

**WBEA 2018 Conference Early-Bird Registration Ends Tomorrow—November 30**

The 2018 [Western Business Education Association](#) (WBEA) Conference will be held February 15-19, 2018, in downtown Boise at the Grove Hotel. Plan to attend the [2018 WBEA Conference](#) and *Empower Your Why*.

Registration for the [2018 WBEA Conference](#) is now open with the early-bird rate of \$195 through November 30. After November 30, the rate increases to \$225. Registration can be completed online at [www.wbea2018.info](http://www.wbea2018.info).

Lodging reservations can also be completed at this time at <https://reservations.travelclick.com/76224?groupID=1544481> or by contacting the Grove Hotel directly at 888.961.5000 and using either WBEA 2018 or Group ID 1544481. The rate at the Grove Hotel is \$125/night plus tax. Free shuttle service is available to and from the Boise Airport (BOI).

Make your reservations at the Grove Hotel before January 23, 2018 to be sure to get the conference rate. More details about the Grove Hotel can be found at [grovehotelboise.com](http://grovehotelboise.com).

For a schedule of the [2018 WBEA Conference](#), please visit [www.wbea2018.info/schedules](http://www.wbea2018.info/schedules) and review the current listing of breakout sessions, [www.wbea2018.info/session-presenters](http://www.wbea2018.info/session-presenters), and computer workshops, [www.wbea2018.info/copy-of-session-descriptions](http://www.wbea2018.info/copy-of-session-descriptions). Also, be sure to check out the tour options, including a Hockey Night with the Idaho Steelheads, at [www.wbea2018.info/idaho-steelheads](http://www.wbea2018.info/idaho-steelheads).

**Technology Teacher Grant from Verizon Fios--Share a Lesson Plan & Win \$1000 for Your Classroom**

Technology is all around us. From smartphones to voice assistants and self-driving cars, our world is becoming increasingly high-tech. At Verizon Fios, we believe technology has a place in every discipline — and studying its role in our lives is critical for students of all ages. [Share your tech-focused lesson plan with us](#), and you could win up to \$1,000 for classroom supplies, educational subscriptions and apps for your students, and more.

We're looking for lesson plans that...

- Teach students why technology is important (and how to use it) **in your subject**
- Include a **detailed description** of lessons, handouts, homework assignments, etc., plus a list of required resources
- Encourage participation** and engagement with in-class demonstrations, hands-on learning opportunities, etc.
- Are designed for students **between kindergarten and eighth grade** levels
- Specify benchmarks** for measuring students' comprehension of major concepts
- Are **solely your work**, without the use of prepared educational materials available elsewhere

How to Enter—*Follow these guidelines to enter. Incomplete submissions will not be eligible to win.*

Create a tech-focused lesson plan to teach students about applications for technology in your subject. Entries must be written in English.

Compile a **single Google Doc** containing:

1. Your lesson plan
2. A one paragraph personal statement about why you believe students in your field should learn about technology
3. All supplementary materials required for your lesson plan

[Submit through the online form](#), using a shareable link to your Google Doc in the required field.

How to Win—*We'll chose the winning lesson plans based on the following criteria.*

**Creativity** Does your lesson plan creatively combine lecture, classroom activities, multimedia, and out-of-class projects to teach students about tech?

**Completion** Does your lesson plan include complete descriptions of lessons, goals, assignments, and resources required? Would another teacher be able to teach by your lesson plan?

**Feasibility** Will you be able to reasonably implement your lesson plan for the upcoming semester?

**Participation opportunities** Will your lesson keep students engaged? In-class demonstrations, hands-on learning, projects, field trips, and more are all fair game and encouraged!

**Age appropriateness** Is your lesson plan tailored to a grade level between kindergarten and eighth grade?

**Originality** Is this lesson plan your own work?

#### Grant Amounts & Winners

We'll choose **six** great lesson plans that follow all submission guidelines and meet or exceed the judging criteria mentioned above. Grant amounts, to be awarded in the form of Visa gift card, are as follows:

--1st & 2nd place: \$1,000 each

--3rd, 4th, 5th, & 6th place: \$500 each

Winners will be announced (and winning lesson plans will be featured!) on [The Beacon](#).

#### Submission Deadline

Submit your lesson plan **no later than 11:59 PM ET on December 9, 2017**. Late submissions will not be eligible to win.

Complete details for the Technology Teacher Grant from Verizon Fios can be found at [fios.verizon.com/beacon/technology-teacher-grant](https://fios.verizon.com/beacon/technology-teacher-grant).

#### Montana ACTE Announces CTE PSA Contest for Students

**What is the goal?** To promote career and technical education by creating a video public service announcement (PSA) incorporating the CTE Month logo and 2018 tagline, "Celebrate Today, Own Tomorrow!"

**Who can enter?** The contest is open to secondary and postsecondary CTE students in film and video production classes or in other CTE courses. Students may enter as individuals or as a group.

**What do I win?** Montana ACTE will announce the winning PSA by **February 1, 2018**, and will notify the winners individually. The school CTSO that the winning student or team attends will receive \$500. The school that the second-place student or team attends will receive \$250. First- and second-place videos will be publicized on the Internet through Montana ACTE social media channels and shared with Montana ACTE's members to use during CTE Month in their schools and local areas. Winning PSA will be recognized at state CTSO events.  
**Note:** Winning entries must meet a score of a minimum of 70 to be considered.

### **What's required?**

- Video entries must be 29 seconds in length.
- Entries must incorporate the CTE Month 2018 [logo](#) and 2018 tagline into the PSA video. [Email us](#) if you would like to request a different image format.
- Entries must incorporate the following message, presented as text on-screen and/or spoken by talent: "Learn more about career and technical education at [www.ctemonth.org](http://www.ctemonth.org)", and must display the CTE Month web address on screen: [www.ctemonth.org](http://www.ctemonth.org).
- Successful entries will NOT say "learn more about Montana ACTE or ACTE" or reference the Association for Career and Technical Education by name in the PSA. The videos are not intended to be an advertisement for ACTE, but a PSA for career and technical education.
- Successful entries will use no other logos or web addresses in PSAs.
- Entries that contain music, images, or other copyrighted media must be accompanied by proof that the creators of the entry have the expressed permission of the original copyright holder.
- Submissions must adhere to the technical specifications listed below.

### **Submitting your PSA entry:**

- PSA submissions must be completed by **January 19, 2018 at 5 p.m. EST**.
- Sound cannot be over 0 dBFS.
- Videos must be submitted in .mp4 or .mov format.
- Videos must be in 16:9 aspect ratio.
- PSAs can be submitted in standard or high definition.
- In addition to the 29 seconds of video content, please include at the beginning of the video 5 seconds of black, followed by 5 seconds of bars and tones, and then a slate with the title, the name of your school and the year, **2018** (names of video creators and participants optional.) The slate should be on the screen long enough for it to be read comfortably by viewers.
- PSA are to be submitted via [Dropbox](#). Participants should create a Dropbox account free of charge, upload their submission, and email the link to [mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us](mailto:mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us).
- Participants must submit a [talent release form](#) from each participant whose image and/or voice is used in the PSA. Students under 18 must have a parent's or guardian's signature on the form.
- To finalize a submission, email the video link and talent release forms to [mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us](mailto:mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us). A phone number and mailing address for at least one contact must also be provided. This contact can be the educator responsible for the students who submitted the video and the mailing address can be the school's.

**Who will be judging my PSA?** PSAs will be judged by the Membership/Public Relations Committee of Montana ACTE, who will evaluate submissions according to an impartial rubric. The three highest scoring entries will be shown to Montana ACTE's Executive Board of Directors prior to 2018 Montana ACTE Fall

Institute, and winners will be notified before the conference. All entrants are encouraged to share their PSA with their community, school and friends.

**What's the fine print?** Montana ACTE retains the copyright on any submitted material and reserves the right to use the material in any way or format it sees fit. Montana ACTE is not responsible for lost, damaged, incorrectly encoded, incorrectly uploaded, mislabeled or misdirected entries. Entries will not be returned and will become the property of Montana ACTE. Entries cannot be used for any commercial activity.

Additionally, your use of the CTE Month 2018 logo and tagline for this PSA does not authorize you to use it for any other purpose. If you would like to use the logo and tagline for anything else, please read our [Logo Use and Restriction Agreement](#) and follow all regulations therein. If you would like to use the logo for a purpose *not* covered in that agreement, [email us](#) for permission.

**Do you have any tips for my PSA?** The first step for making a great PSA is to learn about career and technical education (see the next section)! In addition, the winning videos for the CTE Month 2018 Video PSA Contest should strive to:

- Engage and inform about CTE in Montana.
- Show that CTE leads to a successful career for Montana students.
- Show the role of CTE in a strong national and state economy.
- Depict a variety of CTE fields in Montana.
- Depict the diversity of students involved in CTE in Montana.
- Show CTE as relevant to the general public
- Incorporate the CTE Month 2018 logo and tagline, the CTE Month web site address and the message about CTE Month as defined above (see the "What's required?" section above).
- Be technically well-made and suitable for broadcast on the internet.

### **How can I learn more about CTE?**

Learn what CTE is and what kinds of courses it encompasses with ACTE's "[What is CTE?](#)" page and our [Fact Sheets](#):

- Learn about the effectiveness of CTE in preparing students for further education and careers.
- Learn how investment in CTE yields positive results for communities in Montana and around the country.
- Think about the role of CTE in the state economy: CTE students grow up to become highly skilled technicians, medical professionals, IT specialists, businesspeople, engineers and more. The career fields that CTE students prepare for are the career fields that keep our state and nation growing.

### **Can educators help with their students' projects?**

Educators may advise students, but should not take a significant role in creating the PSAs. For more information or questions about submissions, please contact Mark Branger at [mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us](mailto:mbranger@huntley.k12.mt.us) or call 967-2540 x360.

### **Organizers Launch Expanded Montana Teenpreneur Challenge**

Calling all Business Education teachers who believe their students have the potential to power Montana's future!

[Montana Teenpreneur Challenge](#) is our state's premier entrepreneurial competition and advanced training experience for high school students and dedicated educators, like you, who inspire them to dream big about their future. The contest is hosted by Bozeman-based nonprofit [One Montana](#).

The goal of *Montana Teenpreneur Challenge* is to shine a spotlight on Montana's promising high school entrepreneurs, to reward their innovative spirit and to accelerate their business know-how. Top-scoring finalists are eligible for an all-expenses-paid entrepreneurship bootcamp, cash prizes totaling \$2,500, lunch with the Governor, and mentoring by business professionals.

Individual students or teams who already run small businesses at home or in school OR who have ideas for new businesses can submit their entries online between December 1st and February 18. Students may consider submitting their classroom or BPA or DECA projects.

To learn about submission requirements, watch video pitches from last year's winners and to get more information about One Montana's 2017-2018 [Montana Teenpreneur Challenge](#), visit our webpage and Facebook page. Email questions to [Challenge@OneMontana.org](mailto:Challenge@OneMontana.org).

### **Take Part in this Week's 2017 National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week Cyber Challenge**

Attention Schools and Teachers—You are invited to participate in the [National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week Cyber Challenge](#), a nation-wide challenge for educators, students, career counselors, and others that will ignite interest in cybersecurity careers by enabling participants to test drive cyber careers with the fully-funded online cybersecurity career exploration platform NSA Day of Cyber.

The [National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week Cyber Challenge](#) will launch at the first annual National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week Kick-off event and run until December 5, 2017 where the top 5 schools will be announced at the National [NICE K-12 Cybersecurity Education Conference in Nashville](#).

[Sign Up](#) today to Participate in the Challenge and Be Announced in December.

For details about the [National Cybersecurity Career Awareness Week Cyber Challenge](#), please visit [www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/national-cybersecurity-career-awareness-week/national-cybersecurity](http://www.nist.gov/itl/applied-cybersecurity/nice/national-cybersecurity-career-awareness-week/national-cybersecurity).

### **Registration for 2018 NBEA Convention—March 27-31 in Baltimore—is Now Open**

Register now for the [National Business Education Association \(NBEA\) 2018 Convention & Trade Show](#) in Baltimore, March 27-31, 2018. You won't want to miss this cutting-edge, energizing convention focused on the advancement of business education.

The NBEA 2018 Convention will provide over 70 exciting and cutting-edge educational sessions, more than 20 technology workshops that will expand specific skills and introduce new technology, and general session speakers who will educate and inspire.

In addition, the Business Education Research Conference will be held in conjunction with the NBEA 2018 Convention. Do not miss this amazing opportunity to enhance your knowledge and skills as a business educator,

take part in networking opportunities, and be challenged to return to your classroom ready to educate, empower, and energize your students.

With more than 130 attractions, museums, historic sites, and performing arts groups, Baltimore promises something for everyone. From "The Star-Spangled Banner" to African American history, to The Baltimore Basilica (America's first cathedral), there's something exciting around every corner.

NBEA is excited to offer pre- and post-convention tours as well. Come early and stay late to be involved in all that the NBEA 2018 Annual Convention has to offer.

Visit the NBEA 2018 Convention site ([www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html](http://www.nbea.org/newsite/conferences/convention/convention.html)) to access the complete convention details, including general convention information, session descriptions, professional development seminars, technology workshop descriptions, and information on pre- and post-convention tours.

### **Get ready for CS Education Week—December 4-10**

CS Education Week is coming up December 4-10. Let's use this celebration to making a lasting change in schools. CSTA has partnered with Code.org and Family Code Night to start a movement—thousands of teachers are sharing what courses their school offers and are pledging to expand computer science at their school for CS Education Week. [Put your school on the map and join the movement at code.org/yourschool](#).

You can also join the pledge when you [sign up to host an Hour of Code event](#). The Hour of Code is a great way to raise awareness of computer science education with administrators, counselors, parents, and your community. And, it's a tool we can use to recruit diverse students who may never have thought of enrolling in CS.

Here are some other ways you can celebrate CS Education Week:

#### **1. Host a school-wide event**

The students in your classroom are learning computer science, but what about the other students in the school? Consider [hosting a school assembly](#) to let all students see how much fun it is to not only use technology, but to help create it. [Contact a volunteer speaker](#) or organize hands-on Hour of Code activities for beginners.

Your students can help lead the activity. Pair your classroom with a non-CS classroom to have your students take on the role of teaching CS to beginners. Or, use the ["unplugged" activities](#) to teach computational thinking without computers. (And, print out certificates for the students to take home).

#### **2. Host a Family Code Night**

There's still time to plan a great evening program for your K-5 school community during CS Ed Week, or later in the year. To learn how, visit the Family Code Night website, [www.familycodenight.org](http://www.familycodenight.org), to learn more and download your free Family Code Night Event Kit.

#### **3. Use the week to make lasting change**

Beyond signing the pledge yourself, can you encourage your school or district administrator to make a commitment to expand computer science? If so, [share your commitment with us](#) and we will gather announcements as part of the CS Education Week kick-off event.



#### 4. Do something fun and different with your class for CS Education Week

Organize a hack-a-thon, build a cool project, or just take a day to try the [Hour of Code activities for experienced classrooms](#). Your students can try out a different language (Python? JavaScript? Java?) or take a concept they already know and apply it in a new way.

Every year during CS Education Week, tens of millions of students try computer science for the first time. This is the largest event of the year for computer science education and you, your students, and school can be a part of it.

Once you have chosen your CS Education Week activities, let CSTA ([www.csteachers.org](http://www.csteachers.org)) know how you celebrated computer science education. Share your successes with us on Facebook and Twitter.

#### **Take a Virtual Trip with AICPA and Go Inside the World of Nuclear Deterrence Accounting**

The American Institute of CPAs and [Star Here. Go Places®](#) invite you and your Accounting students to take a virtual field trip and meet real-life CPAs. Mark your calendars for the next destination—Albuquerque.

If you ever wondered if being a CPA can help strengthen national security, you don't want to miss the Fall 2017 virtual field trip with Louis Griego. He's the Senior Manager for Project Management, Project Controls and Business Operations supporting the Nuclear Deterrence Division at the Sandia National Laboratory in New Mexico. Griego is responsible for leading the team that executes business and project management activities. Even though his hands are full at work, he also makes time to volunteer in the community.

Here are a few things Griego will cover:

- Why he wanted to be a CPA
- What he does at work day-to-day
- Why he gets so much out of serving his community
- What he wishes he knew about accounting when he was in school

Griego has a fascinating story and can't wait to share what he knows, so make sure you and your class don't miss this one. At the end of his presentation, Griego will be happy to answer questions so don't be shy.

[Register your class](#) for the trip to meet Griego at 1pm EST (11 am Mountain) on November 29 for this FREE virtual field trip.

Can't wait for this virtual field trip? Watch other [past trips](#) and see what you can expect later this month.

#### **Unity Game Programming for Your Classroom**

[CompuScholar](http://www.compuscholar.com/schools) ([www.compuscholar.com/schools](http://www.compuscholar.com/schools)) is pleased to announce our latest course, "Unity Game Programming." You can teach your students fundamental programming skills using the popular Unity game engine. Students will be immersed in video game design from the beginning and complete hands-on game projects in every chapter.

Along the way, students will learn all the C# skills found in typical introductory coding courses. Who knew that flow control, functions, arrays and OOP could be so much fun?

CompuScholar's turn-key online teaching system includes multi-media instruction, automated quizzes and tests, a syllabus, teacher's guides, fully coded activity solutions, and built-in professional development. Novice and experienced teachers alike will appreciate our full-year roadmap for success in the classroom, including regular outreach, free technical support and comprehensive reporting.

New classrooms can be rolled out quickly at any time.

Visit us today at [www.compuscholar.com/schools/courses/unity/](http://www.compuscholar.com/schools/courses/unity/) to get started.

### **FREE Project-based Coding Lesson Plans from BootUp**

Check out BootUp's project-based lesson plans for beginner to advanced coding teachers using Scratch and Scratch Jr.

All lesson plans, include; process and product objectives, CSTA standards, CSK12 Framework practices and concepts, vocabulary, a project sequence with facilitation tips, and assessment suggestions.

Each lesson also has optional resources including, project extensions, debugging practices, differentiation, suggested unplugged lessons, and video resources.

Find FREE lesson plans at [www.bootuppd.org/curriculum!](http://www.bootuppd.org/curriculum!)

### **Spring Time in the Rockies with ACTE Region V—Colorado Springs, April 2018**

Region V is the [Association for Career and Technical Education](#)'s (ACTE) western region and the 2018 Region V Conference will be held just down the road in Colorado Springs.

The [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#) will take place April 11-14 at the [Cheyenne Mountain Resort](#) in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Registration for the [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#) is \$425 and includes most meals during the conference. Hotel rooms can be booked directly at the [Cheyenne Mountain Resort](#) for \$144 per night plus tax.

If you are interested in presenting, at the [2018 ACTE Region V Conference](#), a Speaker Proposal can be completed at

[https://docs.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6ARLfJHeG6h2Gtvdf17HTw3h3F5EEIAkulsJK5IKcgclmg/viewform?usp=sf\\_link](https://docs.google.com/a/jeffcoschools.us/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc6ARLfJHeG6h2Gtvdf17HTw3h3F5EEIAkulsJK5IKcgclmg/viewform?usp=sf_link).

For more information about Region V and the 2018 Region V Conference, visit [www.acteonline.org/regionv](http://www.acteonline.org/regionv).

*Please note, the 2019 ACTE Region V Conference will be hosted by [Montana ACTE](#) and in Bozeman, April 2019.*

### **Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection—Time to Report Post-Grad Status for Class of 2017 Grads**

The Fall 2017 CTE Data Collection begins on October 1 and ends December 31, 2017. The Fall CTE Data Collection is a follow up to last year's Spring CTE Data Collection for Perkins grant reporting.



Students identified as CTE Concentrators last year (2016-2017) and graduated in the spring of 2017 should be contacted between October 1 and December 31 and asked their current post-graduation status. After contact, the appropriate post-graduation status code must be entered into the AIM/Infinite Campus data system for each CTE Concentrator.

All high schools that received funding from the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program in 2016-2017 are required to complete this fall follow up collection to maintain their eligibility to receive Perkins funding.

Instructions for completing the Fall CTE Data Collection—called the *'Quick Reference Guide' for the Fall CTE Data Collection*—are located in two places on the OPI website: on the AIM web page listed in AIM User Guides and also on the [CTE web page](#) under the *'Data Collections'* button.

Technical AIM questions regarding the Fall CTE Data Collection should be directed to the AIM Helpdesk at 1.877.424.6681 (toll-free) or email [opiainhelp@mt.gov](mailto:opiainhelp@mt.gov). Questions regarding the Carl D. Perkins federal grant program data requirements should be directed to Christy Hendricks, CTE/Perkins Data Control Specialist at 406.444.9019 or email [chendricks@mt.gov](mailto:chendricks@mt.gov).

### **Sign up for the Hour of Code—December 4-10**

In six weeks, it will be time to kick off the largest learning event in history ... for the fifth time. December 4-10, during [Computer Science Education Week](#), tens of millions of students will gather all around the world to participate in the annual [Hour of Code](#). For many, it will be their first introduction to computer science, but for others, it has become an annual celebration of computer science and the movement to expand opportunity.

Plan for you and your students to join in and [sign up your classroom](#) today for the Hour of Code. And as you do, please go one step further - let us know how computer science is offered at your school, and join the thousands of teachers in pledging to expand access.

Visit [hourofcode.com/us#join](http://hourofcode.com/us#join) to sign up and join in the fun.

If computer science is not offered at your school, the Hour of Code is a great way to build excitement and support to start a new program.

Schools already offering computer science find the Hour of Code an ideal way to celebrate CS Education Week, raise awareness of their programs, recruit students into courses, and explore expansion. There are one-hour activities for both beginners and experienced coders. Consider reaching beyond your classroom this week. Host a school assembly, a parent's coding night, or an activity in your community.

**Get started** with the easy [how-to guide](#). You can even do an Hour of Code without computers or an internet connection.

**12 Free Posters.** As a special thank you, Code.org is giving one free set of 12 inspirational posters to teachers hosting an Hour of Code while supplies last (shipping not included). You'll receive a discount code to use in our [online store](#) after you sign up.

**And, Code.org has upgraded their servers.** As always, you do not need to create accounts or log in to participate in the Hour of Code. But, if you want to, [Code.org](#) and many other partners support classroom

management throughout the Hour of Code. In the past, this has been disabled due to not being prepared for so many users. This year, they are prepared. Teachers can set up a classroom, assign a [Code.org](#) activity, and track student progress in their dashboard. You can also continue to use our other courses such as CS Fundamentals and save progress throughout the week.

### **Invite a technology professional to your classroom\***

Check out the [Code.org volunteer database](#) and schedule a classroom visit! Code.org is excited to have university students, independent professionals, and volunteers from technology companies available to make the Hour of Code even more special.

**Spread the word.** Technology is changing every industry on the planet, and computer science has become relevant to a wide range of careers—even those outside technology and engineering. For millions of students, the Hour of Code will be an inspiring introduction to crucial 21st century skills. Help us reach even more people by forwarding this email to another teacher. Or forward it to a principal to get your whole school on board.

### **\$1000 529 College Savings Scholarship Opportunity**

The EVERFI Scholarship Contest has begun! Take advantage of our Financial Literacy and Career Exploration resources, provided at **no cost** by generous national sponsors, and your students will have the opportunity to submit an entry into the contest.

Students who complete either [FutureSmart](#), a 6th-8th Financial Literacy course, or [Endeavor](#), a 6-9 STEM Career Exploration course, are eligible to win! All entries must be [submitted here](#) by **January 19, 2018**.

Reach out to Cari Turner, [cturner@everfi.com](mailto:cturner@everfi.com), for more information about how to [register](#) and get students started!

### **Fun Facts and Trivia**

Kangaroos are marsupial animals that are found in Australia as well as New Guinea.

There are four different kangaroo species, the red kangaroo, eastern grey kangaroo, western grey kangaroo and antilopine kangaroo; the red kangaroo is the largest marsupial in the world.

Kangaroos can hop around quickly on two legs or walk around slowly on all four; however, they cannot walk backwards.

Kangaroos can jump sometimes three times their own height and also swim.

Kangaroos are social animals which stay in groups of at least 3 or 4 individuals. Some groups can comprise of as many as 100 individuals.

A group of kangaroos is called a ‘mob’, ‘troop’ or ‘court’.

Female kangaroos can determine the sex of their offspring and can delay gestation when environmental factors are likely to diminish the chance of young surviving.

Kangaroos are born extremely early; the equivalent of the seventh week of pregnancy for humans. They travel from the birth canal as little more than an embryo by blindly propelling through the mother's fur to the safety of the pouch, where they will spend several months developing before finally leaving to explore the world.

Baby kangaroos are known as 'joeys'

Kangaroos are herbivores and eat grasses, flowers, leaves, ferns, moss and even insects.

Like cows, kangaroos regurgitate their food and re-chew it before it is ready to be totally digested.

There are more kangaroos than humans in Australia. They are the national symbol of Australia and appear on postage stamps and coins.

Australian airline Qantas uses a kangaroo as their symbol.

In the 2003 release of *Kangaroo Jack*, two childhood friends—a New York hairstylist and a would-be musician—get caught up with the mob and are forced to deliver \$50,000 to Australia, but things go haywire when the money is lost to a wild kangaroo.

Hippety Hopper is an animated cartoon character in the Warner Bros. *Looney Tunes* series of cartoons and first appeared in 1948.

Hippety Hopper cartoons have a typical formula: Hopper escapes from a zoo, circus, etc., and is mistaken for a giant mouse by Sylvester the cat. Frequently, Hopper changes places with an actual mouse, generally when it is most embarrassing for Sylvester.

Issues of the Wednesday Reader are archived on the Montana Business Education Association (MBEA) website at [www.mbea.info](http://www.mbea.info). The Wednesday Readers are under the Newsletter section and listed most-recent first.

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*"You don't make decisions because they are easy; you don't make them because they are cheap; you don't make them because they're popular; you make them because they're right." ~Rev. Theodore Hesburgh*