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Week of February 8, 2010

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Winter Olympics Teaching Resources

NBC Learn, the educational arm of NBC News, has teamed up with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to produce [Science of the Olympic Winter Games](#), a 16-part video series that explores the science behind individual Olympic events, including Downhill and Aerial Skiing, Speed Skating and Figure Skating, Curling and Hockey, and Ski Jumping, Bobsledding and Snowboarding.

This project between the NSF and NBC Learn uses the global spotlight of the Olympics to make science more accessible and more interesting to students by showing how science helps athletes fulfill the Olympic motto: *Citius, Altius, Fortius*—Swifter, Higher, Stronger.

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- [Visit the "Science of the Olympic Winter Games" website](#)
- [Download Olympics lesson plans](#)
- [Read the *District Administration* article "Science from Vancouver to the Classroom" by KeriLee Horan](#)

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Wanted: Aspiring Teachers to Join the National Dialogue about Teacher Education

Project Tomorrow is seeking aspiring teachers who are currently pursuing a degree or credential to participate in its nationally recognized Speak Up project. The Speak Up for Aspiring Teacher survey is

the newest in Project Tomorrow's suite of Speak Up surveys and provides aspiring teachers with the opportunity to contribute to the national dialogue about teacher preparation. This online survey asks participants questions about how they use technology in and out of the classroom for personal and academic reasons, how they are learning to use technology to facilitate learning or for professional tasks, and their aspirations for your future classrooms.

The national findings will be released during a Congressional briefing in May 2010 and used to inform national, state, and local policymakers about key issues related to teacher preparation and training. The survey responses are 100 percent anonymous, so let us know what's important to you and your future teaching career.

Please visit the [Speak Up website](#) to take the survey. For additional information, please contact June Pai at june@tomorrow.org, 949/609-4660 ext. 12, or visit [Project Tomorrow's website](#). **The survey closes on February 19, 2010.**

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Nuturing Science in Students Using Outstanding Science Trade Books: A Short Course

Join the NSTA/CBC Outstanding Science Trade Book Committee in Philadelphia, on Friday, March 19, 2:00–5:00 pm, for this short course. Award-winning science trade book authors will share their inspiration for integrating science with literacy, and interact with participants in small-group settings. Put this session on your schedule. To register for the National Conference on Science Education, visit www.nsta.org/philadelphia. The advance deadline is right around the corner, so save the most by [registering](#) before **Feb. 12**.

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NASA/USA Today No Boundaries Competition

NASA and *USA Today* partnered to bring the No Boundaries science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) career curriculum and competition to middle and high school classrooms.

No Boundaries is a free, eight-week, cross-curricular project that introduces 7th to 12th grade students to NASA careers in STEM through a cooperative learning experience.

Students collaborate to gather web-based research on the variety of career options available with NASA. Students then develop a fun and creative way to present the opportunities to other students. Cash prizes will be awarded (up to \$2,000) in addition to a “VIP NASA experience.”

More information and all project resources are available at the [No Boundaries website](#).

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The Nation's Science Teachers Convene in Philadelphia

High school science teachers are invited to join thousands at [NSTA's Conference on Science Education](#), March 18–21, in Philadelphia this year. This learning experience will open your mind to new ideas and technologies, approaches for better classroom performance, and techniques and strategies that have proven excellence. Nationally known experts will offer inspiration and networking possibilities. Bring a friend and explore this historical city through conference field trips or on your own on a spring afternoon. Here are samples of workshops and presentations for high school teachers and passionate

science enthusiasts:

- **NASA Brings You Newton's Laws of Motion**
- **Redesigning the Laboratory Investigation: Integrating Inquiry into Chemistry**
- **More Than Just Crossing Circles: Overhauling Your Earthquake Location Exercise**
- **RAIN (Research Applications in Neurobiology)**
- **Nourishing the Planet in the 21st Century**
- **Science Department Overhaul**—Learn how to create common threads between biology, chemistry, and earth and environmental science using inquiry, the use of "power words," outside reading, and lab processing skills.
- **Smarter Science in High School: Literacy and Numeracy in Action**
- **Teaching the Unifying Theory of Biology—Evolution**
- **Easy Hands-On Labs and Projects for Physics and Physical Science You Can Use Right Now**
- **Using Ongoing Eruptions to Study the Basic Characteristics of Volcanoes**
- **PDI (ticketed, full day program)-Designing Effective Science Instruction: Developing Student Understanding Through Classroom Inquiry, Discourse, and Sensemaking**
- Featured speaker Greg Marshall is a scientist, inventor, and filmmaker who has dedicated the last 25 years to studying, exploring, and documenting life in the oceans, presenting on **Crittercam: Science Exploration from the Wild**

Explore many other opportunities by visiting www.nsta.org/philadelphia to register for the conference.

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From the NSTA Calendar: *Marine Mammals of the Arctic*

While many humans have grown tired of winter weather, the Arctic's polar bears, seals, and beluga whales thrive in cold temperatures and chilly waters. In this series of 30-minute live interactive webcasts from Immersion Learning, you and your students will see how scientists, native communities, and animal trainers are working to understand and protect Arctic animals. Ask questions of the scientists, and participate in polls on topics like polar bear research, seal rescue, and rehabilitation efforts; satellite tagging and population surveys of ringed seals; and beluga research. Webcasting will take place February 10–12; consult the [website](#) for specific times.

(Have you bookmarked the [NSTA Calendar](#)? You really should!)

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And Don't Forget...

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Visit the [NSTA Science Store](#) for an outstanding array of bestselling books and teaching resources. Receive 30% off the price of the February featured book, [A Head Start on Science](#).

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Take a look at these groups offering [courses](#) for science educators!

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National Science Teachers Association
1840 Wilson Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22201-3000
Phone: 703-243-7100

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