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**Electronic news from the SouthEast Initiatives  
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1. A Celebration of Black History Website
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This website is dedicated to showcasing some of the more notable achievements of African Americans as well as reflect on both the history and teachings of African Americans whose contributions are still too little known. Some of the highlighted people include Althea Gibson, Wilma Rudolph, Marion Anderson, Thurgood Marshall and others.

<http://www.kron.com/specials/blackhistory/home.html>

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2. Make a Valentine's Wreath With Your Students
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This Lesson Plans Page has included a great idea for classes looking for inventive ways to share Valentine's Day joy - make a classroom wreath. Although this exercise is targeted to students K-3, all ages can benefit from making a wreath that everyone can enjoy.

<http://www.lessonplanspage.com/OValentineWreathIdeaK3.htm>

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### 3. The Rain Bird Rain Forest Curriculum

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The Rain Bird Rain Forest Curriculum Web page has four ready-to-use units for grade levels K-8. Topics range from making elastic material to making fish prints to study external fish morphology. All lessons include a complete list of materials, instructions, and discussion questions for students.

URL: <http://www.rainbird.com/rainforest/>

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### 4. Free Phone Service for your Classroom

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Firetalk's Web Tour in the Classroom enables teachers and/or students to hook up to 20 students within one lab or various classrooms in different buildings and transport anywhere in the world using this free voice service. With this service, users are able to make one-to-one or group conference calls over the Internet via their PCs. Participants do not need to type a URL into their browsers; instead they see their monitors change automatically by the tour guide. For more information, visit their website.

URL: <http://www.firetalk.com>

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## 5. Student Website Contest

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The ArsDigita Prize, awarded annually in June, recognizes achievement by young people who have built and maintained web services. Web programmers 18 and younger create non-commercial sites that are useful, educational, and collaborative. A panel from ArsDigita Corporation judges applicants and finalists are announced in early June 2001. The finalists (winner and first runner-ups) receive the following: A \$10,000 award to the individual winner, a \$10,000 award to the team winner (which is divided equally among members of the team), and \$1,000 for each first runner-up. Winners also receive an all expenses paid trip to the computer science research laboratories at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and other prizes. The deadline for this contest is May 15, 2001. Check the website for more details.

<http://arsdigita.org/prize/>

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## 6. C-SPAN 2001 Middle & High School Teacher Fellowships

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C-SPAN and the cable industry offer Middle & High School Teacher Fellowships to teachers who have demonstrated creative use of C-SPAN in the classroom. During the summer, the Fellows come to Washington, DC for four weeks and work with members of C-SPAN's Community Relations Department to develop print, video and online materials for the classroom. Eligible members of C-SPAN in the Classroom may apply for the Fellowship. This year's deadline: March 16, 2001.

<http://www.c-span.org/classroom/opportunities/>

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## 7. NASA CONNECT Offers Instructional Program Series

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NASA CONNECT is an award-winning series of instructional programs designed to enhance the teaching of math, science, and technology concepts in grades 5-8. Each program in the series supports the national mathematics, science, and technology standards; includes a resource-rich teacher guide; and uses a classroom experiment and web-based activity to complement and enhance the math, science, and technology concepts presented in the program. NASA CONNECT is FREE to educators and the programs in the series are in the public domain. All you need to do is visit the website, <http://connect.larc.nasa.gov> and register.

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/lrc/special/connect/>

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