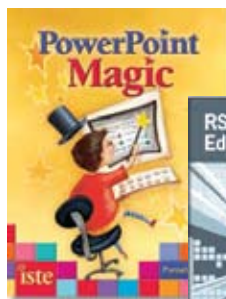


WHAT'S **new**

ISTE has released two new spring titles, **PowerPoint Magic** and **RSS for Educators**. In *PowerPoint Magic*, lessons encourage students to select, organize, and integrate verbal and pictorial material to make sense of information and build understanding. For PowerPoint newbies or seasoned pros, Pamela Lewis' lesson plans will show educators how to integrate the technology into their curricula. The book features writing assignments and multimedia learning activities, lessons sorted by content area and modifiable to a wide range of abilities and learning styles, a CD with multimedia projects for grades 1–8, student samples, and classroom anecdotes. *PowerPoint Magic* is \$27.95 for members and \$39.95 for nonmembers.



MORE INFO: ISTE, 1.800.336.5191,
<http://www.iste.org/bookstore>

In *RSS for Educators: Blogs, Newsfeeds, Podcasts, and Wikis in the Classroom*, John Hendron introduces educators to the powerful, but simple concept of RSS (Really Simple Syndication). RSS makes it possible to easily access frequently updated content on the Internet, allowing computer users

to subscribe to content and have updates automatically delivered to their computers. Hendron shows you how to use a news aggregator to harness the power of RSS for a variety of purposes, including classroom projects, professional development, and keeping students and parents informed. With the book, educators can learn how to use free and inexpensive software such as GarageBand and Audacity to manipulate audio files and create

podcasts, explore the pros and cons of various blogging platforms, or implement student blogs and use RSS to deliver the students' assignments to teachers automatically. The book is \$20.95 for members and \$29.95 for nonmembers.

Vernier Software & Technology has launched its spring series of free hands-on **data collection workshops** for science and math educators. Participants will learn how to integrate computer and handheld data collection technology into a science or math curriculum. The sessions will explore the ways that data collection technology can be used to enhance learning in any chemistry, biology, physics, math, middle school science, physical science, or earth science classroom. Participants will collect data using the LabQuest interface, designed by Vernier, which can be used in the classroom and the field. The sessions also cover how to collect data using computers, TI graphing calculators, and Palm OS handhelds. May workshops will take place in Santa Barbara, Pasadena, Costa Mesa, and San Bernardino, California. Each four-hour workshop includes lunch or dinner and a training manual. Participants also have the option of earning two (quarter) Graduate Science credit hours through the Portland State University Center for Science Education.

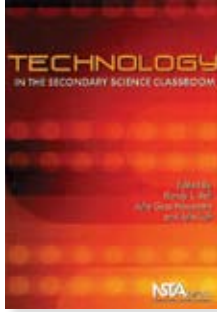
MORE INFO: Vernier Software & Technology, 1.888.837.6437,
<http://www.vernier.com/workshop/evaluation.html>

Knowledge Adventures has announced a unique Internet-based **fundraising program** to allow schools to earn cash. When a school registers for the program, it will receive a customizable letter to send home with its students announcing the school's participation. Then, any parent, relative, family friend, or community member can go to the Knowledge Adventure Web site, select that school, and purchase software titles. For any order of \$25 or more, 25% of the purchase price is sent to the school and the software is delivered straight to the purchaser's doorstep. For every \$1,000 a school earns through the fundraising program, the company will donate \$500 in educational software to use in the classroom. The company does not impose time limits or caps on what a school can earn. For complete details and registration, call the company or e-mail fundraising@adventure.com.

MORE INFO: Knowledge Adventure, 1.800.871.2969, ext. 9,
<http://www.knowledgeadventure.com/school/fundraising>

This information is compiled by L&L's editorial intern, Lindsey Durrell, from press releases that come into the ISTE editorial office. The products and resources are not reviewed by the L&L staff and are offered here without recommendation. Send press releases and suggestions for entries to products@iste.org.

The National Science Teachers Association has published a new title, **Technology in the Secondary Science Classroom**. The book features technologies ranging from those that are easy to master, such as digital cameras, to the more complex, such as probeware and geographic information systems. Each chapter includes a summary of current research on technology's effectiveness in the classroom, best practice guidelines drawn from research and practitioner literature, and innovative ideas for teaching with the particular technology. The 125-page book was written by a collaboration of science teachers and other educators and reviewed by more than 200 teachers. The price is \$19.96 for NSTA members and \$24.96 for nonmembers.



MORE INFO: National Science Teachers Association, 1.703.243.7100, <http://store.nsta.org>

Holt McDougal, a division of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, has released a redesigned version of **Teacher One Stop**, a product for supplementary and teacher resources. The earlier version, One Stop Planner, gave teachers materials on one CD to complement their curriculum. The new version includes documents, tools, and multimedia on a DVD designed to ease a teacher's planning period. Teacher One Stop allows teachers to edit, adapt, search, and expand the collection of Holt resources that come with a particular curriculum. Teachers can also add their own resources or save the adaptations they make to existing materials, where they are stored in a folder. According to the company, this is particularly helpful for differentiated instruction and customized learning plans.



MORE INFO: Holt McDougal, 1.800.225.5425, <http://www.hrw.com>

Discovery Education has announced several **sweepstakes programs** for teachers and schools. In partnership with USA Swimming, Discovery Education encourages students to learn about water safety with the **Make a Splash** sweepstakes. One school will win a USA Swimming and Discovery Education celebration, featuring a special guest appearance by a member of the Olympic Swim Team, plus a \$500 digital media grant. To enter, students make a pledge to be safe in the water and the school with the most pledges (based on the school's enrollment) will win. **Deadline for entry is May 15.** The **Ultimate Science Fair** sweepstakes, in partnership with Elmer's, will send a delegation of three students, three parents, and three teachers from the winning school to the Discovery Education Young Scientist Challenge in Washington, D.C. The trip includes airfare, hotel, and meals, and the opportunity to participate in DEYSC events and challenges. In addition, five second-place winners will receive \$1,000 in prizes. The school with the most votes (relative to enrollment) wins. **Deadline for entry is May 31.**

MORE INFO: Discovery Education, <http://makeasplash.discoveryeducation.com>, <http://elmers.discoveryeducation.com>

Epson has released the **PowerLite 400W** projector, a 3LCD short-throw, widescreen multimedia projector. It offers a WXGA native resolution for use with widescreen computers and 16:10 interactive whiteboards. According to the company, the projector is ideal for wall-mounting and use with an intelligent whiteboard, and its short-throw distance allows ample space for students and audience members, while reducing shadows from presenters. The projector allows for network monitoring and control through wired LAN connectivity and positioning flexibility through its short throw distance of 3.4 feet for an 87-inch 16:10 interactive white board image. It sells for an MSRP of \$1,399.



MORE INFO: Epson, <http://www.epson.com>

Coming Next Issue in I&L

The Need for 1:1 Vision

Determining whether teachers' current instructional practices support effective technology use by students should be the foundation for district decision makers before jumping into a 1:1 laptop initiative. Researchers Jon M. Clausen, Jody Britten, and Gail Ring re-emphasize the importance of thoroughly thinking through how these technologies are going to support meaningful instruction.

Does This Really Work?

The Software and Information Industry Association has released a checklist that includes 10 essential concepts that underlie all effective technology integration. Researcher Sara Sawtelle, a contributing author for the SIIA Implementation Toolkit, guides readers through the steps needed to demonstrate that an ed tech program is effective.

One Size Doesn't Fit All

In the last of her four-part series on educational technology professional development, Judi Harris addresses how to determine the efficacy of ETPD designs.

Celebrating **35** Volumes