

EduTrips: Winter Educational Trips to the Summit of Mount Washington



Michelle Cruz (front left), Mt. Washington Observatory Education Outreach Coordinator and Kevin McShane (right), Profile School science educator, standing in the steel A-frame on the deck of Sherman Adams Summit Building on the January 7 EduTrip. The frame provides protection from falling rime ice from the building's tower.

The summit broke the daily record high on January 6, with a temperature of 43 degrees. This broke the old record of 37, set in 1946. This was only 4 degrees below the all-time high for January of 47, set on January 19th, 1995. For more information on EduTrips, visit the education section of www.mountwashington.org. Photo by: Paula Churchill

Attention Art Teachers and Oriental Art Enthusiasts

If you may be interested in a participating in a full day hands-on workshop on Zen painting, please contact NCES. We are exploring how much interest there is in offering this class on a Saturday. Call 466-5437 or email becky@ncedservices.org.

Notes from the NCES Media Center

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The Life of George Washington (VCC-1310) His life and career; begins with his early years as a surveyor of the western frontiers Revolutionary War scenes come to life. Understand what he faced as president, and why he enjoyed retirement. [video, 30 minutes].

Abe Lincoln in Illinois (VCC-0123) Raymond Massey and Ruth Gordon star in Sherwood's Pulitzer Prize winning play. [video, 110 minutes].

The Land of Abraham Lincoln (VCC-1267) Lincoln's life story. His personal life as well as his presidency. [video, 50 minutes].

Thomas Jefferson's Virginia (VCC-1266) Depicts the accomplishments of Thomas Jefferson. [video, 50 minutes].

Presidents (VCC-1306) From the stately George Washington to the practical George Bush, this fascinating program uncovers amazing, little-known facts about every American President. [video, 60 minutes].

United States Presidents This video series depicts the presidents' stories, from childhood to political careers. [60 minutes each]. Volume 1: Presidents 1-9 (VCC-1883), Volume 2: Presidents 10-18 (VCC-1884), Volume 3: Presidents 19-27 (VCC-1885), Volume 4: Presidents 28-36 (VCC-1886), Volume 5: Presidents 37-42 (VCC-1887)

Holiday Facts and Fun (KP-025) This PBS video explores the origins and relevance of four national holidays: Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Birthday, Presidents' Day, Columbus Day, and Thanksgiving. [60 minutes. 1995]

Celebrate 2 (VCF-1898) Holiday celebrations and ethnic heritage, including Martin Luther King Day. [video, 23 minutes]

Martin Luther King, Jr. (VCC-0545) His life story and his work. [video, 115 minutes]

African American Life – American History for Children (VCC-1941) Live portrayals of historic figures with graphics and animation. Covers African life, servitude and slavery, resistance, Emancipation Proclamation, segregation, civil rights, and Martin Luther King, Jr. [video, 25 minutes]

Picture Book of Martin Luther King, Jr. (VCC-2660) Created from the book by David Adler and illustrated by Robert Casilla, introduces young viewers to Dr. King as it recalls his life, ideals, and accomplishments. [video, 9 minutes]

Martin Luther King, Jr., A Big Biography Big Book (17-0-124) From the first bus boycott, to the march from Selma to Montgomery, and then Dr. King's tragic death – the events and spirit of the Civil Rights Movement and its greatest leader are told through primary source photos.

Tricky Picture: Great Americans Kit (13-0-071C) Read about Martin Luther King, Jr., Sally Ride, Frank Lloyd Wright, and 13 others who dared to be different. Improve comprehension with cards, quizzes and masters.

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NEWS

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North Country Principals' Meetings



Principals are invited to participate in monthly meetings at NCES. At the January meeting, Jean Haley (standing left) and Anne Riley (right) of Professional Renewal Resources, spoke to administrators about the Courage to Lead program. A Courage to

Lead retreat is scheduled for February in Canterbury. For more information, visit the PRR website at www.prrllc.org.

PSU North? CAGS & M.Ed. Cohorts Explored for the North Country

Dr. Leo Corriveau and Cheryl Baker of Plymouth State University recently shared information about initiating CAGS and M.Ed. programs here in the North Country. This spring, the M.Ed. program will begin at White Mountains Regional High School. A cohort of at least fifteen (15) candidates must apply to the CAGS program in order to make this a reality. If a cohort is established, the core program courses may initially be offered in Gorham at NCES beginning this summer. Those who could not attend the meeting, but are interested may contact NCES to receive a PSU application packet.

Cheryl Baker will be available to advise potential M.Ed. or CAGS students at NCES on the following dates:

Tuesday, January 30, 2007
Tuesday, March 6, 2007
Monday, April 9, 2007
Thursday, May 3, 2007

Appointments are typically 20 and 30 minutes and are available from 3:30 – 5:30. Those interested in advising should call Plymouth State Graduate Studies at 535-2636 to set up an appointment.

Notes from the Media Center

The New Year

One of my favorite traditions is the changing of the calendar. While that may not seem like much of an event, it is in my home. Long before December 31 arrives the search for the new calendar begins. It has to be the right size – the boxes large enough to accommodate the life events of a family of five. The design and colors are crucial, too. Will the year's theme be impressionist art or Norman Rockwell or tourist spots in the US? Because surely the pictures import will influence our daily lives. With the right format chosen the personalization can begin. Vivid markers and stickers are used to note birthdays, anniversaries, and school vacations. The old calendar – how "old" can it be? It was just last year – is read like a cryptic diary. Notes that once said "Sarah lost 1st tooth" have been replaced with "Semi-formal dance @ 7" and "Driver's Ed class @ 4". How quickly time goes by!

Highlighting the holidays and school vacations on the new calendar leads to imaginings of celebrations to plan and trips to arrange. In the midst of winter – with fewer daylight hours – it can really brighten the day to have a Chinese New Year's party, cupcakes with candles for Lincoln's and Washington's birthdays, or to guess what Punxsutawney Phil will do this year on February 2.

The NCES Media Center has many materials to help you plan some special events in your classrooms this winter. Below is a partial listing of what you can find as you plan to have a new year full of amazing journeys and thrilling adventures! Happy 2007!

Americans Who Changed Our History (17-0-033) Not a book but a box of one hundred 8"x10" pictures with biographies on the back of many well-known and some unknown people who affect the social changes of our nation. This has the stories of George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr., and 96 others.

George Washington and the Whiskey Rebellion: Testing the Constitution (VCC-0032) This video captures the backwoods flavor of our fledgling nation. A thoughtful portrayal of George Washington.

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My Voice Survey[®] Increasing Student Aspirations

Follow the Child

Turning Strategic Planning into Strategic Action

I: Helping Students Develop a Sense of Self-Worth

Date: Being rescheduled due to weather, call for date.

For students to increase their participation in the learning process, they must experience a sense of belonging. They must feel that they are part of the school community while being recognized, appreciated, and celebrated for their uniqueness as individuals. Students also experience self-worth when someone in their life believes in them. They must have a hero, someone they can look up to, respect, and learn from. Finally, to develop self-worth, students must experience a sense of accomplishment. They must be recognized as much for effort, perseverance and citizenship as they are for high grades and good test scores. With self-worth students are more likely to persevere through difficult tasks and take the steps needed to reach their goals.

II: Fostering Students' Active Engagement in Learning

Date/Time: March 12 from 8:30 to 12:00 at NCES PDC

Students' academic growth will increase when students are actively engaged in their learning environment. Active engagement means that students become so involved in their own learning they lose track of time and space. At the end of a lesson they wonder, "Where did that time go?" Students who are actively engaged in their learning are also curious and creative. They are not afraid to ask "why?" or "why not?" about the world around them. Finally, engaged students have a spirit of adventure. They are not afraid to try new things, regardless of whether they might succeed or fail. With active engagement, learning—and therefore participation in learning—becomes important in and of itself.

III: Encouraging a Sense of Purpose

Date/Time: May 7 from 8:30 to 12:00 at NCES PD Center

Far too many students see no connection between school and who they are or who they want to become. In an effort to counter this trend, educators attempt to draw links between today's learning and tomorrow's careers, encouraging students to think about their education as tied to what type of job they want to one day hold. There is more to the picture than jobs, however. Schools must challenge students to think about the characteristics that accompany successful and rewarding work. They must challenge students to think about who they want to become as well as what they want to be. A sense of purpose involves developing a sense of responsibility, accountability, and confidence. Students must have leadership roles in schools that carry with them a real sense of responsibility for themselves and others. When students find purpose in their lives they will have the confidence to take action in order to secure a meaningful, productive and rewarding future.

Register with the NH Department of Education by contacting Carol Angowski at cangowski@ed.state.nh.us or call 271-8392.

Nonfiction in Focus: Reading and Writing Nonfiction Literature

Instructor: Dr. Rosemary Bamford

NEW Dates: Wednesdays January 24, February 7 and March 7, April 4, April 18 and May 2, 2007 from 8:30 to 3:00 at NCES

Cost (includes textbooks and meals): Members \$750, Associates \$775, Non-Members \$800

Graduate credit: Optional three (3) graduate credits available through Plymouth State University for an additional \$400 (payable to PSU).

For K-12 educators, Nonfiction in Focus concentrates coursework on nonfiction/informational literature, a major resource for content learning and informational reading and writing. The nonfiction literature, readings, and discussions will include looking at the nature of nonfiction literature, the types and features of text, and visuals used to convey information. We will examine through reflective practices and scaffolded instruction how nonfiction can be used to support the learning of content and reading and writing strategies of a diverse population of students.

Nonfiction in Focus is intended to both build on and challenge your background knowledge. This class is organized around reading, writing, and active participation by all those involved. Most classes will involve a combination of instructor and student presentations, participant dialogue over the readings, as well as workshop time to discuss and evaluate nonfiction titles and their use in the classroom.

Tools for Literacy for Grades 5 - 8

Presenter: Kathleen McClaskey

Date: May 10, 2007 from 9:00 to 3:00 at NCES PD Center

Cost: Members \$125, Associates \$135, Nonmembers \$150

With limited budgets and increased accountability, teachers need accessible tools that can support and improve reading and writing and, in turn, create a foundation for independent learning skills for all students. In this hands-on workshop you will learn how to leverage accessible desktop and online tools that can remove barriers to learning, empower students to become independent learners and achieve results in literacy. Each attendee will receive a CD with extensive web links, resources and "no cost" readers that will support literacy in the classroom.

In this hands-on workshop, learn how to improve student literacy skills with MSOffice[®]; Inspiration8.0[®]; ReadPlease; Natural Reader; and WordWeb.

Contact NCES to register. Cost includes lunch.

Social Studies Curriculum Framework Overview

For: Social Studies Teachers

Presenter: Ken Relihan, NH Department of Education Social Studies Consultant, and exemplary teachers

Date: March 6, 2007 from 9:00 to 3:00 at NCES PD Center

Cost: Members free, Associates \$5, Nonmembers \$10. Call NCES to register.

Ken Relihan will provide an overview of the newly revised Social Studies Framework. Educators from NH will share exemplary middle and high school social studies practices. Any remaining time will be available for self-guided work on curriculum revision and/or mapping.

To review the frameworks prior to the session, visit <http://www.ed.state.nh.us/education/doe/organization/curriculum/CurriculumFrameworks/CurriculumFrameworks.htm>

North Country Collaborate for Autism Forum

Supporting Students with
Autism Spectrum Disorder
in Schools, Communities and Family Life

February 10, 2007 from 9:00 – 2:30

White Mountains Regional High School, Whitefield, NH

Please contact Marlene Marchand
at 466-2089 for more information.

Science Tools for Learning

For: Teachers grades 4 to 12

Presenter: Kathleen McClaskey

Date: May 11, 2007 from 9:00 to 3:00 at NCES PD Center

Cost: \$20 per person, includes lunch. Call NCES to register.

Learn how to use technology tools that can empower your standards-based science instruction and engage all learners in your inquiry-based lessons. Activities will include an introduction to InspireData[®], a new tool designed to improve data literacy skills by having students visualize, investigate and understand data. This workshop will also include how to use and leverage accessible desktop tools and web resources to support your science curriculum and to provide access to the curriculum by all learners in your classroom. Teams of teachers are encouraged to attend. Attendees will receive a CD with grade level science links, resources and activities presented in the workshop and a 30-day trial CD of InspireData[®].

Q&A on the new Science Frameworks and Assessment

Here's your chance to ask the NHDOE consultant, Jan McLaughlin, your questions about the new Science Frameworks and the Science Assessment.

The pilot for the NECAP Science Assessment will take place during the first few weeks of May 2007. All students in grade 4, 8 and 11 will take part in the pilot assessment. The assessment will have 3 sessions. Sessions one and two will be made up of multiple-choice and constructed response items and focus on all three domains of science (Earth Space Science, Life Science and Physical Science). The third session will be a performance-based assessment and will look at how students "think" while doing science.

K – 4 Teachers: January 22, 9:00 to 12:00

5 – 8 Teachers: January 22, 1:00 to 4:00

9-12 Teachers: January 30, 9:00 to 12:00 or 1:00 to 4:00

Please contact Becky Ring 466-5437 to register for these free sessions being held at the NCES PD Center.

Wanted: Science Points of Contact (POC)

Communication with teachers in the field about issues in science education always seems to be a problem. Using the National Science Teachers Association's Building a Presence (BAP) system, NH Science Teachers (or teachers of science in the case of elementary school) will be able to keep informed about resources, professional development opportunities and more. Since NH is a small state, every teacher of science can be a POC and get the information. To sign up, please go to www.nsta.org/bap and select NH from the drop down. The directions will help you to locate the school so that POCs can be connected building by building. We are also looking for Key Science Leaders (perhaps a curriculum specialist or Assistant Superintendent from each district or SAU).

For more information about Building a Presence (BAP) or to become a Key Leader, please contact Jan McLaughlin at 271-3856 or jmclaughlin@ed.state.nh.us.



Courses start 2/7/07, register at
www.nheon.org/opennh