

Teacher Opportunities

COLLABORATIVE TEAMS SPUR TEACHER CREATIVITY, STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

When teachers at Copper Canyon High School in Glendale began collaborating on lesson plans and classroom activities, their creativity and individuality blossomed. So did their students' test scores. The school, part of the Tolleson Union High School District, is one of 59 Maricopa County schools participating in the Beat the Odds School Partners Program – a school-based initiative of the Center for the Future of Arizona. A culture of collaboration is one of the six Beat the Odds keys to improving individual student achievement. Learn more at beattheoddsinstitute.org.

SPELLING – AN INTEGRATED APPROACH FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Finally, a program that combines spelling with reading and writing. Students love it. Teachers like that it reviews many of the skills they teach. Created by a teacher, Nancy Beattie, who was convinced middle schools had become the forgotten years for effective spelling programs, this yearly program fits into the typical middle-school time frame. To learn more about this unique spelling program, visit www.btEducationalPrograms.com or e-mail btEducationalProgram@comcast.net.

ADVANCE YOUR READING POWER

Nancy Beattie wrote this book to help students learn how to become more skillful readers. Her strong conviction that all kids can and should be reading at grade level drove her to write a book that showed students how simple changes in reading can make all the difference. The book contains 10 chapters and includes worksheets to help students practice these skills. Created for middle- and high-school students, it is written in a 4th/5th-grade reading level. To learn more about this program, visit www.btEducationalPrograms.com or e-mail btEducationalPrograms@comcast.net.

PLUG & PLAY: THE CREATIVE CAMP FOR TEACHERS

The Arizona K-12 Center is offering two Technology Camps for Summer 2009. The first camp will be June 8-12, 2009 in Flagstaff at the High Country Conference Center. The second camp will be July 6-10, 2009 in Tucson at the Loews Ventana Canyon. Both camps will begin on Monday around 12:30 p.m. and end on Friday at noon. The registration fee for Technology Camp is \$400. Register online at azk12.org.

AEA Advocate

DIGITAL STORYTELLING

This program offered by the Arizona K-12 Center is lead by Nancy Pratt and explores the art of personal expression. This class is very similar to the strand offered at last year's Plug & Play camp. Dates for this program are April 6, 13, 20, and 27, 2009. For more information and to register online, go to www.azk12.org/azk12.php?section=6162.

PROJECT LEARNING TREE: GREEN WORKS!

This program gives grants for community action and service-learning projects. Projects should address an environmental issue and can involve students from preschool to high school in hands-on community action. Applicant must have received training in PLT; youth must implement the project; project must integrate student learning and community service; project must include at least one community partner, such as a local organization or business; project must acquire 50 percent matching funds. The **deadline to apply is April 30, 2009**. For more information, visit www.plt.org/cms/pages/21_22_18.html.

ROBERT WOOD JOHNSON FOUNDATION: LOCAL INITIATIVE FUNDING PARTNERS PROGRAM

The Local Initiative Funding Partners Program is a partnership between the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and local grant makers to fund promising, original projects that significantly improve the health of vulnerable people in their communities. Projects must be new, innovative, collaborative, and community-based; projects must be nominated by a local grant maker interested in participating as one of the funding partners. The **deadline to apply is July 7, 2009**. For more information and criteria, visit www.rwjf.org/applications/solicited/cfp.jsp?ID=20605.

AMERICAN HONDA FOUNDATION: GRANTS FOR YOUTH AND SCIENTIFIC EDUCATION

This foundation makes grants to K-12 schools, colleges, universities, trade schools, and other youth-focused, non-profit organizations for programs that benefit youth and scientific education. Schools and youth-focused nonprofit organizations are eligible to apply. Grant applications are accepted four times per year; the next **deadline is May 1, 2009**. For more information, visit corporate.honda.com/america/philanthropy.aspx?id=ahf.