

WTVP-TV
PROGRAM EFFORTS RELATED TO CHILDREN'S NEEDS
JULY-DECEMBER 2000

PTV - THE READY TO LEARN SERVICE

Recognizing the importance of quality television for its younger viewers, WTVP continues the PTV - Ready To Learn project. Designed for children ages 2–12, PTV features an unprecedented combination of services:

- The full line-up of PBS children's series—the quality, educational, nonviolent, noncommercial programming that parents and educators have trusted for two generations;
- Specially-produced “program breaks” that urge children to be creative, curious, cooperative, and responsible learners; and
- Training workshops and resource materials to help parents, teachers, and caregivers extend the educational impact of the programs—and help children love learning.

The on-air component of the Service is available Monday-Friday from 6:00-11:30 a.m. & 2:30-5:30 p.m. WTVP cable viewers in the Peoria area also receive additional early morning children's programming. Program details follow:

ARTHUR

This animated series—featuring the world's most famous aardvark—uses imagination, kindness and humor to help young people meet the challenges of childhood.

Monday-Friday, 6 AM, 3 & 4:30 PM July-Aug.; 6 AM, 3:30 PM Sept.-Dec.; Saturdays 7:30 AM, July-Sept.; Sundays 10:30 AM July-Sept., 2000 30 minutes PBS

ZOBOOMAFOO

A groundbreaking series designed especially for preschoolers about the great moment of discovery when a kid meets an animal for the first time. Using music, songs and sounds from around the world, the series teaches children how to care for the creatures with which we share the planet and instills basic life lessons in young viewers.

Monday-Friday 6:30 & 9:30 AM, 5 PM, July & Aug.; 9:30 AM Sept.-Dec.; Sundays 10 AM, July & Aug. 2000 30 minutes PBS

BARNEY & FRIENDS

A fuzzy purple stuffed dinosaur, comes to life—giant size—through the fantasies of six children, who invite preschoolers to interact with the characters, sing along and learn while having fun.

Monday-Saturday 7 AM July & Aug.; Sundays 8 AM July & Aug.; M-F 8 AM Sept.-Dec., 2000 30 min. PBS

TELETUBBIES

The series' unique format and characters are designed to nourish young children's thinking skills, teach them to listen, help build their curiosity, expand their imagination and increase their confidence.

Monday-Friday 7:30 AM, Sundays 8:30 AM July & Aug.; M-F 8:30 AM, Sat. 7:30 AM Sept.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

SESAME STREET

Award-winning preschool program prepares children for formalized learning in school and tackles the issue of race relations, presenting the idea that there are all kinds of people whose differences are delightful, but whose humanity is the same.

Monday-Saturdays 8 AM, Sundays 7 AM July & Aug.; M-F 7AM, Sat. 8 AM Sept.-Dec. 2000 60 minutes PBS

MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD

Mister Rogers helps children feel good about themselves.

Monday-Friday 9 AM July & Aug.; 11 AM Sept.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

WIMZIE'S HOUSE

Preschoolers are introduced to themes including friendship, generosity, jealousy, honesty and sibling rivalry through storytelling and song.

Sunday 9:30 AM Sept. 2000 30 minutes PBS PLUS

DRAGON TALES

This series chronicles the adventures of six-year-old Emmy and her four-year-old brother Max, who discover a magic dragon scale in the playroom of their house. The series encourages children to pursue challenging experiences and teaches that trying and not fully succeeding are natural and valuable parts of growing up.

Monday-Friday 10 AM, 9 AM Sundays, July & Aug.; M-F 9 AM & 4:30 PM, Sept.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

CAILLOU

Based on the series of best-selling children's books, the stories address real problems and conflicts typical to a young child's development. Through it all, Caillou is just an irresistible little boy in a very big world with whom every young child and parent can identify.

Monday-Friday 10 AM & 5 PM Sept.-Dec.; Sat. 7 AM Oct.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

BETWEEN THE LIONS

This series is a multi-media educational initiative created to help children aged four to seven acquire beginning skills and a love of reading. The series is built around a curriculum that incorporates the most recent advances in literacy skill instruction.
Monday-Friday 10:30 AM, July-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

CLIFFORD THE BIG RED DOG

The programs emphasize good citizenship and the importance of community. Through the character of Clifford, whose heart is as big as he is, children absorb gentle lessons about acceptance and inclusion. Each episode concludes with a component of “Clifford’s Big Ideas”—10 different attributes children learn to embrace—which leaves them with something to think about and practice in their lives.

Monday-Friday 6:30 AM & 2:30 PM Sept.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

NODDY

Imagination, storytelling, music and humor are all part of this original children’s series, based on the children’s books by renowned author Enid Blyton.

Monday-Friday 11 AM July & Aug. 2000 30 minutes PBS PLUS

READING RAINBOW

Host LeVar Burton takes young viewers on reading adventures that help motivate an interest in reading for pleasure and entertainment.

Monday-Friday 2:30 PM July & Aug.; 4 PM Sept.-Dec. 2000
30 minutes PBS

WISHBONE

This entertaining series that chronicles the exploits of “a little dog with a big imagination” introduces children and their families to the classics of literature from around the world.

Monday-Friday 3:30 PM July & Aug.; Sundays 9:30 AM July & Aug., 7:30 AM Oct.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

ZOOM

Created for kids and by kids, ZOOM is a new version of the Emmy Award-winning 70's PBS children's show. The new ZOOM features games, plays, science experiments and other activities based on contributions sent in by kids from across the country.

Monday-Friday 4 PM July & Aug., 3 PM Sept.-Dec. 2000
30 minutes PBS

WISH-A-ROO PARK

A series designed to augment the fun and learning experiences of children aged two to six. The content of each episode is a curriculum that aims to provide fun through entertainment, education through discovery, and personal social development through information.

Sunday 7 AM Oct.-Dec. 2000 30 minutes APTVS

THE BOOKWORM BUNCH

A new series based on popular children's books, including Don Freeman's “Corduroy,” Andrea Beck's “Elliot Moose,” Rosemary Wells' “Timothy Goes to School,” Maurice Sendak's “Seven Little Monsters,” William Joyce's “George Shrinks” and Michael and Betty Paraskevas' “Marvin the Tap Dancing Horse.”

Sundays, 8-11 AM Oct.-Dec. 2000 180 min. weekly PBS

IN THE MIX

A weekly series by, for, and about teens presents creative solutions and approaches to real-life issues that concern young people.

Fridays 10 PM July-Dec. 2000 30 minutes PBS

UNCOMMON KNOWLEDGE “School Rivalry”

This program focuses on education reform.

Sunday, July 9, 2000 10 p.m. 30 min. PBS

A SONG FOR SISTERS

This special tells the story of “Sisters and Friends,” an Arts In Education program that helps adolescent girls create a vision for their futures by using a unique methodology—song.

Sat., Aug. 5 & Wed., Dec. 27, 2000 10:30 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

SING AND DANCE WITH BARNEY

This special sing-along party features former and current cast members as they stroll down memory lane.

Saturday, Aug. 12, 2000 6 p.m. 60 min. PBS

THUMBNAIL THEATRE’S MACBETH

Combining live action and animation, this special provides an unusual take on a classic work of literature.

Friday, Aug. 18, 2000 10:30 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

FOR TEACHERS ONLY

A preview of the fall season programming on WTVP and a look at resources available for use by teachers in the classroom.

Sept. 4,9,13, 2000 Various times 30 min. each WTVP

AT ISSUE—BRADLEY’S NEW PRESIDENT

WTVP 47’s AT ISSUE, hosted by H Wayne Wilson, launches its fall season with an interview with Dr. David Broski, the new president of Bradley University. Dr. Broski will not only address university issues but community issues as well.

Thursday, Sept. 7, 2000 8:30 p.m. (R) 9/10 4:30 p.m. 30 min. WTVP

DREAMS ON FIRE

This special tells the story of how a chance encounter between a young boy and a 15-year veteran of the Los Angeles Fire Department became the catalyst for a friendship that changed both of their lives.

Wednesday, Sept. 15, 2000 10:30 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

THE MERROW REPORT “The Toughest Job in America”

What is the toughest job in America? How about running a big city school system? This program chronicles David Hornbeck’s six tumultuous years as head of Philadelphia’s public school system, the fifth largest in the nation.

Friday, Sept. 15, 2000 8 p.m. 120 min. PBS

THINK TANK WITH BEN WATTENBERG “Is There a War Against Boys?”

Citing increasing numbers of aggression and higher rates of depression among male youth in America, a panel of experts discusses whether schools are failing to address the needs of boys.

Monday, Sept. 18, 2000 10:30 p.m. 30 min. PBS

THE BATTLE OF CITY SPRINGS

This program covers one academic year in the life of City Springs, a failing Baltimore elementary school serving an impoverished community. Will a new curriculum and the determination of its tough new principal be enough to turn City Springs around? Or are the problems just too great to overcome in a year?

Friday, Sept 29, 2000 8 p.m. 90 min. PBS

CHARTER SCHOOLS THAT WORK

Clarence Page, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist for the *Chicago Tribune*, hosts this examination of the emergence, perspective and practice of this relatively young education reform movement.

Friday, Sept 29, 2000 9:30 p.m. 60 min. PBS

A PUBLIC VOICE 2000: PUBLIC SCHOOLS

This special examines the declines of public schools and focuses on ways to improve the system.

Sunday, Oct. 1, 2000 11 p.m. 60 min. APTVS

EXXONMOBIL MASTERPIECE THEATRE “Oliver Twist”

This adaptation of the Charles Dickens classic tells the rags-to-riches story of an orphan boy’s adventures among criminals.

Sundays, Oct. 8-22, 2000 8 p.m. 360 min. PBS

STANDARD DEVIANTS TV

A new, hip, fresh, funny and educational series, the program is designed for viewers of all ages. The opening program, “Shakespeare Origins,” looks at the origins and influences of one of the greatest writers the world has ever known.

Fridays, beginning Oct. 13, 2000 10:30 p.m. 30 min. each PBS

FRONTLINE “Juvenile Justice”

Should children who commit serious crimes be tried as juveniles or adults? What happens to young offenders who reach the “end of the line” in the juvenile court system—and how do you rehabilitate such children to prevent future criminal behavior?

Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2000 9 p.m. 60 min. PBS

THE MERROW REPORT

“School Sleuth: The Case of the Excellent School”

John Merrow becomes a private detective and discovers there are three kinds of schools—bad, good enough and excellent. “Detective” Merrow explores five aspects of schooling—safety, curriculum, physical environment, adults in the building, and the school’s sense of community.

Friday, Nov. 12, 2000 11 p.m. 60 min. PBS

THINK TANK WITH BEN WATTENBERG

“How Can We Save Our Schools?”

A panel of experts discuss education reform, and debate the viability of studies carried out on the successes of current US voucher programs, which have not been in place long enough to demonstrate long range effect on students.

Monday, Nov. 20, 2000 10:30 p.m. (R) 12/11 10:30 p.m.

30 min. PBS

AT ISSUE—EARLY INTERVENTION

The state’s Early Intervention program is designed to help at-risk children in the first three years of their lives, but the state only funds it at less than half its current costs.

Representatives of local agencies discuss how to overcome the dilemma.

Thursday, Nov. 23, 2000 8:30 p.m. (R) 11/26 4:30 p.m.

30 min. WTVP

BARNEY’S NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

An all-new holiday story takes Barney and his friends on a journey to the North Pole for a tour of Santa’s workshop.

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2000 8 AM 45 min. PBS

NODDY HOLIDAY SPECIAL: ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN AT CHRISTMAS

A young child meets a very special person, Mrs. Santa Claus, who teaches him the importance of sharing—the true spirit of the holiday season.

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2000 9 AM 50 min. PBS

ARTHUR’S PERFECT CHRISTMAS

Everyone’s favorite aardvark give skids a new spin on seasonal traditions as he shows children many ways to celebrate “the holidays”—from Christmas, to Hanukkah, Kwanzaa and even “Baxter Day” (Buster and his mom’s special celebration).

Sunday, Dec. 3, 2000 810 AM 50 min. PBS

THE CANTERVILLE GHOST

An adaptation of Oscar Wilde’s enchanting tale of action, magic and suspense, this new special tells the story of American millionaire Hiram B. Otis and his family after they move into the historic Canterville Chase in England—and announce that the house’s resident ghost has to go!

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 2000 9 PM 90 min. APTVS

THE JOFFREY NUTCRACKER

Choreographed to the music of Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky—and telling the story of young Clara Stahlbaum’s fantastic Christmas Eve dream—this special captures the magic of Robert Joffrey’s uniquely American holiday favorite as performed by the dancers of the internationally renowned Joffrey Ballet of Chicago.

Wednesday, Dec. 13, 2000 9 PM 60 min. PBS

NON BROADCAST ACTIVITIES

READY TO LEARN

- WTVP 47 conducted 5 workshops for 74 educators, college education majors, childcare professionals, and parents—reaching hundreds of children. The workshops featured hands-on activities, free print materials and ideas to help participants use television as an additional resource to nurture children's love of reading and enthusiasm for learning.

The main targets thus far have been childcare providers and parents of preschool and primary school children in lower-income, inner-city, or "at risk" programs. By also concentrating on the "train-the-trainer" model, WTVP was able to give the program an added boost by showing educators, home visitors, and childcare professionals how to teach others how to use public television creatively.

- In the "First Book" program—designed to provide free paperback books to children who otherwise might not own them—WTVP distributed 1,100 books at 15 special events to help Central Illinois children begin their own libraries. At special reading nights, book parties, and informal events, WTVP introduced young people to WTVP 47's quality children's television programs—and provided music, storytelling, special hands-on activities, and free books to all those attending.

WE'RE WILD ABOUT READING ...

More than 200 children and adults joined us on Saturday, Sept. 23 for a special celebration at the Glen Oak Zoo to kick-off the project. They were introduced to the new PBS series *BETWEEN THE LIONS*, enjoyed songs with children's balladeer Fran Moss, toured the zoo, made their very own animal puppets, and went home with free books from WTVP 47.

WTVP 47—in partnership with the Peoria Public Library, the Glen Oak Zoo, and Common Place Family Learning Center—has launched this series of monthly workshops and special family events to open up a world of literature and learning for 4- to 7-year-old children throughout our community.

Workshops were held on the second Tuesday of October, November, and December 2000 and will continue through this winter, spring, and summer.

EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES

WTVP published the 24th edition of *For Teachers Only* and distributed the newsletter to 12,000 educators throughout our viewing area. Designed to provide an overview of the new fall season, the publication also outlined ways that educators can use WTVP programs to enrich the learning experience for students. A special half-hour video edition of *For Teachers Only* was broadcast in September to provide a true preview of the new season.

WTVP 47 set up special displays during Barnes & Noble's Back-to-School Nights in both Peoria and Bloomington to introduce teachers to the many ways that our high-quality programs can be used in the classroom.

VIDEO BOOK REPORTS

WTVP has also been very active in encouraging reading and writing among all children in the community. Each July, approximately 30 libraries send young readers to our studio to tape "video" book reports for our Rainbow Readers program—currently in its 12th year. These 30- to 60-second book reports air just before the beginning of the popular series **READING RAINBOW**.