

DragonflyTV

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Project Website: <http://pbskids.org/dragonflytv>

Project Categories: Curriculum Development, Media

How to Reach Primary Target: DragonflyTV is a kids science show that airs nationwide on PBS KIDS GO! Our show features real kids doing real science and encourages young people to get up off the couch and try some hands-on science. Our shows teach the inquiry process while modeling kids taking the lead in investigations that are of interest to them.

How to Reach Secondary Target: DragonflyTV develops and distributes educational materials to accompany its shows. These materials are created with informal science educators in mind.

General Demographics: DragonflyTV takes express care to represent children from all backgrounds engaged in science.

Funders

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

Evaluation and Field Testing

Evaluators:

Evaluation Strategy: DragonflyTV has completed a total of seven seasons of its series and had done numerous evaluations over the years. All our reports are available online.

Published Report: <http://tpt.org/dragonflytv/evaluations/>

Project Descriptions

Summary: DragonflyTV showcases the process of science. We stress that real science takes time, energy, questioning and reflection – and produces rewarding discoveries that may even change the world. In every show, kids pose questions, design and conduct experiments, gather data, analyze that data, arrive at their own conclusions and pose further questions. This “full-inquiry” approach, as defined by the National Science Education Standards, is widely acknowledged as the most effective way to teach science and is incorporated across the science curriculum in schools today.

Impact: The seven seasons of DragonflyTV provide ample examples of kids

engaging in, and enjoying, science. The series features all STEM content areas; it is not limited to any particular discipline. Our investigations range across life, physical, earth and space science, technology, engineering and, interspersed in every episode, mathematics. We link each investigation to the appropriate National Science Education standards for grade school and middle school.

Lessons:

DragonflyTV is a science resource for after-school programs. We show kids that science is important to their lives and (perhaps more importantly) fun to pursue. Our educational materials are designed to help novice science educators feel comfortable programming scientific inquiry in their after school endeavors.

In addition to two main segments, each DragonflyTV episode also features a "Scientist Profile," highlighting an outstanding working scientist, and a "Check It Out" segment, a mini-documentary about groups of kids doing interesting activities in science.

Notes:

No TV? No problem. Dragonfly TV is an interactive, multi-media, 24/7 science experience. Visit pbskids.org/dragonflytv to stream science segments, play games and riddles, share experiments, and download video Podcasts.