

Illinois Service Resource Center

Serving deaf/hard of hearing student behavioral needs



A Technical Assistance Center of the Illinois State Board of Education

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Closed-Captioned Science and History Videos

Title	Production Company	Summary
Cracking the Code of Life	Nova	Does it amaze you that yeast is your very close relative? That you possess roughly the same number of genes as a mouse? That you are 99.9% genetically identical to every other human? ABC Nightline correspondent Robert Krulwich lends a lighthearted touch to genetic science in this provocative two-hour NOVA special that takes you inside the amazing, complex and contentious race to decode the human genome. The Human Genome Project was born in 1990, when an international consortium of labs set out to sequence all 3 billion letters of our DNA, predicting they'd finish by 2005. Halfway through their schedule, controversial scientist and entrepreneur J. Craig Venter threw the genome world into turmoil, when he announced his for-profit company Celera could finish the job in just two years. Francis Collins, leader of the publicly-funded effort, and MIT's Eric Lander were among the scientists who answered Venter's challenge. The result made history and laid the foundation for a remarkable future. Armed with this powerful information, medical pioneers are in the midst of astonishing breakthroughs that will change medicine as we know it. Will you get cancer, arthritis, or Alzheimer's? The answer lies in your genetic code--but the question is: Do you want to know? And will these new discoveries eventually lead to cures?
Death of a Star	Nova	Witness one of the most spectacular events since creation--the supernova. Supernovas are as spectacular as they are rare. In early 1987, a giant star exploded in the sky in one of the most violent celestial events since the creation of the universe. Why did this phenomenon fascinate, baffle, and delight astronomers? What causes a star to explode? How will these energy blasts help us understand our universe? Journey to space and around the globe for an astounding look at the true meaning of star power.
Miracle of Life	Nova	Each minute, all over the world, a baby is born. An everyday occurrence, yet each birth is the culmination of one of nature's most complex, mysterious, and seemingly miraculous processes. A dramatic breakthrough in science and cinematography, the Peabody® award-winning The Miracle of Life takes you on an incredible voyage through the human body as a new life begins. World-renowned Swedish photographer Lennart Nilsson presents a spectacular look at a microscopic world.
Mysterious Life of Caves	Nova	Gather your courage and take a trip deep into the dark recesses of some of the world's most unusual caves. It's pitch black, toxic gases bubble up from deep below, sulfuric acid drips from above, and carbon monoxide fills the air. It's not a scene from a horror movie, but the interior of a startlingly beautiful--but treacherous--cave. Today, scientists are penetrating the depths of incredible caverns like this one, discovering abundant life hidden in the dark, and shedding new light on how life may have begun on earth and may exist on Mars and other worlds. NOVA joins top scientists as they explore some of the most exotic and dangerous caves in the world, off limits to all except researchers. Explore Cueva de Villa Luz in Mexico, an active and dangerous cavern that teems with life despite the dark and noxious environment. Travel to Carlsbad Caverns and learn how this world-famous tourist attraction concealed an astonishing scientific secret. And squeeze through the deepest cave in the Americas, New Mexico's Lechuguilla, home to the world's most stunning and fragile cave formations.
Private Lives of Dolphins	Nova	NOVA offers a rare glimpse into the private lives of dolphins with amazing scientific evidence collected over nearly 30 years. Enjoy this unprecedented look at the rarely seen underwater world of dolphins.
Secrets of Lost Empires (1)Colosseum/Stonehenge (2)Inca (3)Pyramid/	Nova	Uncover the secrets of ancient civilizations as NOVA journeys to five archaeological sites where teams of experts use traditional techniques to test their hypotheses. Stonehenge watches a band of experts move, raise and cap a structure like the mysterious Stonehenge-- armed with Stone Age tools. Inca explores magnificent mountainside citadels-- and marvels as villagers create a 150-foot suspension bridge using nothing but grass. Obelisk faces the challenge of quarrying, chiseling, hauling and mounting an obelisk-- using stones, ropes, logs and dirt. Colosseum tries out two possible designs for the canopy that once covered the Colosseum-- one of them borrowed from ancient ships. Pyramid joins the race to erect an 18-foot stone pyramid in three weeks-- while testing out some clever construction theories.

Many summaries taken from Amazon.com

Obelisk		
Thomas Jefferson: A View From the Mountain	Journey Films	For centuries people have asked how it is possible that Thomas Jefferson, the man who wrote the creed for America, declaring that all men are created equal and entitled to the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, could also live his life as a slaveholder. Martin Doblmeier answers these questions with the acclaimed THOMAS JEFFERSON: A VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAIN. THOMAS JEFFERSON: A VIEW FROM THE MOUNTAIN explores Jefferson and his personal and public dilemma about race, and his paradoxical relationship with slavery. He owned many slaves and wrote that he considered most blacks to be dull and anomalous, yet he believed blacks deserved a position of equality in society, and recent DNA tests prove he had an affair and offspring with his house slave, Sally Hemings. The documentary brings Jefferson's words and ideas to life through dozens of his original handwritten letters, excerpts from his original manuscripts, deeds of slave manumission, period newspapers, his will, political cartoons, and every known image of Jefferson painted during his lifetime. A host of acclaimed performers lend their voices to the program, including Edward Herrmann, Sissy Spacek, Danny Glover and Robert Prosky. The readings complement interviews with noted historians including Pulitzer Prize-winner Gordon Wood, civil rights leader Julian Bond, former congresswoman Barbara Jordan, U.S. Civil Rights Commissioner Mary Frances Berry and many others.
Treasures of the Great Barrier Reef	Nova	Swim through a day in the life of Australia's greatest natural wonder, and view the undersea world's brilliant colors and extraordinary inhabitants.
To The Moon	Nova	The mission was impossible. The odds were astronomical. The results were spectacular. NOVA presents the fascinating story behind the Apollo space program, including the most remarkable feat in human history—the historic walk on the moon in 1969. Meet the unsung heroes, experience the dangers and discover a broader range of Apollo perspectives than any space documentary ever produced. In this expanded two-hour special, you'll see rare footage, explore little-known facts and enjoy rare insightful interviews with the NASA scientists, engineers, geologists and astronauts who made the dream of walking on the moon a reality. Share the vivid recollections of Apollo astronauts Gene Cernan and Frank Borman, plus legendary Flight Director Gene Kranz. Hear courageous tales from the pioneering Gemini space program. And explore how past lunar discoveries continue to produce exciting revelations. Special DVD features include: scene selections; access to the To The Moon Web site, featuring panorama views from six moon landings, interactive lunar puzzles, interviews with top Apollo astronauts, and more; access to the NASA and NOVA web sites; and English subtitles.
Universe Within	Nova	NOVA takes viewers on an incredible voyage into the microworld of the human body to explore The Universe Within. Breathtaking sports photography captures amazing athletes in action—but the real action happens inside, revealed by microphotography that is in the style of NOVA's classic documentary of human development, The Miracle of Life. The program covers three incredible team efforts: the coordination of muscles, bones, heart and circulatory system that makes Mike Powell the world's greatest long jumper; the digestive dynamo that turns a simple sandwich eaten by five-time Olympic gold medalist Bonnie Blair into raw energy for a blistering sprint down the ice; and the ultimate event—the development of a new human life inside track star Karen Hatchett. Special DVD features include: printable materials for educators; scene selection; access to the NOVA Web site; and closed captions.