



This Month's Featured Teaching and Learning Resources from NBC Learn



Welcome Miami Dade Educators!

June. Unofficially, it's End-of-School-Year Month, Graduation Month, Start-of-Summer Month, and Spring Weddings Month. Officially, it's National Rose Month, National Zoo and Aquarium Month, National Dairy Month, National Iced Tea Month, and (although October might seem the more logical choice because of Halloween) National Candy Month.

We focus this month on the End-of-School-Year and Start-of-Summer bits, with NBC Learn news, ideas and resources to help close out the 2012-2013 school year and recharge and prepare for all the challenges of the 2013-2014 school year — including, for most of you, teaching to **Common Core State Standards**. We'll be publishing full NBC Learn Newsletters in July and August; each of our summer Newsletters will highlight sets of resources to help you implement CCSS Math and English Language Arts Standards — beginning this month, with a focus on **NBC Learn Word Roots**, correlated to specific **CCSS Reading and Literacy standards, Grades 3-12**.

Also in this Newsletter: Featured teaching and learning resources related to the upcoming **150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg**; anniversaries this month of **two famous "Berlin Wall" speeches**; and the anniversary of **Sally Ride's historic ride into space** (with ideas for related classroom activities and homework assignments). And a reminder: check out the newest NBC Learn Collection, **"Science of Golf"** (links, so to speak, below).

And read this month's **NBC Learn Subscriber Spotlight** to see how a 6th grade teacher in Spain uses NBC Learn videos to help her students improve their English comprehension and pronunciation.

Finally, see how well you do on our **Flag Day (June 14) NBC Learn Scavenger Hunt**. The first 10 NBC Learn Newsletter readers to send the correct answers to us at newsletter@nbclearn.com will be awarded a beautiful mousepad featuring the NBC Learn 'peacock' logo.

Have ideas for the Newsletter? Write to us at newsletter@nbclearn.com. Have you missed a newsletter? The 12 Newsletters from 2012 and those from the first third of 2013 are now archived for easy reference. Click on the Monthly Newsletter section of the Home page on [NBC Learn K12](#).

NBC Learn is web-based and can be accessed via the M-DCPS Portal at <http://mdcpsportal.dadeschools.net>. After logging in, and clicking the tab (Apps | Services | Sites), you will see NBC Learn K-12. All of the resources are aligned to Florida Next Generation Sunshine Standards and the recently adopted Common Core.

Note: Please first login to NBC Learn through the M-DCPS Portal at <http://mdcpsportal.dadeschools.net> before opening the video links below. Otherwise, you will only see 15-second previews.

The NBC Learn Team

Getting to the "Root" of It: NBC Learn Resources for Phonics and Word Recognition

Think of it as vocabulary code-breaking: the **Common Core English Language Arts Standards** consider the ability to identify and know the meaning of the most common prefixes and suffixes, and decode words with common Latin suffixes to be "Foundational Skills" in Reading as early as Grade 3 — with an understanding of affixes and word roots beginning in Grade 4.*

Enter the words “Word Roots” in the NBC Learn Search window to access a unique set of original NBC Learn resources that support the teaching and learning of **word morphology** and **word formation** — the origins and sources of words, and the internal structure of complex words.

NBC Learn **Word Roots** videos are original animations, showing a selection of common words that “grow” from some 30 (at this writing) common Greek and Latin roots. For example, in [Word Roots: Battuo](#), the animation shows the Latin root *battuo* and its meaning — “to beat” or “to knock” — and then shows 14 common words that are derived from that root, including: battle, battery, battalion, combat, combative, debate and debatable.

Several **Word Roots** directly relate to common subjects of study. The following four Word Roots, for example, can give insights into the origin and meaning, use and misuse, of vocabulary commonly used in study of government and politics:

[Word Roots: Polis](#) (origin of the words “politics” and “politician”)

[Word Roots: Candeo](#) (origin of the word “candidate”)

[Word Roots: Liber](#) (origin of “liberal”)

[Word Roots: Servo](#) (origin of “conservative”)

The screenshot shows the NBC Learn K-12 website interface. At the top, the NBC Learn K-12 logo is visible. Below it, there are navigation links for HOME, MY PLAYLISTS, STATE STANDARDS, and HELP. The main content area is titled 'Advanced Search' and displays a grid of 20 video thumbnails. Each thumbnail features a Latin root in large green letters on a brown background, with a small illustration of a person below it. The roots shown are: DUCO, PHOBOS, BATTUO, VIDEO, LIBER, DICO, PHONE, FIDO, VERTO, HISTEMI, FALLO, MONS, LEG, LOG, PAR, COR, SPECIO, CEDO, AUTOS, PORTO, and BIOS. To the left of the grid is a search filter sidebar with options for 'Search By Keyword', 'Search By Date', 'Filter By Collection', 'Filter By Source', and 'Filter By Type'. The top right corner has a 'Sign In' button and a search bar.

*Specific Common Core State Standards, English Language Arts Standards Referenced

in **Reading: Foundation Skills** > Grade 3 > Phonics and Word Recognition: CCSS.ELA-Literacy RF.3a and 3b

in **Reading: Foundation Skills** > Grade 4 > Phonics and Word Recognition: CCSS.ELA-Literacy RF.4.3a

in **Reading: Foundation Skills** > Grade 5 > Phonics and Word Recognition: CCSS.ELA-Literacy RF.5.3a

in **Reading: Informational Text** > Grades 6-12 > Craft and Structure: CCSS ELA-Literacy.RI.(Grade

Level).4

in **Reading: Literature** > Grades 6-12 > Craft and Structure: CCSS ELA-Literacy.RL(Grade Level).4

<http://www.corestandards.org/>

“Open” Resource: “Science of Golf” Special Collection and the U.S. Open



The United States Open Championship runs from June 13-16, at the Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, PA. Whether you know par on every hole — or associate a “bogey” with “Casablanca” — you’ll be both engaged and informed by the 10 original videos in the newest NBC Learn Special Collection, “**Science of Golf**.” This series, produced in partnership with the United States Golf Association and Chevron, is narrated by NBC Sports anchor Dan Hicks, and features a ‘round’ of notable PGA, LPGA and amateur golfers.

See all the videos on [NBC Learn K-12](#), along with related science and engineering lesson plans created by curriculum specialists at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA).

Featured CueCards in June

150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg

On the last day of June, 1863, thousands of men from both the Union and the Confederate Armies amassed in and around the small town of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. The battle fought over the next three days was the bloodiest in the American Civil War, with 51,000 casualties. Union troops led by General George Meade defeated Confederate troops led by General Robert E. Lee in a battle seen by most historians as the turning point in the war — although fighting continued for two more years.

For information on 2013 commemorations of the 150th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg, see the National Park Service’s

site: <http://www.nps.gov/gett/planyourvisit/150th-anniversary-index.htm>

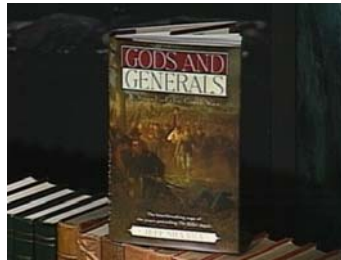
Recommended Summer Reading on Gettysburg

Michael Shaara’s 1974 historical novel *The Killer Angels*, told from the perspectives of

generals and troops on both sides of the Battle of Gettysburg, won the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction in 1975.

The book was a source of inspiration for filmmaker Ken Burns and the award-winning PBS series, "The Civil War," was the basis for the screenplay of the 1993 movie "Gettysburg," and is said by producer Joss Whedon to be the original inspiration for his sci-fi/Western TV series, "Firefly."

Shaara's son Jeffrey wrote a prequel to his father's book, *Gods and Generals*, and a sequel to it, *The Last Full Measure*. In 1996, Jeff Shaara was interviewed on NBC's Today show about *Gods and Generals* and his father's influence and legacy.



Author Jeff Shaara on Civil War Novel "Gods and Generals"

More NBC Learn Resources on the Battle of Gettysburg and the Civil War



125th Anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg



Oak Tree Stood Witness to the Civil War



How Did Reporters Cover the American Civil War?

Analysis of the Battle of Gettysburg



Historian Robert Bloom



Dwight D. Eisenhower and

**Discusses the Battle of
Gettysburg**

**Historian Bruce Catton
Discuss General Meade**

Two Great “Berlin Wall” Speeches: June of 1963 and June of 1987

50 years ago this month — June 26, 1963

President John F. Kennedy gives his “Ich bin ein Berliner” speech in West Berlin.



**John F. Kennedy's Speech at
the Berlin Wall**

26 years ago this month — June 12, 1987

President Ronald Reagan challenges Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev to “tear down this wall!”



**President Reagan at the
Berlin Wall**

30 years ago this month — June 18, 1983

Astronaut Sally Ride becomes first American woman in space, aboard the Space Shuttle Challenger.



Challenger Shuttle Crew Does Chemical Experiments in Space



Sally Ride Returns to Earth Following her Historic Flight



Sally Ride, First American Woman in Space, Has Died

Teaching and Learning Ideas Related to These Videos:

- *Research: How many American astronauts have gone into space? How many of them were women — in total number, and expressed as a percentage?*
- *Create displays — line graphs, bar graphs, pie charts — showing the total number of female U.S. astronauts compared to the total number of male astronauts.*
- *Create a timeline of U.S. Space Shuttle flights, including shuttle names, dates of lift-off, dates of return, and notable occurrences during these missions. What was the length of the average shuttle mission (in days)?*
- *Discussion topic: What are some factors, concerns, and attitudes that explain the absence of American women in space before June of 1983?*
- *Research: Was Sally Ride the first woman in space?*

NBC Learn Subscriber Spotlight K-12: NBC Learn Helps ELL Students “Keen to Improve Their English”



The Laude El Altillo School in Cadiz, Spain subscribed to NBC Learn just two months ago – but already, teachers are integrating NBC Learn resources into the school’s trilingual learning programs (Spanish, English and French), says 6th grade teacher Nuala Dowling.

Dowling, who teaches in English, says the videos in the NBC Learn collections are of great value to students learning or perfecting their English. Dowling often plays videos with Closed Captioning, “to underscore students’ understanding of English syntax and vocabulary.” And she makes frequent use of the Transcript and Print features on each CueCard, which allow her to distribute the written text of a story. “A transcript helps students follow the dialogue,” she says.

Watching NBC Learn videos can improve English pronunciation as well, by hearing English spoken by NBC News anchors and correspondents, and by the range of English-speaking people interviewed on camera. Two favorite videos: [What'd Ya Sigh Mite? English Spoken by English](#) (Air Date 03/07/1983), and [Lost in Translation](#) (Air Date 07/23/2012). “That was very useful in showing how diverse the English language is within the UK, and it gave examples of the regional accents for American tourists,” says Dowling. “Many of my students are keen to improve their English, and want to get used to American accents.”

Yet the primary value of NBC Learn is the content of the archival, original and Current Events videos –

especially in the school's Cooperative Learning program, in which students work in groups to research selected topics. Dowling's students recently studied Inventions of the 20th Century. "We used the database to look at the Wright brother's first flight and information about them," says Dowling ([Wright Brothers Build First Airplane](#)). "And the students really liked the [3D Printer](#) story in the "Science of Innovation" collection. The NBC Learn videos allow the students to look at how inventions were viewed in the past by society, at that moment in time."

NBC Learn Scavenger Hunt: Flag Day (June 14)

Hone your — and your students — [skills in Search, Advanced Search, Sort By, and accessing Transcripts and metadata](#) on NBC Learn video/text/image CueCards by completing this NBC Learn Scavenger Hunt.

1. On what date did American astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin plant the American flag on the surface of the moon? Is that flag still standing on the moon's surface?
2. Who paid to restore the flag that inspired the writing of "The Star-Spangled Banner," and how much did restoration cost?
3. What does Senator So-and-So fear will happen if he can't find his flag lapel pin?
4. What is the name of the man who took the famous photograph of six American soldiers raising the flag at Iwo Jima?
5. Is the burning of the American flag protected by the First Amendment? What did the U.S. Supreme Court decide, in June of what year?
6. What happened to a proposed constitutional amendment to outlaw the burning of the American flag?
7. Using "flag" as a Search term, what is the title of the first NBC Learn video to appear when results are sorted by Air/Publish Date in Descending order?
8. Using "flag" as a Search term, what is the title of the first NBC Learn video to appear when results are sorted by Search Relevance?

Send your answers to us at newsletter@nbclearn.com. The first 10 NBC Learn Newsletter readers to send in the correct answers will be awarded a beautiful mousepad featuring the NBC Learn 'peacock' logo.

This Month's NBC Learn Staff Picks

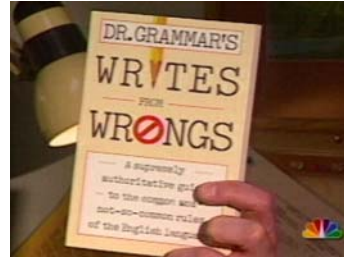
Recommended by Michael Levin, NBC Learn Director of Technology and Client Services:

"Working with other team members, I do scores of webinars and training sessions with new NBC Learn subscribers every month. One of my latest "go-to" videos is "Singing Around the Web." I like to use this video to demonstrate how videos in the NBC Learn Performing & Visual Arts collection can be used to support a variety of subject areas, including Technology, and Health & Wellness — there are great lessons in this video around building confidence, pursuing your passions, overcoming obstacles (physical, geographic), and building a global community of singers."

"And 'Dr. Grammar,' one of the NBC Learn Writing Mechanics resources, is an established fan favorite in both K-12 and Higher Ed — teachers or professors in the room always break out in laughter as they watch that one."



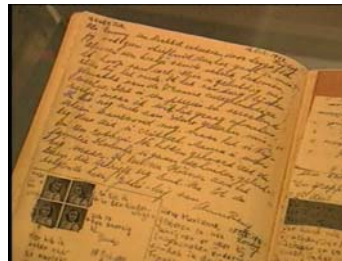
Singing Around the Web



Dr. Grammar

Writers with June Birthdays

Anne Frank, June 12, 1929. On her 13th birthday — June 12, 1942 — Anne Frank began keeping the journal about her experiences in hiding with her family during the Nazi occupation of the Netherlands. Her writings would become known as *The Diary of a Young Girl* (or *The Diary of Anne Frank*), now published in more than 60 different languages.



A Tour of the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam

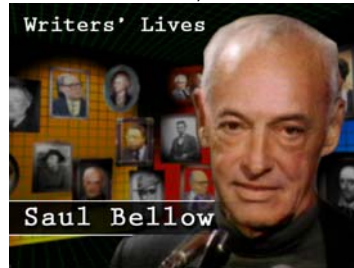
Other Writers with June Birthdays

Maurice Sendak
June 10, 1928



Remembering Maurice Sendak

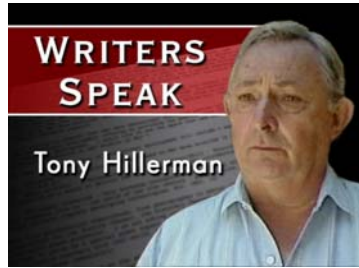
Saul Bellow
June 10, 1915



Saul Bellow

William Styron
June 11, 1925

Joyce Carol Oates
June 16, 1938



Styron: "Sophie's Choice"



Oates on Being a Productive Writer

See more videos of authors speaking about their work in the [Writers Speak](#) and [Writers' Lives](#) sections of the Language Arts section on NBC Learn K-12.

New Features on NBC Learn: Integration with Canvas LMS



canvas

Even in the "off" months of the traditional school year, the NBC Learn team is hard at work developing new features and functionality for teachers to use in preparing for and teaching in the fall. This summer, we're pleased to announce integration of NBC Learn with the [Canvas Learning Management Systems](#).

Our newest clients, the [Mississippi Community College System](#) and [Enterprise State Community College](#), are helping us "test drive" this new extension, which will allow educators to embed NBC Learn CueCards with one click into Assignments, Discussion Boards, and Pages. "The course menu item seamlessly provides students and instructors with access to the rich NBC Learn content," says Akiah Gibson, Assistant Executive Director, eLearning and Instructional Technology at Canvas. "The video embed tool works quickly and is very user-friendly."

Beginning next fall, institutions will be able to download our extension from the Canvas [Edu Apps](#) website. Canvas joins Blackboard, My Big Campus, and Angel as integration options for using NBC Learn with Learning Management System.

If you're using Edmodo, please follow NBC Learn's publisher page at <http://www.edmodo.com/publisher/NBCLearn>. You can link directly to our Special Collections, receive posts from NBC Learn, and post a note to our wall.

Awards

"Don't worry when you are not recognized, but strive to be worthy of recognition."
— Abraham Lincoln

NBC Learn is proud to have been awarded three 2013 Telly Awards for original videos that were featured in three separate science Special Collections, all produced in partnership with the National Science Foundation.

In the Sports category, "Science of NHL Hockey: Hockey Geometry" took the Silver top honors; "Science of the Summer Olympics: Sarah Robles and the Mechanics of Weightlifting" was awarded a Bronze Telly. A Bronze Telly was also awarded to "Science Behind the News: Tornadoes" in the News/News Feature category.



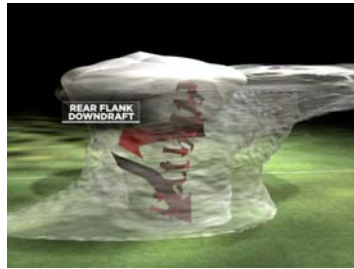
The Telly Awards honors the very best film & video productions, groundbreaking online video content, and outstanding local, regional, & cable TV commercials and programs.



**Science of NHL Hockey:
Hockey Geometry**



**Science of the Summer
Olympics: Sarah Robles and
the Mechanics of Weightlifting**



**Science Behind the News:
Tornadoes**



And [NBC Learn K-12](#) has received the 2013 Interactive Media Awards (IMA) “Best in Class” in the Education category, “an achievement only a fraction of sites in the IMA competition earn each year,” according to the IMA.

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