

Project: CYBERCHASE  
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Project Website: <http://www.pbskidsgo/cyberchase>

Project Categories: Programs, Staff/Professional Development, Curriculum Development, Media

How to Reach Primary Target: - We conduct training sessions at formal and informal educator conferences. - We collaborate with partners nationally to host local family events. - We send out information via our listserv to parents and teachers. - We utilize the PBS education network to distribute information.

How to Reach Secondary Target: - We conduct training sessions at formal and informal educator conferences. - We collaborate with partners nationally to host local family events. - We send out information via our listserv to parents and teachers. - We utilize the PBS education network to distribute information.

General Demographics: The CYBERCHASE outreach team engages children nationwide in fun, hands-on mathematics and problem solving activities. A special effort is made to reach girls and minority students.

Funders

National Science Foundation  
4201 Wilson Blvd  
Arlington, VA 22230  
<http://www.nsf.gov>

PBS  
2100 Crystal Drive  
Alexandria , VA 22314  
<http://www.pbs.org>

Funders: Corporation for Public Broadcasting  
401 Ninth St., NW  
<http://www.cpb.org>

Ernst & Young  
5 Times Square  
New York, NY 10036  
<http://www.ey.com>

Northrop Grumman  
1840 Century Park East  
Los Angeles, CA 90067  
<http://www.northropgrumman.com>

Evaluation Strategy: CYBERCHASE's educational philosophy is based on research and supported by evaluation through the entire development process. Here's what we've learned: CYBERCHASE is achieving its goals. Independent researchers have evaluated the impact of CYBERCHASE in studies with more than 1,500 girls and boys of various ages and geographic, ethnic, and socioeconomic backgrounds. The children involved in the studies provide strong evidence of CYBERCHASE's positive effects. These include a more positive attitude, confidence and motivation about mathematics and problem solving, an understanding of the mathematics and specific problems presented in the shows, and problem-based learning that can be replicated in hands-on trials. Kids love the show. Viewers respond to the humor, action, and suspense in every episode. Kids see the episodes as mysteries in which mathematics provide the solution. Many seek to solve the problems ahead of our heroes, while others are intently absorbed, following each step of the solutions. Experts love the show too. Every mathematics topic and resulting show is reviewed by a panel of mathematicians, mathematics education researchers, and math teachers for accuracy, clarity, effectiveness, and age-appropriateness. Overwhelmingly positive, reviewers provide support of our approach, as well as suggestions for present and future shows.

Published Report: <http://http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/parentsteachers/show/philosophy.html>

#### Project Descriptions

Summary: CYBERCHASE is the Emmy award-winning math mystery cartoon on PBS Kids Go! that features a team of curious kids - Matt, Jackie and Inez - who use math and problem solving to outwit and outsmart the dastardly villain, Hacker, in their adventurous quest to save Cyberspace. Each episode ends with a live-action "For Real" segment, hosted by young, comedic actors who explore the show's math topic in the real world.

Impact: As a multimedia project, CYBERCHASE shows kids that math is everywhere and everyone can be good at it! The series and supporting web games, lesson plans, and activities encourage kids to see, think, and do mathematics in their world. In addition to being tons of fun, shows and activities have been carefully designed to support math education and reflect the curriculum standards of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

Lessons: The overall goals of CYBERCHASE are: 1. to foster enthusiasm for math in the critical years when too many children decide they do not like or are not good at the subject; 2. to model math reasoning and help children improve their problem-solving skills; 3. to demonstrate the usefulness of math; and 4. to inspire all children to approach math with confidence and a "can-do" attitude. This program illustrates the strong connections between math and science, technology and engineering, and serves as a turnkey, evergreen resource for after-school providers who are working

with children on STEM related educational projects. CYBERCHASE focuses on STEM, with an emphasis on the "M"!