Political Leaders, Educators, Scientists (Gr. 4-9)

KEY

TG=Teacher's Guide
WS=Worksheets/Blackline
Masters
Q=Quiz

April 1 Deadline for Research Study Participation!

If you teach 4th or 7th Grade ELA or 5th or 8th grade math, time is running out on the opportunity to participate in a ground-breaking research study! The deadline for joining with teachers from 21 other states in the research study is April 1. Participants report that they are learning new ways of teaching while also contributing to the body of knowledge about the growing trend of high-quality professional development delivered ONLINE at times that are convenient to YOU. Additionally, upon completion of a set of online workshops, you can receive a stipend, 9 CEU's, and the satisfaction of knowing that YOU are contributing to the field of professional education. To sign up for the research study or to learn more visit www.aptv.org/learning/elearning and click on the Research Study link on the sidebar.

UNITEDSTREAMING OFFERINGS

	Theme	Media Title	Grades
1st	2003: The Space Shuttle Columbia is Lost With All Crew	The Space Shuttle	6th - 8th
3rd	1870: Fifteenth Amendment Passed	American Civil War: Reconstruction ("The Fifteenth Amendment" segment)	6th - 12th
7th	1865: First Public Reading of Mendel's Paper on Inherited Traits	Genes, Genetics, and DNA	6th - 12th
15th	1929: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	American Heroes and Heroines: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	3rd - 5th
16th	1923: King Tut's Burial Chamber Opened	Great Egyptians ("Tutankhamen: Mystery of the Boy King" segment)	3rd - 5th
18th	2008: President's Day	Holiday Facts and Fun: President's Day Discovering History: 20th Century Biographies: Presidents II	3rd - 5th 9th - 12th
23rd	1945: US Flag Raised at Iwo Jima	Return to Iwo Jima	9th - 12th
28th	1935: Nylon Invented	Elements of Chemistry: Carbon: The Elements of Life ("Polymers and Plastics" segment)	9th - 12th
29th	2008: Leap Year	Learning to Use a Calendar	K - 3rd

POWERMEDIAPLUS OFFERINGS

	Theme	Media Title	Grades
1st	2003: The Space Shuttle Columbia is Lost With All Crew	Understanding How Stuff Works for Students: Filmmaking: The Making of the Space Shuttle Movie	4th - 6th
3rd	1870: Fifteenth Amendment Passed	Just the Facts: The Constitution: The Bill of Rights and Constitutional Amendments ("The Reconstruction Amendments" segment)	7th - 12th
7th	1865: First Public Reading of Mendel's Paper on Inherited Traits	Biology Concepts for Students: Genetics	7th - 12th
15th	1929: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.	Martin's Big Words	1st - 6th
16th	1923: King Tut's Burial Chamber Opened	Ancient Egypt	7th - 12th
18th	2008: President's Day	So You Want to Be President?	1st - 6th
23th	1945: US Flag Raised at Iwo Jima	America in the Twentieth Century: World War Two: The World at War ("Bloody Victories at Iwo Jima & Okinawa" segment)	7th - 12th
28th	1935: Nylon Invented	Plastics	7th - 12th
29th	2008: Leap Year	Daily Deskercise: Leap Year: Workout Two ("Fitness Theme: Leap Year" segment)	K- 6th