

This is a 2008 RT listserv message. Remember, if you want to respond to an individual, do not use the "Reply" button. Instead, use the "Forward" button and cut-and-paste the individual's email address in the "To" field.

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2008 RT NEWS 16 – August 22, 2008
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1. RT PROGRAM NEWS

a. Expect to receive feedback on your **Lesson/Activity** from your mentors in this coming week, and get yourself primed for submitting a full draft by email to Mel: mlimson@the-aps.org no later than September 8th. Please remember to email your Lesson/Activity in two files: LASTNAME-TeacherSection and LASTNAME-StudentSection. Let Mel know if you have any questions or concerns.

b. **Mini-Grant Applications:** Start thinking about what kind of material/equipment/supplies you'd like to request on your mini-grant application. If you're scanning/shopping for items online, please include a copy of the shopping cart view so that you will have an estimate of your items. If you're shopping in stores, please indicate that as well. Don't forget that your mini-grant will only fund the items that you request upon approval. Any significant changes from the time of application, receipt of check, and purchase of items, must be approved through the APS Education Office (email Mel: mlimson@the-aps.org).

c. **"Summer of Science" 1-pager Assignment:** Due no later than September 15th by email to Mail with the file name: "LASTNAME-SummerofScience" - Visit last week's RT News.15 update for details: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/pdfs/APS%202008%20RT%20News.15.pdf>

d. **Physiology Understanding (PhUn) Week 2008:** Consider inviting your Research Host into your classroom during PhUn Week 2008, the first week in November! See program information, resources, and downloadable presentations at: www.PhUnWeek.org. Event Planners, for your first dibs on the freebies, are also due no later than September 29 (optional activity for the fellowship)!

e. **APS will have a presence at the following Professional Development Conferences this fall:**

- **Oct. 9-12: SACNAS**, Salt Lake City, UT

Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science: <http://www.sacnas.org/>

- **Oct. 15-18: NABT**, Memphis, TN

National Association of Biology Teachers: <http://www.nabt2008.org/>

- **Nov. 5-8: ABRCMS**, Orlando, FL

Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students: <http://www.abrcms.org/>

Let Mel know if you are attending any of these opportunities!

f. **Quick links to the 2008 RT Webpages:**

Homepage link: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/index.shtml>

Mini-grant application forms: http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/mini_grants.shtml

2. DEADLINES (As always, feel free to submit any of the following earlier than the deadline!)

a. **Monday, August 25:** Expect your Mentor to return your full draft with comments and suggestions.

b. **Monday, September 8:**

- Full draft of Lesson/Activity emailed to Mel (mlimson@the-aps.org). This draft should incorporate your Mentor's suggestions.

- Mini-Grant Application

c. **Monday, September 15: "Summer of Science" 1-pager**

d. **Monday, September 29: PhUn Week Event Planner** (*optional*)

3. RESOURCES

...for the Classroom

- **NEW** content from the Learn.Genetics website from the Genetic Science Learning Center at the University of Utah:

PCR (Polymerase Chain Reaction) Virtual Lab: <http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/units/biotech/pcr/>

Stop by the Biotechniques Virtual Laboratory and perform a procedure that produces billions of copies of a specific, targeted DNA sequence.

PTC: The Genetics of Bitter Taste: <http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/units/basics/ptc/>

PTC papers have been part of the science classroom for decades. Learn about the history of its discovery, the genetics of bitter taste receptors, and the implications they may have on our health.

Confused by the conflicting information about PTC safety? See A Word About PTC Safety:

<http://learn.genetics.utah.edu/units/basics/print-and-go/tree.cfm#ptc>

Coming Soon: Amazing Cells

We're hard at work putting the finishing touches on our new curriculum module on cells. You'll be hearing more about it soon (along with some other surprises). In the meantime, here's a one-minute sneak peek video on YouTube: Amazing Cells: <http://www.youtube.com/user/LearnGenetics>

4. OPPORTUNITIES

- **NEW! Excellence in Teaching Technology**, Deadline: Dec. 1

<http://www.iteaconnect.org/Awards/granthearlihy.htm>

The Foundation for Technology Education in cooperation with Pitsco/Hearlihy & Company proudly announces the \$2,000 Pitsco/Hearlihy/FTE Grant in honor of Tom and Mary Hearlihy. The grant is for a technology teacher at any grade level (K-12). Its purpose is to recognize and encourage the integration of a quality technology education program within the school curriculum. Criteria include: (1) evidence of an effective quality technology education program, (2) documented success in the integration of technology education with other academic subjects, and (3) plans for professional development via the anticipated grant.

- **NEW! Lowe's Toolbox for Education K-12 Grant Program Opens Fall 2008 Cycle**

<http://www.lowes.com/lowes/lkn?action=frameSet&url=apps.bridgetree.com/funding/default.asp>

Dedicated to supporting parent-teacher groups at schools across the United States. The grant program gives preference for funding requests that have a permanent impact such as facility enhancement (both indoor and outdoor) as well as landscaping/clean-up projects. Projects that encourage parent involvement and build stronger community spirit are encouraged. Up to \$5,000 per school is available. In order to apply, the requested grant amount must be between \$2,000 and \$5,000. Lowe's will donate \$5 million to schools and school parent teacher groups at more than 1,000 different schools during the school year.

- **2008 Kids in Need Teacher Grants**, Deadline: Sept. 30

<http://www.kidsinneed.net/grants/guidelines.php>

Provides funds for classroom teachers who have innovative, meritorious ideas.

- **Toshiba America Foundation K-6 Science and Math Education**, Deadline: Oct. 1

<http://www.toshiba.com/tafpub/jsp/home/default.jsp>

The mission of Toshiba America Foundation is to promote quality science and mathematics education in U.S. schools. Grants are made for programs and activities that improve teaching and learning in science

and mathematics. The foundation focuses its grant making on inquiry-based projects designed by individual teachers, and small teams of teachers, for use in their own classrooms.

- **2009 Best Buy Teach Awards**, Deadline: Oct. 12

<https://bestbuyteach.scholarshipamerica.org/> and
http://www.bestbuyinc.com/community_relations/teach_awards.htm

Awards the innovative use of technology in K-12 classrooms.

- **NSTA Technology Awards**, Deadline: Nov. 30

<http://www.vernier.com/grants/nsta.html>

The Vernier/NSTA Technology Awards promote the innovative use of data-collection technology using a computer, graphing calculator, or other handheld in the science classroom. Apply for one of seven \$3,000 awards. Each award will consist of \$1,000 in cash for the teacher, \$1,000 in Vernier Products, and up to \$1,000 toward expenses to attend the 2009 NSTA National Convention.

5. LISTSERV INFORMATION

- We hope you will use the 2008 RT listserv to share resources and ideas and to ask questions of your fellow RTs. Please take a minute to review the information about how this listserv works at the 2008 RT website: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/listserv.shtml>. Also listed on this page are your fellow RTs' email addresses, as well as each of these APS RT News in pdf form.

As always, feel free to directly contact Mel (mlimson@the-aps.org) in the APS Education Office with questions, suggestions or concerns.