

GSO to GO News for May 2007

General Information

[Top Pick Site on GeorgiaStandards.org wins Edutopia Award](#)

Educators who want to reference the Georgia Performance Standards will find all they need for their curriculum at [GeorgiaStandards.org](#). The [GeorgiaStandards.org](#) features an advanced search engine, robust Unit Builder and current information on GPS. In addition, [GeorgiaStandards.org](#) has always showcased [Marco Polo](#) as a top pick to steer teachers, instructors and students toward high quality, standards-based and research-based educational and literacy resources. In an April 2007 [Readers' Survey by Edutopia](#), the Marco Polo site was announced as the "[best site to download free lessons](#)". Teachers can also find Internet content for the classroom by using the [Marco Polo Search](#). Be aware that the Marco Polo search site was recently re-named [Search Thinkfinity](#).

[Student Technology Foundation Standards](#)

There are many GPS and QCC standards that align various technology concepts and competencies to student learning. Take for example, high school math standard [MA3D3](#) that uses technology to evaluate confidence intervals or the fifth grade [ELA5LSV2](#) standard that contains the critical component of using technology to structure a presentation. The Georgia Department of Education now provides [a link to national technology standards](#) from the [GeorgiaStandards.org](#) site for teachers that want to document the integration of technology. The [National Education Technology Standards for Students](#) is a framework that reflects the underlying assumption that all students should have the opportunity to develop technology skills that support learning, personal productivity and decision making. Profiles for Technology Literacy are provided with the following grade bands:

- [Grades Pre-K - 2](#)
- [Grades 3 - 5](#)
- [Grades 6 - 8](#)
- [Grades 9 - 12](#)

[Career, Technical and Agricultural Education Standards Posted for Public Review](#)

Links have been posted on the [GeorgiaStandards.org site](#) of the draft copies of Career, Technical and Agricultural Education (CTAE) for Phase II. The proposed CTAE standards will be posted on the site for 60 days and is available in [PDF format](#). The public will have an opportunity to provide feedback by completing a [comment survey](#). The revised CTAE curricula draft is aligned to Georgia Performance Standards (GPS) and consists of fewer topics. Therefore, teachers will be able to instruct for deeper understanding of the material and thereby increase students' opportunity to master key concepts. Any questions and/or concerns regarding the CTAE questionnaire, please contact Ann Hatchell, CTAE Curriculum Coordinator, at 404-657-6845, or by e-mail at ahatchel@doe.k12.ga.us.

[Great Field trip Line-Up for Fall 2007](#)

Are you already thinking about field trips for next school year? Get an early start by looking at what [Fernbank Museum of Natural History](#) in [Atlanta](#) has to offer. As a special exhibition, Fernbank will have [Frogs: A Chorus of Colors](#) on view September 19, 2007 through January 2, 2008. This attraction will make your students jump for joy as it will feature more than 100 live frogs from all over the globe! On the big screen, the IMAX Theatre will be showing [The Alps: Giants of Nature](#) which will be running August 4, 2007 through January 4, 2008. Also opening October 6, 2007 will be the National Geographic short feature, [Sea Monsters: A Prehistoric Adventure](#) which allows viewers to join a team of palaeontologists to solve an 82 million year old mystery (view the [short feature](#) and [trailer](#)). If that wasn't enough, Prehistoric Animal Adventure is a new school program that was developed for pre-K through grades 2. Youngsters get a peek of what the earth looked like during the dinosaur days. Grades 3 through 8 can discover Georgia's Natural Regions through discussion, demonstration and live animal presentations. For more information email justforeducators@fernbank.edu or call 404-929-6306.

[GPB Programs to Look for in May](#)

[Georgia Public Broadcasting \(GPB\)](#) has a couple of series it is showcasing in the month of May. [French in Action](#) is a series that emphasizes active participation to increase fluency in the French language, while introducing the French culture. The French in Action series also can qualify for teacher professional development. Middle and high school teachers can check the [GPB Education Schedule](#) for air dates and times. Great Museums is a program returning for its third year which highlights the treasures and tells the great American stories behind them. The show gives tours of famous museums such as the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Henry Ford Museum and the Franklin Institute. Check the [GPB Education Schedule](#) for air dates and times.

Continuing Education

[No Fear Teacher Training at Georgia Shakespeare](#)

A two week professional learning course approved by the Georgia Department of Education entitled "[No Fear Shakespeare](#)" is offered by [Georgia Shakespeare](#). The course is designed to help English and Drama instructors grades 4-12 integrate Shakespeare into their curriculum through a variety of techniques taught by the Georgia Shakespeare staff of actors, dramaturgs, lecturers and experts in the field. In addition, course participants would get to attend one of the [Georgia Shakespeare shows](#) for free as part of their study. The course is scheduled from June 4th to June 15th. The course is also 50 hours and worth 5 PLU's. The course meets at the [Conant Performing Arts Center located in Atlanta, GA](#). For more information contact Allen O'Reilly at 404-504-3401.

[Georgia Educators can Earn Professional Learning Units Online](#)

Georgia State educators can now earn PLU credits through Adams State College. [Registration](#) for the spring semester is open. The credit can be applied to 1 PLU=10 hours, re-certification or a professional teaching certificate. The courses are online, self-paced, with 24/7 access. Course

participants will have 2 months to complete the course. Courses available are [Creating a Successful Classroom \(1 PLU / 10 Hours\)](#) and [Setting up a Differentiated Instruction Classroom \(1 PLU / 10 Hours\)](#). Contact Evan Erdberg at (800) 728-0032 ext 122 or email at evan@kdsi.org.

[Summer Institute 2007 at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center](#)

It's not too late to register for the Summer Institute at Callanwolde Fine Arts Center in Atlanta. This upcoming Summer Institute will be held June 4 - 7, 2007 and the training event is based on national Best Practices in Arts Education. The training sessions target professional development in disability, arts and education for teaching artists, classroom teachers, arts therapists, arts and school administrators, and parents of students with disabilities. The registration deadline has been extended to MAY 15. Visit the site for [more information](#) or download the [registration brochure](#).

Celebrating May

[Look up to the Sky and Beyond](#)

The first Thursday in May is a celebration that is out of this world. That's right May 3, 2007 is [Space Day which started in 1997](#) with the goal of utilizing space exploration to inspire student interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Educators should first visit [Lockheed Martin's Space Day web site](#) which supports the official event. At the [Lockheed Martin site](#) teachers can access a [Space Day tool kit](#), [educational resources](#) and [Space Day fliers](#). [NASA](#) will host some exciting events for the Space Day celebration by having astronauts and other space flight experts discuss training for space, traveling to space, and living and working in space. [NASA](#) has partnered with AOL's service for kids, [KOL \(Kids Online\)](#) that will webcast the event. Additionally, a great site to bookmark on the classroom computers for Space Day is the [Image of the Day page at Space.com](#).

[May Theme Units](#)

May is a month that boasts many themes and [Edhelper.com](#) features many great units to support educators. [Edhelper.com](#) highlights [Mother's Day](#), [a Disabilities Theme Unit](#), [Memorial Day](#), [Cinco de Mayo](#), [End of School Theme Unit](#) and let's not forget [Teacher Appreciation Day](#). These links feature an impressive amount of printable resources for the classroom; for example, the [Mother's Day](#) page has printables for reading comprehension, critical thinking, writing, puzzles, hidden pictures, math worksheets, patterns and so much more!

[May is Better Hearing and Speech Month](#)

Better Hearing and Speech Month (BHSM) is an annual event to raise awareness about communication disorders and to promote treatment that can improve the quality of life for those who experience problems with speaking, understanding or hearing. [The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association \(ASHA\) website](#) offers several resources for this annual event. For example, at the ASHA site classrooms can win prizes by entering student drawings in the [ASH Drawing Contest \[PDF\]](#). You can even download PDF templates such as [BHSM](#)

[bookmarks](#) or [BHSM coloring pages](#). The ASHA 2007 BHSM screensavers are also available for download in [Windows](#), [Mac OS9](#) and [Mac OSX](#) versions. Last but not least, there is an [excellent article](#) for reference in promoting this important event.