

PRESS RELEASE

Of interest to editors and journalists covering:

Education, Children/Parenting, e-Learning, Internet, Women's Interests

ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication Announces
'Reading for Information' - Free online course for teachers and parents

INDIANAPOLIS, IN - Dec. 1, 2003 /Send2Press Newswire/ -- Besides reading exciting fiction, children and adults increasingly must read for information. Since reading for information requires different mental skills from fiction, the National Geographic Society, the Indiana Department of Education, and the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication have just released an online course for teachers and parents who guide students in these skills.

Reading for Information, a nine-unit interactive course, is now available free of charge at <http://ericreading.indiana.edu> under online courses.

Using the vivid photographs and text from two non-fiction reading series from National Geographic School Publishing Windows on Literacy and Reading Expeditions and the new elementary books of the National Geographic School Publishing, the course illustrates the differences between reading fiction and non-fiction.

Course participants learn the techniques for reading and remembering a wide range of non-fiction material:

- * Descriptions and procedures
- * News reporting
- * Two-part text structures, e.g., cause and effect
- * Arguments and opinions
- * Biography and non-fiction narratives

Professional development credit for teachers

Course participants may achieve professional development credit or university credit to update teaching licenses, or they may register free of charge simply to gain the information provided in the course.

Those who register for credit must participate in online discussions and pass a quiz at the end of each of the nine units. The Indiana Department of Education offers professional development credit, and teachers may receive a completion certificate from the National Geographic Society as evidence of their participation in an in-service course that reflects the techniques and strategies used in National Geographic books.

Reading for Information, an online course, was developed by the ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication at Indiana University in conjunction with the Indiana Department of Public Instruction and the National Geographic Society.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Kristy Miller Calo
+1-202-857-7618

of the National Geographic Society
kmiller@ngs.org

#

[source of news = ERIC Clearinghouse on Reading, English, and Communication]
ref: http://www.send2press.com/2archive/2003/pr_03_1201-eric.txt

*Important Note to Media:
to reach the organization releasing this news, please contact:
kmiller@ngs.org

If used for publication, please send specimen copy.

S2P-NS/0c/ IN / Indianapolis, Indiana / Copr. (c) 2003 Send2Press.

This release was issued on behalf of the above organization by
Send2Press(TM), a unit of Neotrope(R). <http://www.Send2Press.com> .