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# Students Experience Once-in-a-Lifetime STEM Event

Iowa Public Television had a successful NASA downlink with Iowa's astronaut, Dr. Peggy Whitson. Nearly 250 fourth-grade students from Mt Ayr and Oskaloosa Community schools joined together for a special morning full of learning and exploring.

Students listened to an opening by Tomas Gonzalez-Torres, a former flight director for NASA, and heard stories and experiences from his 20 years of special missions and projects. Twenty pre-selected students participated in the highlight of our day, a chance to ask questions to Dr. Whitson, live from the International Space Station. Dr. Whitson talked about her experiences around space travel and experiments.

Partners of this event provided hands on sessions for students as they learned about parachutes, robots, combustion, liquid nitrogen and other chemistry



concepts. Students visited booths and enjoyed an interactive chemistry show.

IPTV would like to thank our partners and volunteers for helping with this memorable experience. A special thank you to South Central STEM Hub, Governor's STEM Advisory Council, First Robotics, Synthesis Robotics, Grout Museum, Tomas-Gonzalez-Torres, Mt Ayr Community Schools, Oskaloosa Community Schools and Southwest STEM Hub. To watch our downlink and find additional media, please visit <https://goo.gl/XZwtFN>.

## IPTV Local

# Ready to Learn Funding Comes to Iowa

IPTV will receive a grant to give young children from low-income families a strong foundation in early science and literacy by identifying and working with community partners. Station partnerships will include schools, public libraries, science centers, health clinics and housing agencies that serve high-need populations. IPTV will work with community partners Storm Lake Elementary School, Storm Lake Elementary Tornado Academy and the Storm Lake Public Library. Read more at [Iptv.org/education](http://Iptv.org/education).

# STEM Resources

## Multimedia



## SciGirls Profiles: Women in Science

These twelve women are the innovators, problem-solvers and dreamers who live right next door. They're passionate about their work, hobbies, families and helping to make the world a better place. They share their strategies for overcoming challenges and finding success and joy in jobs where women are underrepresented and inspire girls to pursue all kinds of interests and career paths. This video collection was produced as part of **SciGirls** Strategies: Gender Equitable Teaching Practices in Career and Technical Education Pathways for High School Girls, a National Science Foundation-funded initiative designed to help high school educators to recruit and retain more girls from diverse backgrounds in STEM classes and career pathways. Learn more at [Iptv.org/education](http://Iptv.org/education).

## Programming

### *The Mine Wars*

Go inside the coal miners' bitter battle for dignity at the dawn of the 20th century with **The Mine Wars**. The struggle over the material that fueled America led to the largest armed insurrection since the Civil War and turned parts of West Virginia into a war zone. View online, find teaching resources, bonus features and more at <https://goo.gl/tZLK3J>. **The Mine Wars** collection can be found online at [pbslearningmedia.org](http://pbslearningmedia.org).



## IPTV Local

### Take a Look at IPTV's New Iowa Pathways Website

IPTV's award-winning **Iowa Pathways** website has become a favorite classroom resource for teaching and learning Iowa history. The site helps students choose topics, build research questions and make connections between Iowa and U.S. history. The website has a new look and is now compatible with mobile devices. Stay tuned for additional content and classroom resources in the coming year. Take a look. [Iptv.org/iowapathways](http://Iptv.org/iowapathways).



## Programming

### NOVA: The Nuclear Option

Years after the earthquake and tsunami that triggered the unprecedented trio of meltdowns at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear power plant, scientists and engineers are struggling to control an ongoing crisis. **NOVA** investigates how a new generation of nuclear engineers is looking for ways to reinvent nuclear technology, all while the most recent disaster is still being managed. What are the lessons learned from Fukushima? And with all of the inherent changes of nuclear how might it be possible to build a safe nuclear future? Learn more at <https://goo.gl/Qm8Kq4>.



## PBS LearningMedia Collections

**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. IPTV 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@iptv.org](mailto:angela.hiatt@iptv.org).

Grades K-5

### AIM Buddy Project

The **AIM Buddy Project** is a supplemental social and emotional learning curriculum that uses interactive media, the characters from the PBS series **Arthur**, and cross-grade buddy pairs. Students partner with a buddy to work on interactive comics and games that focus on five important topics—empathy, honesty, forgiveness, generosity and learning from others. As buddy pairs engage with the **Arthur** characters they talk about and reflect on things like feelings, perspective-taking and problem-solving. Learn more at <https://goo.gl/meIz7g>.

Grades K-12

### Learning French

Discover a wealth of fun educational French videos created with the learners in mind. Whether they are totally new to French or growing up in a French immersion program, the **Learning French** collection helps parents, students and educators make bilingual education easy. This growing collection of instructional resources is designed for beginner and intermediate learners of French as a second language, French as a foreign language and their teachers. Learn more at <https://goo.gl/ZAgkOF>.

Grades 11-13+

### PBS Space Time

These award-winning shows, originally designed for an immersive planetarium dome at the California Academy of Sciences, have been reformatted as stand-alone films for your science classroom. Closed captions are available in more than a dozen languages, including Spanish and Chinese! Learn more at <https://goo.gl/3TyQLW>.

## Classroom Strategies

### Technology



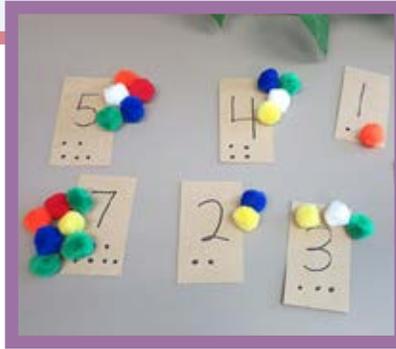
## Still Time to Apply to Be PBS Digital Innovator

Calling all classroom changemakers! Are you a PBS Digital Innovator? PBS Digital Innovators set the bar for thoughtful tech integration in the classroom. They are K-12 educators who are not defined by the gadgets they use, but by the unique way they approach education. Their bold and enthusiastic perspective sets them apart as changemakers, and unlocks new worlds for their students. These educators are born leaders—they inspire both their students and their peers. Most importantly, they make learning fun and accessible to all students.

Apply here: [www.pbs.org/education/digitalinnovators](http://www.pbs.org/education/digitalinnovators) by Feb. 13.

## Early Childhood

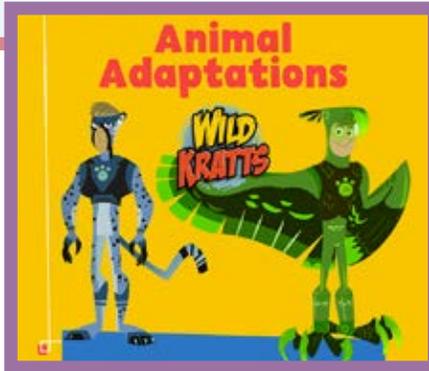
# Virtual Pre-K Resources Provide Guided Activities for Early Learners



Virtual Pre-K is a hands-on learning resource developed for preschool teachers, parents and their children. Created by an award-winning team of Chicago Public School teachers, Virtual Pre-K demonstrates concepts and skills taught in a pre-school classroom and offers ways for parents to extend them at home and in the community. This resource shows how with the right support, learning for a young child can happen virtually anywhere. Learn more at <https://goo.gl/PcTFtA>.

## Elementary

# Animal Adaptations App



Animal Adaptations is a new science module for first-grade teachers that can be used from the PBS Lab website. Lessons using online games and video clips from *Wild Kratts* help children build concept knowledge about animal adaptations and how these adaptations help animals meet their needs and survive. PBS KIDS *ScratchJr* is used to report and share what they learned. Learn more at <https://goo.gl/lr6XQ7> (Large pdf download).

## Secondary

# Student Reporting Labs



*PBS NewsHour's* Student Reporting Labs connect students with a network of public broadcasting mentors, an innovative journalism curriculum and an online collaborative space to develop digital media, critical thinking and communication skills while producing original news reports. These journalism and news literacy curriculum resources help students produce high-quality, relevant stories that connect communities to national and global current events. Make sure to browse the support materials designed for teachers and students. Learn more at <https://goo.gl/wrMZBA>.

## Upcoming with IPTV

### Visit Us Here



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 2**  
**Sioux Center Literacy Night**  
Sioux Center, IA

**February 2**  
**Newton Literacy Night**  
Newton, IA

**February 11**  
**Sci Girls**  
Des Moines, IA

**February 16**  
**STEM Day at the Capitol**  
Des Moines, IA

**March 9**  
**Math and Literacy Night**  
Denison, IA

Find ongoing information on [Iptv.org/education](http://Iptv.org/education)

