



ALABAMA PUBLIC TELEVISION

LEARNING CURVE

NEWSLETTER

January 2009

by Libby Davis and Cindy Smith, Education Specialists

Registration for APTPLUS™ (Effective January 23, 2009)

The registration process for APTPLUS has been simplified! A single sign-on through the APTPLUS Federated Search function is now operative.

Currently Registered:

If you previously registered with APTPLUS or Discovery Education streaming (formerly unitedstreaming) and have a Username and Password, you do not need to register again. To access the content, follow the directions below.

- Log on to www.aptpus.org.
- Click on the APTPLUS Federated Search icon. (This is a **requirement**)
- Click on "Sign In Now."

Type in your Username and Password and click on "Login to APTPLUS."

New to APTPLUS:

If you have NOT registered with APTPLUS or Discovery Education streaming (formerly unitedstreaming), you may register online by following the directions below:

- Log on to www.aptpus.org.
- Click on the APTPLUS Federated Search icon. (This is a **requirement**.)
- Click on "Register Now."
- Scroll down to the section entitled "How do I register?"
- Select the category that identifies your position and click on the appropriate link.
- Complete the contact information profile and click "Send to APTPLUS."
- Your Username and Password will be e-mailed to you.

Your assigned Username and Password will permit future entry into APTPLUS and access to all of the content available on APTPLUS by following the directions outlined above under "Currently Registered."

Forgotten your Username and Password:

If you are registered in APTPLUS or Discovery Education streaming (formerly unitedstreaming) and can not remember your Username and Password, you may retrieve them by following the directions below:

- Log on to www.aptpus.org.
- Click on the APTPLUS Federated Search icon.
- Click on "Register Now."
- Scroll down to the section entitled "I am already registered but ..."
- Click on the designated link, complete the contact information profile, and your Username and Password will be e-mailed to you.

Parent Eligibility for APTPLUS™!

(Effective January 23, 2009)

Educators have enjoyed the benefits of APTPLUS for over 5 years through delivery of a wealth of educational content and a host of learning tools for classroom instruction. Now, those same resources can be accessed by parents in their homes through enrollment in APTPLUS. Alabama Public Television is delighted to be able to offer parents, FREE of charge, access to 4 of the 5 password-protected databases available on APTPLUS including PowerMediaPlus, Thinkfinity (formerly

Marco Polo), APTV Video Plus and Local Content. Additional educational content also is available on APTPLUS accessible from the APTPLUS home page outside of the password-protected databases.

Everyone can benefit from increased knowledge and resources. By extending APTPLUS into the home, educators can use this resource to strengthen their relationship with parents by including them in the learning process. Please share this information with your students' parents.

Parents can register online by logging on to www.aptpus.org and clicking on the "Parents" icon on the APTPLUS home page. Upon completion of the registration process, their Username and Password will be e-mailed to them. If you need additional registration information, for assistance please contact Violet Smith at vsmith@aptpus.org.



2009 READING RAINBOW YOUNG AUTHORS CONTEST

An Invitation to Alabama's K-3 Teachers

Alabama Public Television, in conjunction with more than 100 PBS stations across the U.S., is proud to be a sponsor of the 15th Annual Reading Rainbow Young Writers & Illustrators Contest for K - 3 students!

This year, APT is extending a special invitation to Alabama's K-3 Teachers to start the New Year with a unique and engaging language arts project...one that helps their students to utilize their growing literacy skills in a meaningful way.

Linked to Alabama Language Arts Standards

The contest offers a "real life" opportunity for the children to not only create and use their own literary "voices," but also to use the literacy skills they are practicing and learning based on the Alabama Language Arts Standards.

This writing/illustrating project

can take a few class periods or a few weeks. The Alabama Language Arts K-3 Standards are well represented in the process of writing and illustrating Reading Rainbow stories.

Contest Details

Entering students' stories is easy: Go to www.aptv.org/RR to access the Reading Rainbow Contest Entry Form (one for each student) and the Contest Rules. For assistance, please call or e-mail Nef Davis at 800-239-5233 ext. 174 or ndavis@aptpus.org.

Contest Awards

Each student who enters a story will receive a beautiful certificate from LaVar Burton, Host of the Reading Rainbow PBS show.

First, Second, and Third Place Awards will be given in each of the 4 grade categories, K-3. In

addition, a special award celebration and luncheon will be held on April 18th during the Alabama Book Festival in Old Town Montgomery to honor these young authors/illustrators, their teachers, and families.

All First Place Stories will be entered in the National Reading Rainbow Contest the end of April, with the national winners announced in June. National prizes include laptop computer, flat-panel televisions, DVD players, MP3 players, and Reading Rainbow DVDs and feature books.

2008 Winners Animated

To see the 2008 award winning books, just go to <http://www.aptv.org/aptpus/digitalmedia.asp> and click the Reading Rainbow icon.

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ALABAMA PUBLIC TELEVISION

Focus on:

Meteorology and Weather

- **Meteorology** (A segment of Video Adventures: Weather & Climate) (Gr. 3-5)
- **Meteorology: A Brief History of the Science of Weather** (Gr. 6-8)
- **Meteorologists** (Gr. 9-12)
- **Careers for the Twenty-First Century: Scientific Occupations** (Gr. 9-12)
- **Sarah Allen-Meteorologist** (A segment of Math at Work) (Gr. 9-12)
- **Weather Smart: Winter & Snow** (Gr. 3-5) (Be sure to look at the Teacher Guide, Blackline Masters, and the Video Quiz)
- **Weather Fronts** (A segment of TLC Elementary School Earth's Ecology) (Gr. 3-8)
- **Teacher and the Rockbots: How's the Weather?** (Audio-MP3 file)
- **Earth Science: Weather and Clouds** (Gr. 3-5)
- **Weather Smarts: The Water Cycle and Clouds** (Gr. 3-5)
- **The Salsa-Riffic World of Spanish, Module Eight: Weather** (Gr. 6-12) (Spanish language instruction)

UNITEDSTREAMING OFFERINGS

	Theme	Media Title	Grades
1st	1892: Ellis Island Opened in New York Harbor	Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island: Two of America's Best Known Landmarks	3rd - 8th
4th	1643: Isaac Newton Born	Let's Move It: Newton's Laws of Motion	3rd - 5th
5th	National Bird Day	Creatures Fantastic: Birds & Things With Wings Animals Around Us: Birds: What are They ?	9th - 12th 3rd - 5th
10th	1946: First Meeting of United Nations General Assembly	History Game: The United Nations	6th - 8th
11th	1878: Milk delivered in bottles for first time	Milk: From Farm to Table Review: Food Groups (Spanish vocabulary for food & food groups)	K - 2nd 3rd - 8th
13th	Poetry Break Day	Nature Stories and Poems Sounds of Poetry (poetry writing help)	K - 2nd 3rd - 5th
19th	1929: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrated	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day: America Celebrates	3rd - 5th
20th	Inauguration Day	Enter keywords: presidential inauguration and choose the president you would like to view	6th - 8th
26th	Chinese New Year-Year of the Ox	A Traditional Chinese New Year Celebration China: Fun & Firecrackers: Magic Lantern	K - 2nd K - 5th

POWERMEDIAPLUS OFFERINGS

	Theme	Media Title	Grades
1st	1892: Ellis Island Opened in New York Harbor	Dear America: Dreams in the Golden Country: The Story of Zipporah Feldman, a Jewish Immigrant Girl, New York City, 1903	4th - 9th
4th	1643: Isaac Newton Born	The Day the Universe Changed: New Physics: Newton Revised	10th - 12th
5th	National Bird Day	Animal Classification Series: If You Were a Bird	1st - 6th
10th	1946: First Meeting of United Nations General Assembly	The United Nations & New York Skyscrapers (A segment of Globe Trekker: New York City)	9th - 12th
11th	1878: Milk delivered in bottles for first time	Captain Yuck's Adventures in the Food Pyramid First Steps to Learning: Taking Care of Your Body	K - 3rd Pre-K - 3rd
13th	Poetry Break Day	The Poetry Lounge: Self Expression Through the Spoken Word	7th - 12th
19th	1929: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. celebrated	American Heroes & Heroines: Martin Luther King, Jr.	1st - 6th
20th	Inauguration Day	So You Want to be President? (children's fiction)	1st - 6th
26th	Chinese New Year-Year of the Ox	Chinese for Kids Level One: Volume One (Mandarin Chinese language instruction)	1st - 6th