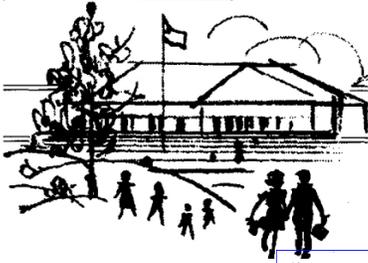




Graham County School News



Graham County School Superintendent

Donna M. McGaughey

Volume 11, Issue 12

"Providing Quality Service and Support to Graham County Schools"

Please visit our website
www.graham.az.gov

Superintendent's Message

Yes, it really is December. Hopefully all of you were able to enjoy a peaceful Thanksgiving holiday with your loved ones. Our community crafters, vendors and businesses were out in force providing wonderful opportunities to shop local and support some great causes.

The food drive challenge sponsored by McMurray Communications and several other businesses was another huge success! Congratulations students! You always come through.

"Science Happens Here." The Gila Valley is full of STEM: Science, Technology, Engineering and Math, but it's not always obvious to our students. An exciting program will be kicking off very soon. Families are encouraged to look for the *Science Happens Here* stickers in store windows. Visit that business, collect a card, and enjoy learning about the science that happens in that business. More information is coming!

Have a wonderful month full music, sports and other activities supporting our students. Merry Christmas!

Contact us:

Donna McGaughey
Superintendent
921 Thatcher Blvd.
Safford, AZ 85546
928-428-2880
Fax: 928-428-8824

dmcgaughey@graham.az.gov

Jill Davis, Chief Deputy
jdavis@graham.az.gov

Polly Merriman, Deputy
pmerriman@graham.az.gov

Online Registration:
www.graham.az.gov

Click on:

School Superintendent,
Workshops

Dates to Remember:

Dec. 5—Light Parade

Dec. 7—Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day

Dec. 9—ASBA Pre-conference

Dec. 10-11—ASBA Annual Conference

Dec. 11—Rodel Math 20/20 training (4th grade teachers)

Dec. 12—Rodel Math 20/20 training (3rd grade teachers)

Dec. 25—Christmas Day

Jan. 1—New Year's Day

Jan. 14—Rodel Math 20/20 Administrator Leadership

Jan. 15—Rodel (3rd grade)

Jan. 18—Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Jan. 19—G/G Early Childhood Coalition

Jan. 22—Rodel (4th grade)

Jan. 25—G/G Supts. meeting

Jan. 27—Economics training for K-5

Feb. 10—Graham Co. Spelling Bee

Feb. 18—Rodel Leadership meeting

Feb. 19—Rodel (3rd grade)

Feb. 26—Rodel (4th grade)



Like All Skills, Gratitude is Best Learned Young

Submitted by Paulette LeBlanc

First Things First Community Outreach Coordinator

As the holiday season approaches, it is the perfect time to teach young children a very important life lesson: **gratitude**.

Barbara Lewis, author of *What Do You Stand For? For Kids*, teaches us children as young as 2 are aware that other people do things for them or give them things that make them happy. As children grow, this awareness turns into an understanding of higher concepts, such as kindness and caring. As they mature further, they will learn to empathize and appreciate the feelings of others – crucial skills for all adults.

So, how do we teach our children to be grateful? Here are some tips from First Things First, gathered from child development experts and websites:

Teach children to say thank you to everyone who does something for them – their server at a restaurant, the older sibling who helps them pick up toys, or the friend who buys them a birthday gift.

Talk about the things you are grateful for. This can be everything from a blessing before dinner to reciting evening prayers.

Involve kids in chores at home. Nothing makes children appreciate the time and effort that goes in to different activities like doing the work themselves.

Support a charitable event or organization. Whether you are donating old clothes or toys, participating in a food drive, or even baking cookies for a new neighbor, talk to children about what those actions means to those who receive the kindness.

Say no. It's hard to teach gratitude to someone who gets everything they want.

Be consistent. Like all skills, gratitude is not learned in one lesson.

The first five years offer the opportunity for children to develop the skills they need to be successful students and successful adults. Research shows that thankful people are usually more optimistic and are less depressed and stressed. So, when we teach our children to appreciate what they have – and what others do for them – we are helping them to become happier, healthier adults.

First Things First partners with parents and communities to help all kids start school healthy and ready to succeed. To find out more about what First Things First does for our community, visit azftf.gov.

Information submitted by Laura Rogers,
Health Programs Coordinator, Health in
Arizona Policy Initiative (HAPI)
Graham County Health Department
928-792-5368



Free Special Education Training

Working with students with challenging behaviors

Wednesday, January 13, 2016

9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Viscount Suite Hotel

4855 E. Broadway

Tucson, Arizona

Do you have questions about Arizona's new Restraint & Seclusion Law?

Do you have questions about working with students with challenging behaviors?

Do you have questions about discipline, suspension and expulsion of student's disabilities?

Do you have questions about Positive Behavior Intervention and Supports (PBIS)?

Well, let's get some answers!

The Arizona Center for Disability Law in collaboration with Daniel Davidson, PhD, BCBA-D with the Institute for Human Development at Northern Arizona University will be conducting a training for parents and interested individuals to answer these questions and more. This **free** training will provide information on the recently passed state law limiting the use of restraint or seclusion in Arizona schools. The training will also provide an overview of the use of Positive Behavior Supports and Interventions, as well as discussing issues relating to discipline, suspension and expulsion of students with disabilities. In addition, the training will provide parents with practical advice and strategies for developing self-advocacy skills.

Register online for this Tucson training at Eventbrite: <http://sped11316tucson.eventbrite.com>

For more information or to register for the training, please contact the Center, at (520) 327-9547 ex. 326 (voice) or 1-800-922-1447 (toll free), or e-mail cgutierrez@azdisabilitylaw.org. Please notify the Center as soon as possible if you need any special accommodations or are unable to keep your reservation. The training is subject to cancellation if minimal registration is not achieved; you will be contacted as soon as possible if the training is cancelled. The training is limited to 75 participants.

Come early to browse our vendor exhibits!

For more information about the Center, please visit our website at www.azdisabilitylaw.org

Funding for this training is provided by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, Administration on Developmental Disabilities.

Information submitted by Laura Rogers,
Health Programs Coordinator, Health in Arizona Policy Initiative (HAPI)
Graham County Health Department 928-792-5368

I would like to thank you for all that you do for the children in Graham County. I am introducing you to the new website for parents, youth, caregivers, grandparents, teachers, administrators, counselors, healthcare professionals and everyone that comes in contact with "Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs". This website is very comprehensive and contains resources for everyone to access. After reviewing the site, there is a questionnaire at the bottom that you can make comments on. We will leave this questionnaire up for a few weeks. Please feel free to comment.

The Arizona Department of Health Services uses the Maternal and Child Health Bureau's definition of Children with Special Health Care Needs as:

"Children up to age 21, who have or are at risk for a chronic physical, developmental, behavioral, emotional or potentially disabling condition and who also require health and related services of a type or amount beyond that required by children generally."

Please access the website through our Graham County Website - <http://www.graham.az.gov/health-department/children-and-youth-with-special-health-care-needs/>

This website was created and made available from funding provided by State of Arizona Department of Health Services, Healthy People, Healthy Communities, Health in Arizona Policy Initiative.

From Deborah Miller, Governor's Youth Commission

Youth-led Statewide Challenge!

Now – January 23, 2016

Governor's Youth Commission calls Arizona's youth to service with a friendly competition between all fifteen counties.

Teens - implement service projects in your communities and log them on the new GYC website at: www.BeSeenBeHeard.az.gov.

The county with the most projects will receive special recognition from the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family.

Join us in mobilizing Arizona's youth and see which county shines the brightest!

www.BeSeenBeHeard.az.gov

From the Graham County Health Department:

LOTS OF FLU ALREADY REPORTED IN GRAHAM COUNTY THIS YEAR

The seasonal flu (influenza) can lead to a number of complications that include:

* Pneumonia * Bronchitis * Sinus infections * Ear infections

Many Americans and people worldwide die each year from pneumonia and other health problems caused by the seasonal flu. The flu is spread by a virus which usually spreads from person to person through coughs and sneezes. Even if you are not in a high-risk group, the flu can make you feel ill for several days. That is why the hygiene tips covered below are important for staying healthy.

Hygiene Tips: Wash your hands often!

- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- After using the bathroom or changing diapers
- Before and after preparing and eating food
- After touching an animal or its waste
- After handling garbage or doing yard work
- When caring for someone who is hurt or sick
- Whenever they are visibly dirty
- Keep an alcohol-based hand sanitizer nearby
- Use it when water isn't available or hands aren't visibly dirty.
- Make sure it contains at least 60% alcohol



Protect others from your coughs and sneezes by:

- Moving away from others ○ Try to be at least 6 feet away
- Cover your mouth and nose by using a tissue or your upper sleeve
- Do not use your hands ○ Wash your hands afterward

Keep surfaces clean:

- Pay special attention to things that people touch a lot, such as door handles, kitchen and bathroom surfaces, desks, phones, keyboards and tables.
- Germs can live for hours in or on these places Use a disinfectant

Don't share personal items:

- Cups, straws and eating utensils Toothbrushes Towels, washcloths and handkerchiefs Lipstick or lip balm
- Properly clean or wash personal items before using them

Be sure to get a flu vaccination every year for you and your family:

People need a new annual flu vaccine because flu viruses often change from year to year. Flu vaccines are created to try to match predicted annual changes in flu viruses. Flu vaccination is recommended for everyone 6 months of age and older.



Art Supply Grants



K-12 Teachers in SE Arizona*

Could you use more art supplies for your students??

Friends of Western Art offers up to \$400 of art supply funds for programs that teach western art. Today's western art embraces a variety of subject matter. In addition to Native Americans and cowboys, subjects include southwest architecture, gardens, landscapes, and wildlife; a detailed list is at www.FriendsofWesternArt.org on the *Education* page.

Successful applicants will receive a supply account at Sarnoff Artist Supplies in Tucson (can be purchased on-line and shipped to outlying areas). Supplies are for Western art projects only.

Applying is Simple! Complete the application or send us:

1. Your name, school, county, grade level(s) you teach, phone number, and email address.
2. A paragraph explaining how you incorporate Western art into your curriculum. This may include a brief lesson description, names of videos or western art guest speakers, etc.
3. Description of supplies you need and the time period of project(s).
4. Amount requesting (maximum amounts per year: High School \$400, Middle School \$300, and Elementary \$200).

Grant Reporting: Share with us! Email 3 to 5 photos showing how the materials were used.

Send Applications to: FWAgrant@gmail.com

Apply between August 31st and January 31st.

Share this with other art teachers—it is non-competitive.

Funds awarded on a first come – first served basis.

Successful applicants notified within 4 to 6 weeks after applying.

*SE Arizona includes the entire counties of Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz plus areas south of the Gila River in Pinal, Graham, and Greenlee counties.

The Friends of Western Art is a non-profit organization. Its mission is to promote the awareness of art of American West in Tucson and southeastern Arizona through underwriting and educational programs.

American West in Tucson and southeastern Arizona through underwriting and educational programs.



Art Supply Grant Application

Name _____ Date: _____ School _____

Your Grade Level(s) _____ District: _____ County: _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Number of students who will work on the project _____

Briefly describe the lesson you will use to incorporate Western Art into your curriculum.

List the supplies you will purchase for the lesson.

Amount requested: _____ Time frame of the project _____

Maximum amounts per year: High School \$400, Middle School \$300, and Elementary \$200

Grant Reporting: Share with us! Email 3 to 5 photos showing student artwork.

Successful applicants will be notified within 4 to 6 weeks after applying and receive a supply account at Sarnoff Artist Supplies, 2504 N. Campbell Ave. in Tucson. Supplies are for western art projects only.

Send applications to: FWAgrant@gmail.com

*To be eligible, you must teach in SE Arizona which includes the entire counties of Pima, Cochise and Santa Cruz plus areas south of the Gila River in Pinal, Graham and Greenlee counties.

***Apply between August 31st and January 31st.** You may apply more than once during the school year until you reach the maximum amounts based on grade level.

***Maximum amounts per year: HS \$400, Middle School \$300, Elementary \$200**

www.FriendsofWesternArt.org

Dear Educators,

The EAC Discovery Park Campus is available to help you have a fun, safe, and educational Science related field trip, and best of all ...there's no cost! Field trips are available on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year for all grade levels. Please call for more information or to schedule an awesome field trip for your students!



Hurry! Field trip dates are filling fast!!



EAC Discovery Park staff offer exciting field trip opportunities with lessons available in two subjects areas;

Native Habitat (plants and animals), and Astronomy

The Discovery Park staff instructors and our wonderful community volunteers who share their love of nature and astronomy are here to help you.

EAC Discovery Park offers a variety of educational opportunities not found anywhere else!

*Graham County Historical Society's collection of early Gila Valley artifacts.
Amazing interactive Electromagnetic spectrum display.*

*Our friends Galileo, Isaac Newton, and Albert Einstein show us the
"History of Astronomy".*

*The World's largest permanently mounted "Camera Obscura" -
light, refraction, and perspective.*

The DPC research-grade 20" Tinsley Telescope in the "Gov Aker" Observatory.

*"Nature's Hideaway" Pond- see native animals in a natural
Sonoran Desert Riparian Habitat.*

The endangered Chiricahua Leopard Frog Ranarium Breeding program.

"Mill's Collection" of Pre-Historic Native American Pottery

And the exciting "Polaris" shuttle ride simulator for facts about our Solar System!

**Contact Jackie at the EAC Discovery Park Campus
for more information or to schedule a field trip:
(928)428-6260 or e-mail: jackie.madsen@eac.edu**

EASI Camps and Events Calendar:

December 5, 2015 - "G.O. Stem" (Girls Only – STEM) @ DPC

- Please contact me as soon as possible if you have a lesson idea for this "Girls Only" STEM Day-Camp. Requesting female instructors.

•

March 10-12, 2016 Eastern Arizona Regional Science Fair

I'll send out information on how to make a Science Fair at your school fun and painless! Look for it about the first of the year.

May 31-June 2, 2016 – Tonto Creek STEM Camp

June 6-10, 2016 – Southeastern AZ Teachers Academy (SEATA)

June 13-15, 2016 – EASI Summer Science Camp – Grade 6-9

June 20-24, 2016 – EASI High School Forensics Camp – Grade 8-12

Paul R. Anger

Director, EAC Discovery Park Campus

Chair, Eastern Arizona Science Initiative

Region V Rep., Arizona Science Teachers Association

1651 W. Discovery Park Blvd. Safford, AZ 85546

paul.anger@eac.edu (928) 428-6260

SAFFORD CITY
GRAHAM COUNTY
LIBRARY



808 S. Seventh Ave.
Safford, AZ 85546
(928) 432-4165

The Safford City / Graham County Library offers services beyond checking out books. The Graham County School Superintendent has partnered with the library to offer homework help for students from kindergarten through college. **It's free to Graham County students.** Visit the library's homepage at www.cityofsafford.us and click on the *Homework Help* icon. This will lead you to the icon for **Tutor.com**. "Check out" this free tool and get help on any subject.

Citizens looking for help with finding a job should take advantage of the services offered by Job Skills Instructor, Kevin Hansen. Mr. Hansen offers help in finding jobs and preparing resumes. Additionally, he will help coach job seekers as they practice their interview skills. This is a great service!

The library has partnered with *First Things First* to enhance literacy skills in our youngest population. In addition to story time, parents can bring their children to the Brain Box sessions and other preschool activities scheduled throughout the year. The library has secured a grant from First Things First to fund the Imagination Library Book Club. Children ages birth through five can be signed up to receive a free, age-appropriate book in the mail each month. These are just a few of the wonderful things families can explore due to the partnerships formed by the library.

Visit the Safford City / Graham County Library in person or online!



The Safford City—Graham County Library has partnered with the Arizona State Library to bring a fabulous FREE database of eBooks to our students!

Visit www.saffordlibrary.org

On the left side of the screen, click on "TumbleBooks / eBooks for Kids

"Check out" the titles, which now include non-fiction!

The books are indexed by reading levels, grade, and lexile.

Take advantage of this valuable opportunity—it's free!

Visit the Gift Shop!

Safford City / Graham County Library

808 S. Seventh Ave.

Safford, AZ 85546 928-432-4165

Hours: Mon.—Thursday 10:00 a.m. —7:00 p.m. Closed Friday—Sunday



Speaking of wonderful resources...

You Can Take Free Online Courses with Universal Class

Interested in learning new crafts and hobbies? Looking to go from amateur to pro photography? Starting a business and would like to know more about entrepreneurship? The library has you covered! Go to the library's website at www.saffordlibrary.org and sign up to take free courses with Universal Class.

Universal Class offers a diverse catalog of lifelong learning courses online including:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Accounting, Career Training, Office Skills | Real Estate and Entrepreneurship. |
| Cooking, Crafts and Hobbies. | Fine Arts and Photography. |
| Performing Arts. | Parenting and Family. |
| Alternative Medicine, Self-Help. | Personal Care. |
| Computer Training. | Web Development. |
| Pet and Animal Care. | Home Gardening, Repair and DIY. |
| Psychology. | History. |
| Religious and Spiritual Studies. | Science. |
| General Education. | Special Education. |
| Homeschooling. | Teacher Resources. |
| Test Preparation. | Social Work. |
| Language Arts. | Terminology. |
| Math and Writing Skills. | Law, Legal and Criminal.and more! |

Go through each full course to earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) and certificates! Some courses even offer Video Mode for those wanting to simply audit courses. Remember to log in with your full library card number (ex: P41256) when first signing up.

LEARN LANGUAGES FOR FREE WITH MANGO LANGUAGES

Choose from over 70 languages to learn for FREE! Spanish, French, Chinese, Japanese, ESL (Inglés) and much more!! Easy to use and self-paced, with audio, video and vocabulary to help you learn at your own comfort. Register for your own free personal profile or click QUICK START below to get started right away! Remember to sign in with your library card number (ex: 41256) when you first register.

MANGO MONDAYS - EVERY MONDAY Beginning August 3rd

Sign up anytime during the month of August for Mango Languages on the library's website at www.saffordlibrary.org and be entered in a raffle to win fun door prizes every Monday! Be sure to either fill out a ticket at the front desk or message us on Facebook at fb.com/saffordlibrary so we can enter you in. Door prizes will be drawn every Monday at 4 PM.

Administration Launches Every Kid in a Park Pass

Fourth Graders Can Now Obtain Pass that Grants Free Access to Federal Lands and Waters Nationwide for Them and Their Family

WASHINGTON – As part of President Obama’s commitment to protect our nation’s unique outdoor spaces and ensure that every American has the opportunity to visit and enjoy them, the Obama Administration today formally launched the new Every Kid in a Park program.

Starting today, fourth graders nationwide can visit the new [Every Kid in a Park website](#) to obtain a pass that provides free access to students and their families to all federally managed lands and waters – including national parks, forests, wildlife refuges and marine sanctuaries. The pass is valid for the 2015-2016 school year and grants free entry for fourth graders and three accompanying adults (or an entire car for drive-in parks) at more than 2,000 federally-managed sites.

“Every Kid in a Park is a chance for fourth graders from every background to be outside and get to know the lands and waters that belong to them, whether it’s a national forest, a wildlife refuge, a marine sanctuary or a historic site in the center of a city,” said Christy Goldfuss, Managing Director at the White House Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). “By expanding their horizons and learning all the ways the outdoors can enrich their lives, this innovative program hopes to create greater awareness of the many benefits of our nation’s public lands and waters.”

Leading up to the [100th birthday of the National Park Service in 2016](#), President Obama announced the [Every Kid in a Park initiative](#) earlier this year as a call to action to get all children to experience America’s unparalleled outdoors, rich history and culture. Today, more than 80 percent of American families live in urban areas, and many lack easy access to safe outdoor spaces. At the same time, youth spend more hours than ever in front of screens instead of outside.

By introducing fourth graders to public lands in their backyards and beyond at an early age, Every Kid in a Park is part of a multi-pronged approach to inspire the next generation to discover all that our nation’s public lands and waters have to offer, including opportunities to be active, spend time with friends and family, and serve as living classrooms to build critical skills.

“America is blessed with the great outdoors, and through Every Kid in a Park, we’re inviting every fourth grader and their families to enjoy our nation’s unrivaled public lands and waters,” said Secretary Jewell. “We want to make sure that every American has the opportunity to develop a lifelong connection to our nation’s land, water and wildlife.”

Fourth graders can log onto the website at www.everykidinapark.gov and complete a fun educational activity in order to obtain and print their paper pass. Students may also trade in their paper pass for a more durable pass at participating federal sites nationwide.

Educators and community leaders can access educational activities, field trip options, and the ability to print passes for their classrooms. Parents visiting the new website can find additional links for more information on planning trips to nearby public lands.

As an integral component of this effort, the National Park Foundation (NPF) – the congressionally chartered foundation of the National Park Service – will award Every Kid in a Park transportation grants, focusing on removing barriers for youth from underserved communities to get to their parks, public lands and waters. For more information, visit www.nationalparks.org.

The Every Kid in a Park program is designed to continue each year with the then-current group of fourth graders. After 12 years, every school-age child in America will have had an opportunity to visit their public lands and waters for free, inspiring the next generation to be stewards of our nation’s shared natural and cultural heritage.

To further support getting youth outdoors, the [President’s 2016 Budget](#) includes a total increased investment of \$45 million for youth engagement programs throughout the Department of the Interior, with \$20 million specifically provided to the National Park Service for youth activities, including bringing one million fourth-grade children from low-income areas to national parks. This increase will also fund dedicated youth coordinators to help enrich children and family learning experiences at parks and online.

The Every Kid in a Park program is an Administration-wide effort administered in partnership with the Department of the Interior, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of Education, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The program is part of an overall strategy by the Obama Administration to engage young people from all ages and all backgrounds with the great outdoors. This includes the [21st Century Conservation Service Corps](#), a bold national effort to put thousands of young people and veterans to work protecting, restoring and enhancing America’s public lands and waters. In addition, First Lady Michelle Obama’s [Let’s Move! Outside initiative](#) is committed to getting millions of young people to play, learn, serve and work in America’s great outdoors.

For more information, please visit www.everykidinapark.gov, and follow the program on Twitter @everykidinapark, on [Facebook](#), on [Instagram](#) and [Youtube](#).

Free Distance Learning Programs Available from the Phoenix Zoo

Thanks to generous funding from APS Foundation we are able to offer free distance learning programs that broadcast into your classroom. **Phoenix Zoo Distance Learning** broadcasts include live animals, engaging and inquiry-based activities that are designed to complement classroom Academic Standards. The only technology you need to receive a program from us is internet access, a projector and computer, and speakers for sound. We also do have limited funds to help with renting technology, as needed. For more information visit on our programs visit <http://phoenixzoo.org/camps-programs/outreach/>. For questions regarding the scholarships or to book a program call our Reservations Department at 602.914.4333.

Free E-Rate Consultant Services

Milan Eaton is the new "State E-Rate Coordinator for Schools" in Arizona. His goal is for every school in the state to receive a fair share of E-Rate funds through the USAC (Universal Services Administration Company). During the month of January, he plans to visit every county in the state to offer assistance with the Schools/Districts in the area. The Federal Communications Commission has recently updated its E-rate program to focus on expanding Wi-Fi networks in schools, especially small, rural schools. Mr. Eaton invites all schools and districts to visit the State E-Rate Website and join the E-Rate mailing list. His website address is: <http://www.azed.gov/erate/2014/09/10/join-our-e-rate-email-list/>

Mr. Eaton can also be reached at: Arizona Department of Education Information Technology
602-542-3595 milan.eaton@azed.gov



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ONE ALTER-EGO AT A TIME

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TEACHERS CAN USE TOPICS IN ADDITION TO THEIR LESSONS, OR AS A STAND ALONE LESSON.



Mirror Neurons

Grades 6-12 | Video, Essay, Questions

Why do people cry at movies? What makes sports fans so emotional? The answer: *Mirror neurons*. Meet the scientists studying these brain cells and learn about their research into human behavior.

[Watch the Video](#)



Sidelined: Sports Concussions

Grades 6-12 | Video + Educator Guide

Each year, millions of people experience brain injuries known as concussions. Find out how neuroscientists are using digital-imaging to measure and map the damage to the brain.

[See the Resource](#)



JUST ANNOUNCED: PBS LearningMedia Launches New PBS Student App

K-12 students can now access learning resources from their favorite PBS programs on-the-go with the NEW PBS Student app!

[Get the Scoop](#)

Get Your Tech On

"Get Your Tech On" is back by popular demand! Enter the sweepstakes for a chance to win tech-themed prizes including: local PD trainings; a trip to Austin, TX to attend the TCEA 2016 Convention & Exposition; or Chromebooks and a document camera for your class.

<http://www.getyourtechon2015.com/>



Webinar: Tips for Transforming Your Classroom into a Personalized Learning Environment

What does "personalized learning" really mean and how do we shift the culture in our schools to ensure personalized instruction is meaningful and effective? Join PBS LearningMedia to unpack this popular topic and hear from the perspective of a high school teacher and former school administrator.

Thursday, December 3 | 7pm ET

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/712143055896853249>



Tip: Check Out the "Get Your Tech On" Resource Collection

Get the tools you need to navigate and succeed in the digital age of learning. To get started, we've compiled our favorite technology-themed resources designed to enhance your lesson plans and spark discussion in the classroom. Topics include: 21st century learning, careers in technology, adaptive technologies, and using video games to enhance learning. <http://www.getyourtechon2015.com/resources/gyto>



Tip: Did You Know PBS LearningMedia Offers FREE Training Videos?

Looking to use PBS LearningMedia in your school or classroom but not sure where to start? [Visit our Training page!](#) From a one hour "PBS LearningMedia 101" tutorial to short videos on how to use PBS LearningMedia's Teacher Tools, you'll discover new ideas to integrate media and technology more deeply into your lesson planning.

[View Training Page](#)



Attention parents, caregivers and kids of all ages! I have exciting news about new PBS KIDS programs coming to Arizona PBS.

We have brand new **PBS KIDS** series coming to our schedule starting Wednesday, Nov. 25 at 8 a.m. It's called NATURE CAT -- an animated series that follows Fred, a house cat who dreams of exploring the great outdoors. In each episode, once his family leaves for the day, Fred transforms into Nature Cat, an outdoor explorer extraordinaire. Nature Cat can't wait to get outside for a day of nature excursions and bravery, but there's one problem: He's still a house cat with no instincts for nature.

Like many of today's kids, Nature Cat is eager and enthusiastic about outside activities, but is at times intimidated by them. With the help of his animal friends, Nature Cat embarks on action-packed adventures that include exciting missions full of nature investigation, "aha" discovery moments and humor, all while inspiring children to go outside.

And more great news: Right before the debut of Nature Cat, PBS KIDS will premiere "WILD KRATTS: A Creature Christmas," a one-hour holiday special sending the Wild Kratts around the globe on a rescue mission. I can't think of a better way to kick off the holiday season with the family. I hope you'll have the chance to gather with your kids, watch and discuss the programs.

Stay tuned! Kelly McCullough General Manager

Wild Kratts in PBS LearningMedia <http://az.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/wild-kratts/>

PBS KIDS Nature Cat on PBS Parents <http://www.pbs.org/parents/naturecat/home/>

Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA)

“Geography Takes You Places”

Google Earth Pro now Free

<http://google-latlong.blogspot.com/2015/01/google-earth-pro-is-now-free.html>

Over the last 10 years, businesses, scientists and hobbyists from all over the world have been using Google Earth Pro for everything from planning hikes to placing solar panels on rooftops. Google Earth Pro has all the easy-to-use features and detailed imagery of Google Earth, along with advanced tools that help you measure 3D buildings, print high-resolution images for presentations or reports, and record HD movies of your virtual flights around the world.

Starting today, even more people will be able to access Google Earth Pro: we're making it available for free. To see what Earth Pro can do for you—or to just have fun flying around the world—grab a free key and download Earth Pro today. <http://www.google.com/earth/download/gep/agree.html> If you're an existing user, your key will continue to work with no changes required.

eGIF (Engineering, Go For It)

<http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/>

Lesson plans, class activities, K-12 outreach programs by grade level (K-5, 6-8, 9-12). Also web resources, K-12 Education news (highly recommended if you want a monthly set of lessons delivered to your mailbox).

Peace Corps

<http://www.peacecorps.gov/www/classroom/>

Classroom resources – global issues, 21st century skills. Lesson plans (6-8, 9-12), connect to classroom speakers, downloadable readings. All free.

Visit the newest collection on the Arizona Memory Project:

Arizona National Forest Maps 1907-1945

Contributed by [Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records: State Archives](#)

The Arizona State Archives Map Collection contains maps of all current and many former national forests in Arizona. The General Land Law Revision Act of 1891 allowed for setting aside forest reserves which later became the national forests. Presidential proclamations established the first forest reserves in Arizona and New Mexico in 1892. The earliest maps in this collection date back to 1907 with several of the first national forests in the state created by presidential proclamation. The presidential proclamations accompany the 1907-1910 maps.

Virtual Field Trip - Geologic tour of Grand Canyon's South Kaibab Trail

<http://uagis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapTour/index.html?appid=f38ab272e58840129d3da6f5eceaac51>

Hike Grand Canyon's South Kaibab Trail virtually; just join Dr. Dale Nations (Northern Arizona University) as he guides you on a 'Story Map' trip through geologic time. The trip begins with the 250 million year old Kaibab Limestone capping Grand Canyon's South Rim, and then slowly descends through older sandstones, siltstones, shales, limestones, and metamorphic rocks to the 1.7 billion year old metamorphic Vishnu Complex in the Canyon's Inner Gorge.

Planetary Science Institute (PSI)

<http://www.psi.edu/about>

The Planetary Science Institute is a private, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation dedicated to Solar System exploration. It is headquartered in Tucson, Arizona, where it was founded in 1972.

Click under Education for programs, resources (English & Spanish), instructional rock kit loan

Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA)
"Geography Takes You Places"
Geography Lessons

Camouflage: You Can't See Me!

Description: In this lesson, students will apply what they have learned about camouflage to design their own moth that could survive in a classroom environment. Students will also learn about the Peppered Moth and how it rapidly adapted during the Industrial Revolution and then adapted again after air pollution was curbed. This lesson includes strategies for diverse learners (ELLs).

Author: Cheryl Wright

Grade Range: 3-5

Duration: 1-2 class periods

[Teacher Instructions](#)

[Student Worksheets, Assessments, and Answer Keys](#)

Materials to Assist Teachers and English Language Learners:

[Vocabulary Cards](#)

[Vocabulary Test](#)

Avoiding the Crowd: Understanding Population Density of Earth's Continents

Lesson Plan Content

Description: In this lesson students will gain a better understanding of the population density of the world's continents and of Arizona by creating models using mathematical operations.

Author: Wayne Gorry

Grade Range: 3

Duration: 2 class periods

[Teacher Instructions](#)

[Student Worksheets, Assessments, and Answer Keys](#)

[Animation of World Population Density](#) (Click on it and spin the world if it isn't spinning already)

[Student Example](#)

[Map – World](#) (blank)

Other material that may be useful:

[Map of U.S. Population Change from 1990-2000](#)

[Population of Arizona's Counties 1910 - 2005](#)

[Photograph of a Very Small Town in Oregon](#)

Cathy L. Davis

Arizona Geographic Alliance (AzGA)

Arizona State University | School of Geographical Sciences & Urban Planning |

P O Box 875302 | Tempe, AZ 85287-5302 |

cathy.davis@asu.edu | 480-965-5361 *

fax 480-965-8313

<http://geoalliance.asu.edu/>

976 S Forest Mall, Coor Bldg, Fifth Floor, Room 5677 (Zip 85281)

"Geography Takes You Places"

What Does It Mean To Be Civically Engaged?

The 2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest Theme

The Arizona Educational Foundation (AEF) announced the 2016 Polly Rosenbaum Writing Contest prompt: "What Does It Mean to Be Civically Engaged?"

The creative writing contest is open to students in grades 7 - 12. Entries are judged in three age categories: 7th/8th Grade; 9th/10th Grade; and 11th/12th Grade.

*The criteria form can be downloaded [here](#) and the entry form can be downloaded [here](#). Submissions must be coordinated by teachers. **Please note that all applications must be postmarked by Friday December 18, 2015 and mailed to the Arizona Educational Foundation at 6155 E. Indian School Road, Suite 106, Scottsdale, AZ 85251.***

Winners will be announced at a Statehood Day ceremony and lunch at the State Capitol in Feb.

The Polly Rosenbaum writing contest is named for former state representative and teacher, Polly Rosenbaum who passed away in 2003 at the age of 104. This writing contest is a long-standing tradition honoring Mrs. Rosenbaum, who believed Arizona's young people are the state's greatest resource. [Click here](#) to learn more about the program and the Arizona Educational Foundation.

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Firstcheckfamily.com

Casacolumbia.org

Psynow.org

Helpguide.org

Samhsa.gov

Drugfree.org/resources

dumpTheDrugsAZ.org—Rx drug drop off locations

Streetdrugs.org

Graham County Spelling Bee

The Graham County Spelling Bee will be held Wednesday, February 10, 2016. Schools must enroll with the Scripps National Spelling Bee office at spellingbee.com in order for their students to be eligible to compete in the 2016 Arizona Education Foundation Arizona Spelling Bee, as well as all County and Regional Bees. Early enrollment has closed.

October 16, 2015—Dec. 11, 2015 Late enrollment

December 1, 2015—January 15, 2016 Schools must hold school bees on or before **January 15, 2016** to be included in the next level of competition.

February 1, 2016 Send winners' names to the Graham County School Office by Feb. 1, 2016.

February 22, 2016 County and regional bees must be held by Feb. 22, 2016.

March 19, 2016 Arizona State Spelling Bee will be held at 1:00 p.m. at Eight/Arizona PBS, 555 N. Central Ave., Phx., AZ.

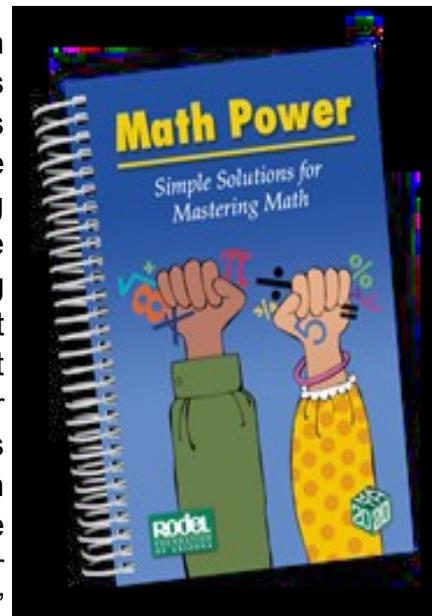
Late May/Early June 2016: Scripps National Spelling Bee will be held in Washington, D.C.



The Math Power Book

Help your child master math, even if you haven't been in a math class in years! This book was designed for parents and families who want to help their children make sense of math. Arizona's math standards haven't changed the way math works, but there may be terms that are new to you and multiple ways of solving problems. Instead of memorizing facts and formulas, students are being challenged to think about what a math problem is asking them to solve; the thinking is as important as getting the right answer, so help them engage in thinking! Start by deciding what the problem is about: is it addition, subtraction, multiplication or division? Then look up that topic in the index. This book covers math concepts introduced in first grade all the way through sixth grade. Sometimes it helps to refresh the simpler concepts before trying to solve harder problems. Use this book to move forward or backwards, whatever it takes to get to that wonderful "Aha" moment!

<http://rodelaz.org/mathpower/>



Grant Opportunities for Teachers from the United Way of Graham County

The United Way of Graham County will begin reviewing
Education Grants again in early 2016.

**We advise you continue working on your ideas and grants, but hold off
on submitting them until the United Way provides new information on
their 2016 deadlines.**

About the United Way

The United Way of Graham County is an all-volunteer organization that provides grant support to nonprofit organizations in southeastern Arizona. We serve Graham and Greenlee counties, providing funding support for causes in Education, Income and Health.

Our mission: to advance the common good by focusing on quality of life, health and education—the building blocks of a good life.

**Have you written your
grant yet?**

Dozens of projects have been funded! For assistance with your grant, please contact Paulette LeBlanc at pleblanc@aznex.net

It's never too early to start!



Grant Funding Alerts

It's never too early to start working on a grant!

Freeport-McMoRan Inc. Grants

Mini-Grants for Education Application Window: May 1st –Oct. 1st

Please visit www.freeportinmycommunity.com

Grants in the range of \$100—\$500 a school is eligible to receive up to four mini-grants per year. Additional grant opportunities are available including the STEM Education grant. Graham County received nearly \$500,000 in the recent round of Community Investment Fund grant awards held in August. Thank you Freeport-McMoRan!

Kinder Morgan Foundation K-12 Education, Environmental Education, Arts, and Youth Development Grants

Deadline: 10th of every month **Amount:** \$1,000—\$5,000

"The Kinder Morgan Foundation believes that today's youth are tomorrow's leaders, and our mission is to provide them with opportunities to learn and grow. Our goal is to help today's science, math and music students become the engineers, educators and musicians who will support our diverse communities for many years to come."

<http://www.kindermorgan.com/community/>

Sponsor: U.S. General Services Administration

Name: Computers for Learning

Who: Schools and educational nonprofits

Amount: based on need **Cost Share:** None **Deadline:** rolling

Description: Computers for Learning (CFL) program allows schools and educational nonprofits to view and select computer equipment that federal agencies have reported as excess. The CFL program includes making modern computer technology an integral part of every classroom, connecting classrooms to the national infrastructure, providing teachers with the professional development they need to use new technologies effectively, and encouraging the use of innovative educational software.

Link: http://computersforlearning.gov/html/hp_aboutprogram.htm

Arizona Community Foundation Scholarships

The Arizona Community Foundation is now inviting Arizona high school seniors, current students at colleges and vocational-technical schools and graduate-level students to apply for college scholarship funding available for the 2015-2016 academic year. Completing just one application automatically matches students with every scholarship opportunity for which they qualify from among ACF's 80 awards.

<https://azfoundation.academicworks.com/>

[YSA & Sodexo Foundation Youth Grants](#)

Deadline: January 15

YSA and Sodexo Foundation are looking for the most innovative and sustainable ideas from young people about how they can help end childhood hunger in their communities. 125 \$400 grants are available for youth leaders ages 5-25 across the U.S. to turn their ideas into action and make an impact on the issue of childhood hunger on Global Youth Service Day - April 15-17, 2016 - and beyond. Apply at www.YSA.org/SodexoYouth

Sponsor: The Safeway Foundation

Name: Safeway Education Grants

Who: Non-profit organizations in areas where Safeway has stores
(partner with schools)

Cost Share: None Amount: \$2,500—\$10,000 for first time recipients

Deadline: Rolling

<http://www.safewayfoundation.org/get-funded/how-we-fund.html>

Sponsor: Chef Ann Foundation and Skoop

Name: Project Produce

Who: Schools participating in the National School Lunch Program

Cost Share: None Amount: \$2,500

Deadline: Rolling

<http://www.chefannfoundation.org/programs/project-produce>

The Fender Music Foundation Grant

The Fender Music Foundation awards instruments and equipment to eligible music instruction programs. The organization is currently awarding acoustic guitars, electric guitars, acoustic-electric guitars, bass guitars and the equipment necessary to play these instruments. However, other traditional music instruments are sometimes available. To qualify as a music instruction program, participants must be learning how to make music.

<http://www.fendermusicfoundation.org/grants/grants-info/>

Professional Development Opportunities/ Grant Funding Alerts

ALA Association for Library Service for Children Professional Service

Every year, more than \$100,000 is given away through ALSC's professional awards, grants, and scholarships. Please click on the individual award or grant for application information. [For information about scholarships please click here](#)

Deadline: Ongoing

A list of the [2015 Professional Award winners](#) is now available.

Congratulations to all of our winners!

<http://www.ala.org//alsc/awardsgrants/profawards>

School Grants Today eMagazine

K-12 Grants, Tips and News

www.schoolgrantstoday.com

Freebies to Build Better Lessons

EngageNY curates a number of Common Core lesson plans for pre-K through 12th grade that can be searched by grade, subject and keywords. There are also curriculum maps and a rich video library.

BetterLesson houses 16,000+ Common Core, Next Gen science, and blended learning lessons created from Master Teacher projects. There are additional lessons created by the BetterLesson community, and there's a page with "new and popular" lessons of the week. It's easy to search the site. When we searched "ELA thesis statements," we found 15 lessons from Master Teachers and almost 97,000 from the community.

Grab and Go Mini-tasks for teachers to use with students immediately in the classroom are on the Literacy De-sign Collaborative website. These resources for back to school help teachers create literacy-rich assignments and courses across content areas.

DonorsChoose.org Makes It Simple to Help Classrooms

DonorsChoose.org is an online charity that makes it easy for anyone to help students in need. Public school teachers from every corner of America post classroom project requests on this site. Donors can find projects or classrooms that most inspire them and make a donation. When a project reaches its funding goal, DonorsChoose.org ships the materials to the school. You'll get photos of the project, a letter from the teacher, and insight into how every dollar was spent. Give over \$50 and you'll also receive a hand-written thank from the students. If you're a teacher looking for support for a classroom project, just go to Donors Choose.org and start your own account. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation announced that it will match \$1 million in donations to DonorsChoose.org. Donors need to enter the code JUMPSTART to have their donation matched.

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Name: Annenberg Foundation

Who: Areas of arts, culture and humanities, civic and community, environment, education, and human health and wellness

Amount: \$10,000 - \$100,000

Deadline: Rolling

Link: <http://www.annenbergfoundation.org/grantmaking/how-to-apply>

Name: Arthur Vining Davis Foundations **Who:** Projects for improving teaching

Amount: \$100,000-\$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Projects may cover a wide range of initiatives intended to improve teaching. For example, projects might be designed to improve professional development for in-service and pre-service teachers, strengthen teaching skills, support practical research in teacher and high school education, or encourage innovative use of technology and new techniques for presentation of classroom materials in high schools

Link: www.avdf.org

Name: Ceres Foundation Grants

Who: For benefit of disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families

Amount: Up to \$240,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To expand opportunities for disadvantaged youth and vulnerable families to develop and make full use of their potential, so that they will be able to earn decent livings, enjoy healthy relationships, pursue their ambitions, and participate in their communities.

Link: <http://foundationcenter.org/grantmaker/ceres/>

Name: JP Morgan Chase Grants

Who: Open for non-profit organizations

Amount: Varies

Deadline: Rolling

Description: Create Pathways to Opportunity - a holistic approach to ensure that individuals have access to the knowledge, skills, resources, and capital they need to secure their futures and compete in the global economy.

Link: <http://www.jpmorganchase.com/corporate/Corporate-Responsibility/grant-programs.htm>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Youth Program Grants

Deadline: Open

Sponsor: The Entertainment Software Association Foundation

Amount: Varies

Type: Social & Economic, Arts & Culture

The ESA Foundation is dedicated to supporting positive programs and opportunities that make a difference in the lives of America's youth.

<http://www.esafoundation.org/application.asp>

KaBOOM! Spruce Project Grants

Deadline: Rolling

Are you itching to serve? Organize your friends, clean up a playground, and you can become eligible for \$750, courtesy of Dr. Pepper Snapple Group. The grant is part of the Let's Play initiative to get kids and families active.

<http://grants.kaboom.org>

Name: Little Kids Rock Music Professional Development & Equipment Program

Who: Public school districts

Amount: Varies **Deadline:** Rolling

Description: Teachers receive training & donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools. Partners with public school districts in some of the nation's most economically disadvantaged communities with the goal of ensuring that all students (K-12) have access to music education and its many benefits. Teachers apply to be trained to use our innovative and transformational methodology. After their training is complete, teachers receive a donation of curricula, instruments and other resources so that they can launch Modern Band music programming for students at their schools

Link: <http://www.littlekidsrock.org/the-program/how-it-works/>

Name: Toyota USA Foundation: STEM Grants

Who: Schools, organizations to improve STEM education

Amount: \$200,000

Deadline: Rolling

Description: To improve k-12 education by supporting innovative programs in the areas of math, science, and environmental science.

Link: <http://toyota.com/about/philanthropy/guidelines/index.html>

Grant Funding Alerts *It's never too early to start working on a grant!*

Sponsor: Major League Baseball and Major League Baseball Players Association

Name: Baseball Tomorrow Fund

Who: Youth programs

Cost Share: None Shown **Amount:** Typically \$50,000-\$100,000

Deadline: Quarterly

Description: To promote and enhance the growth of youth participation in baseball and softball around the world by funding programs, fields, coaches' training, uniforms, and equipment. Grants are intended to finance a new program, expand or improve an existing program, undertake a new collaborative effort, or obtain facilities or equipment necessary for youth baseball or softball programs. Supports projects that meet the following evaluation criteria: increase the number of youth participating in baseball and softball programs; improve the quality of youth baseball and softball programs.

Link: eb.mlbcommunity.org/index.jsp?content=programs&program=baseball_tomorrow_fund

Youth and Community Development Grants

Sponsor: Office Depot Foundation

Deadline: Monthly **Amount:** \$50-\$3,000

Description: The Foundation provides funding to the following program areas: 1. Giving Children Tools for Success—Supporting activities that give young people tools to succeed in the school and in life through education and inspiration. 2. Building Capacity to Serve Communities—Supporting programs that help non-profit organizations to serve the needs of their communities efficiently and effectively. 3. Disaster Preparedness, Relief, Recovery and Rebuilding....

<http://officedepotfoundation.org>

Name: Actuarial Foundation: Advancing Student Achievement (ASA) Grant

Who: To benefit grades 4-12

Amount: \$5,000 **Deadline:** Open

Description: Supports math enhancement programs that bridge the gap between classroom and real world mathematics for grades 4-12 students in U.S. public and private schools. Programs eligible for support may include, but are not limited to, clubs, competitions, before and after school programs, classroom extension periods, etc. Funded programs must impact 20 to 25 students and meet a minimum of one time per month. **Link:**

http://www.actuarialfoundation.org/programs/teachers/what_asa_grant.shtml