

**WTVP-TV**  
**PROGRAM EFFORTS RELATED TO CHILDREN'S NEEDS**  
**JANUARY-JUNE 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, Saturdays 7:30 AM, Sundays 10:30 AM Jan.-June 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 AM & 9:30 AM, Sundays 10 AM, Jan.-June 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 Sundays 8 AM Jan.-June 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 Jan.-June 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 Jan.-June 2000

60 minutes PBS

### MISTER ROGERS' NEIGHBORHOOD

Mister Rogers helps children feel good about themselves.

Monday-Friday 9 AM Jan.-June 2000 30 minutes PBS

### 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, Jan.-June 2000

30 minutes PBS

### WIMZIE'S HOUSE

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

Monday-Friday 10:30 AM Jan.-March 2000 30 minutes PBS PLUS

### BETWEEN THE LIONS

Monday-Friday 10:30 AM, April-June 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 Jan.-June 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 Jan.-June 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, Sundays 9:30 AM Jan.-June 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 Jan.-June 2000 30 minutes PBS

### KRATT'S CREATURES

A wildlife series designed specifically to excite kids about all kinds of wild creatures, in exotic lands as well as in their own backyards.

Monday-Friday 5 PM Jan.-June 2000 30 minutes 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 Jan.-June 2000 30 minutes PBS

### SOMEBODY CARES: THE STORY OF THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

This new special tells the stories of young people who have overcome obstacles to achieve their goals—and adults who have provided guidance to millions of kids.

Saturday, Jan. 1, 2000 6 p.m. 60 min. NETA

#### ADD IT UP

Encouraging parents to get involved with their child's education, this new special shows that math is everywhere, not just in the classroom.

Sunday, Jan. 2, 2000 10 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

#### FOR TEACHERS ONLY

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

Jan. 9,11,14,15, 2000 Various times 30 min. each WTVP

#### AT ISSUE—CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION

A look at various programs in McLean, Knox and Tazewell counties to help prevent child abuse.

Thursday, Jan. 13, 2000 8:30 p.m. (R) 1/16 4:30 p.m. 30 min. WTVP

#### FRONTLINE “The Killer at Thurston High”

An examination of how a “shy, likeable teenager” became the boy police call a “cold-hearted killer.”

Tuesday, Jan. 18 & May 16, 2000 9 p.m. 90 min. PBS

#### AT ISSUE—SCHOOL SUCCESS

A local principal and other educators discuss why the school on Peoria's far South Side has been successful in raising scores on state-mandated tests.

Thursday, Jan. 27, 2000 8:30 p.m. (R) 1/30 4:30 p.m. 30 min. WTVP

#### DIGITAL DIVIDE “Computer Classes/Virtual Diversity”

Through engaging portraits of student and interviews with their parents, teachers and technology experts, this program explores why some children are falling behind in the information age.

Friday, Jan. 28, 2000 8 p.m. 120 min. PBS

#### THE ROAD TO COLLEGE 2000:

##### A FINANCIAL PRIMER FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS

This special takes viewers through the entire college admission process—and includes a review of 2000 financial aid forms.

Saturday, Jan. 29, 2000 6 p.m. 60 min. NETA

**FRONTLINE “The Lost Children of Rockdale County”**

An examination of the roots of a syphilis epidemic among teenagers in Conyers, Georgia, which reveals a community struggling with teenage drug use, sex, aimlessness and cynicism.

Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2000 9 p.m. 90 min. PBS

**THE NEWSHOUR WITH JIM LEHRER “Medicating Children”**

A report on the rampant rise in psychiatric drugs prescribed to pre-school-age children for attention deficit disorder and a look at the debate within the medical community over whether the disorder is biologically or behaviorally rooted, the best treatment methods and the public health concern surrounding regions showing significantly higher percentages of ADD cases.

Thursday, Feb. 24, 2000 6 p.m. 7 min.

**TONY BROWN’S JOURNAL “America’s Future Speaks Out”**

Against the backdrop of an almost day-to-day occurrence of atrocities committed by youths, studies reveal that drug use among youth is actually declining. A look at what the contradictory statistics say about our youthful drug use and other issues.

Sunday, Mar. 5, 2000 1:30 p.m. 30 min. PBS

**WORLD’S LARGEST CONCERT “Make Music, America! 2000”**

This 16<sup>th</sup> annual presentation, which celebrates music in our schools and in the lives of our children, is broadcast worldwide.

Wednesday, Mar. 9, 2000 Noon 30 min. PBS

**WHAT’S UP IN TECHNOLOGY?**

Designed with teenagers in mind, this special takes a rapid-fire visual journey through the exciting world of technology and careers in the fields of information, communications, sports, transportation and the environment.

Wednesday, Mar. 9, 2000 12:30 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

**SUMMER, AUTUMN, WAR, SPRING**

Eleven 16-year-olds from Zenica share their experiences of the war in Bosnia—and look at the effect the war has had on their families.

Sunday, Mar. 12, 2000 11 p.m. 60 min. APTVS

#### ASSUMING THE POWER OF PARENTHOOD WITH JOHN ROSEMOND

America's most widely read parenting authority offers straightforward, no-nonsense approaches to raising happy, healthy children.

Tuesday, Mar. 14, 2000 8:30 p.m. 60 min. PBS

#### NATIONAL DESK "Education— A Public Right Gone Wrong"

Broadcaster/journalist Larry Elder investigates proposed reforms for America's public schools—including public vouchers, charter schools, private scholarships, home schooling and tax credits.

Friday, Mar. 24, 2000 8 p.m. 60 min. PBS

#### 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 not only changed both of their lives, but also developed into a plan that promises to influence the lives of hundreds of fatherless young boys at high social risk.

Saturday, April 1, 2000 6:30 p.m. 30 min. APTVS

#### NOVA "Secret of the Wild Child"

NOVA follows the case of Genie, a modern-day "wild child," whose parents kept her imprisoned in her home from infancy.

Tuesday, April 4, 2000 8 p.m. 60 min. PBS

#### AT ISSUE—THE EDISON SCHOOL PROJECT

A look at Peoria District 150's Edison-Franklin School to see what differences the Edison Project is bringing to education and how teachers and parents are receiving the project.

Thursday, April 6, 2000 8:30 p.m. (R) 4/9 4:30 p.m. 30 min. WTVP

#### SAVING OUR SCHOOLS FROM HATE AND VIOLENCE

This program demonstrates how to build critical lines of communication to prevent violence.

Sunday, April 23, 2000 11 p.m. 60 min. APTVS

#### A LONG SEASON

This program follows a little league baseball team from the opening day of tryouts to the end-of-the-season party.

Monday, May 8, 2000 9:30 p.m. 30 min. PBS

#### **NO MISSING LINK WITH DR. RUTH WESTHEIMER**

This special looks at how important grandparents can be in maintaining family traditions.  
Sunday, May 14, 2000 3 p.m. 60 min. APTVS

#### **FRONTLINE “ The Battle Over School Choice”**

An exploration of the heated political debate over the reform of public education and an investigation of the spectrum of “school choice” options—from vouchers to charter schools to for-profit academies—and their growing popularity in troubled inner cities.  
Tuesday, May 23, 2000 9 p.m. 60 min. PBS

#### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC BEE 2000**

This annual contest features 10 finalists from grades four through eight, competing for \$50,000 in college scholarship prizes.  
Friday, May 26, 2000 8 p.m. 60 min. PBS

#### **A PUBLIC VOICE 2000: PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

An examination of the decline of public schools and a look at ways to improve the system.  
Sunday, June 25, 2000 11 p.m. 60 min. APTVS

### **NON BROADCAST ACTIVITIES**

#### **READY TO LEARN**

- Conducted 13 workshops for 157 educators, 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. Several workshops were tailored especially for teen parents.

- In the "First Book" program—designed to provide free paperback books to children who otherwise might not own them—WTVP distributed 2,415 books at 58 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.

### **EDUCATIONAL INITIATIVES**

- Published 23rd edition of *For Teachers Only* and distributed the newsletter to 12,500 educators throughout our viewing area. Designed to provide an overview of the winter/spring 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 January to provide a true preview of the winter/spring season.
- To instill a love of literature—and give young children a sense of achievement in creating their own stories and drawings—WTVP 47 joined READING RAINBOW for the sixth annual "Young Writers and Illustrators Awards Competition." Open to children from four grade levels—kindergarten through third grade—the contest attracted 163 entries from throughout Central Illinois.
- Arthur—star of PBS' #1 rated kids show and the world's most famous aardvark—was in Peoria from June 8-15 and had a great time! The costumed character—played by very special WTVP volunteers—hosted a special "ARTHUR Party" for members of the WTVP Kids Club, First Book parties the Peoria Public Library and the Lincoln Branch Library, plus special reading events at libraries in Manito, East Peoria, Eureka, and Galva.