

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 22 – October 3, 2008
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1. DEADLINES

- **Wednesday, November 5:** *Optional: EB 2009 Abstract submission deadline. Details below!*
- **Monday, November 24:** WISE Assignment #4: Field Testing/Peer Review Results
- **Monday, December 1:** Final version of Lesson/Activity
- **Wednesday, December 31:** WISE Assignment #5: Readings and Reflection; Spend Mini-Grant

2. RT PROGRAM NEWS

a. READ NOW: Experimental Biology (EB) 2009 Abstract Submissions: As you reflect on your research experience this autumn, you should discuss with your Research Host whether you have enough data to write an abstract for the EB Meeting in April 2009, or if you will be included on another lab member's poster. Do not submit an abstract on your own! You must discuss and work with your Research Host. This is optional for the fellowship, but highly recommended. The abstract submission date via the EB meeting site is due by November 5: <http://www.eb2009.org/AbstractSubmission.htm>

At this point, be sure that your Research Host is aware that s/he will need to pay the abstract fee and for preparing the final poster with you. The APS does NOT reimburse for these. Be sure to have your Research Host read the abstract and approve it before you submit it together. Allow time to do several revisions before the submission deadline. Check out the APS career web for hints on writing research abstracts: <http://www.the-aps.org/careers/careers1/Undergrad/uabstract.htm>

You will be notified by March of your abstract acceptance and presentation schedule during EB 2009. As you are getting ready for the meeting, talk to your research host about who will prepare and print the poster. Again, the APS does NOT reimburse for producing posters. Be sure to check out the APS career web for hints on preparing research posters: <http://www.the-aps.org/careers/careers1/Undergrad/uposter.htm>

Please wait until the APS Education Office instructs and authorizes you to proceed with making your arrangements for EB 2009. This will occur in December after you submit the final version of your lab activity lesson no later than Monday, December 1st. Also, please DO NOT register for the conference! The APS Education Office takes care of the registration process for RTs. We will also provide you with all the pertinent details for attending the conference in due time.

b. PhUn Week 2008! Special kudos to: Karen, Monica, Chandra, Jen D., and our Outreach Fellows, Keisa and TanYa for participating in PhUn Week in November! To date, they are 6 out of the 38 sites across the nation (and Canada!) who are hosting events that will reach out to over a record 5000 students spanning across all grade levels! **LAST CALL: Any other fellow RTs still wanting to participate in PhUn Week?** Let Mel know as soon as possible, and submit a PhUn Week Event Planner, downloadable from: <http://www.phunweek.org/pages/phun05a.shtml>

c. Mini-Grant Awards: If you applied and received an award, congrats! Follow those instructions carefully, and please spend it on the items you had requested by December 31st. Use your expertise in writing grants and continue to apply for other types of funding throughout the year. See the "Opportunities" section of this weekly listserv for some upcoming deadlines, and, as always, share what opportunities (teacher and student) come across your way.

d. Quick links to the 2008 RT Webpages:

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

Assignments: <http://www.the-aps.org/education/2008rts/assignment.shtml>

3. RESOURCES

...On Learning Styles (way cool...)

- The Neuroscience for Kids "Site of the Month" for October is "DualTask.org" at:

<http://dualtask.org/> Do you work on your homework as you watch TV, listen to your iPod, and eat a snack. You may think this "multitasking" is easy, but you would be mistaken. Effective multitasking is difficult and the DualTask.org website will prove it. The website has several online activities that will demonstrate the problems with multitasking. For example, the "Visible Bottleneck I" activity requires that you pay attention to both sounds and letters at the same time. Think it is easy? Try it yourself! Most of the demonstrations require a JAVA-enabled browser.

...On Science Education News

- STEM Report Calls for Refocus in Education

http://www.thejournal.com/articles/23328_1

From THE Journal - A new report issued this week by the State Educational Technology Directors Association (SETDA) is calling for sweeping changes to bolster STEM education in the United States. Citing an impending shortfall in scientists, engineers, and mathematicians in this country, the report highlights the need to expose children to STEM early and to integrate these subjects throughout the curriculum, beginning as early as kindergarten. Several recommendations for improving STEM education:

- Obtaining "societal support" for STEM education;
- Exposing students to STEM careers;
- Providing ongoing STEM professional development;
- Providing STEM pre-service teacher training;
- Improving policies to recruit and retain STEM teachers; and
- Early exposure to STEM and integration of STEM subjects throughout the curriculum in every school, not just magnet or specialty schools. The report directly from the SETDA, *STEM Education: Achievement and Innovation*: <http://www.setda.org/web/guest/class2020actionplan>

- A Nation at Risk: 25 Years Later

<http://www.edweek.org/ew/collections/nation-at-risk-25-years/index.html>

Education Week's special coverage marks the 25th anniversary of the landmark report *A Nation at Risk*, which urged schools to add more learning time to children's lives. Read about initiatives under way to lengthen the school day or year, and about the latest research on the effects of extra time on learning.

View an interactive timeline, which follows progress in American education since 1983:

http://www.edweek.org/ew/section/infographics/34risk_timeline.html

...On Science and Literacy

- Hands-on science used to expand children's English skills (*article from Education Week*)

http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2008/10/01/06science_ep.h28.html?tmp=470058398

From ASCD SmartBrief: Teaching science can be challenging for many elementary teachers, who often aren't required to take many college science classes, and that's intensified when their students speak only

limited English. A professional-development program being used in Miami-Dade trains teachers to build students' scientific knowledge while strengthening their English skills.

...On October

- Month of the Young Adolescent

<http://www.nmsa.org/moya/>

An annual international collaborative effort of education, health, and youth-oriented organizations. Initiated by National Middle School Association (NMSA), Month of the Young Adolescent brings together a wide range of organizations to focus on the needs of this important age range, ages 10 to 15.

4. OPPORTUNITIES

- NEW! Earthwatch Student and Educator Fellowships for 2008-2009

<http://www.earthwatch.org/education>

Earthwatch fellowships allow teachers and students to get out of the classroom and head into the field. Fellows learn about cutting edge research and conservation efforts, develop professional skills, and make a difference for our shared environment. Earthwatch fellowships bring the world alive like never before!

- NEW! The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, Deadline: October 31

- <http://www.prudential.com/spirit>

Honors young people in middle level and high school grades for outstanding volunteer service to their communities.

- Technology in Motion 2: Community of the Future Contest, Deadline: October 15

<http://www.techinmotioncontest.com/>

Presented by Sony Creative Software with the support of the International Society for Technology and Education (ISTE), the Technology in Motion project is a complete educational program created for teachers to use in multimedia courses as a structured curriculum. The contest is designed to engage students in professional video and audio production. The theme for the contest is "Community of the Future." We want students to share their vision of how technology will shape their community in the future. For example, what might their community be like in the year 2050? How will people shop, travel, and communicate? Students are encouraged to interact with their local city council, mayor, city employees, community centers, and other groups to create their film.

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.