

# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Discovery Education Connects Wyoming Schools to On-Demand Health and Prevention Resources**

**Silver Spring, MD** (September 14, 2005) – Discovery Education today announced a new partnership with the Wyoming Department of Education to give educators across the state access to a brand-new, comprehensive online library of K-12 health and prevention content that addresses critical areas of youth health and prevention while also helping to improve student literacy skills. Funded in Wyoming by the state's Safe and Drug-Free Schools Program, Discovery Health Connection is now available to every school district in the state.

"Every day, students across the country are faced with difficult decisions that affect their health and well-being," said Steve Sidel, Executive Vice President, Discovery Education. "Discovery Health Connection gives teachers the tools they need to help their students develop the skills to make more well-informed choices and live healthier, safer lives."

Discovery Health Connection ([www.discoveryhealthconnection.com](http://www.discoveryhealthconnection.com)) is a Web-based subscription service that combines traditional health and prevention curriculum programs with teachers' guides, worksheets, videos, extension exercises, and literacy lessons designed to facilitate cross-curricular instruction while improving students' reading comprehension and writing skills—as evidenced in a recent independent evaluation of the service. On average, students whose teachers used Discovery Health Connection's literacy lessons as part of their classroom curriculum experienced a 5% greater improvement in reading comprehension than those students whose teachers did not use the service.

Using the power of the Internet for school-wide distribution, Discovery Health Connection gives educators the ability to capture the teachable moments in the classroom with instant access to resources that address critical health and prevention subjects including The Body, Safety, Alcohol and Other Drugs, Growth and Development, Mental Health, Tobacco, Nutrition, Violence, and Physical Activity. Discovery Health Connection is anchored by research-based curricula and is supplemented with a wide array of materials designed to engage students and make a positive impact on their growth and development.

"As educators, we have a responsibility to help our students gain the knowledge and skills to make important decisions about their health," said Tammy Howard, Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, Wyoming Department of Education. "With Discovery Health Connection, teachers across the state will have instant, on-demand access to a wealth of resources that will address the critical needs of their students' health easily and effectively."

Over the next few weeks, representatives from the Wyoming Department of Education will be working with every school district in the state to establish their Discovery Health Connection usernames and passwords. Participating schools will have full access to Discovery Education's Implementation team for phone- and web-based training, technical support, and integration assistance, and in-person teacher training sessions are also being scheduled as part of the new program. School district representatives can contact Howard at the Wyoming Department of Education at 307-777-7168 for additional information about their district's participation.

For more information about this partnership, Discovery Health Connection, or any of Discovery Education's other products and services, please visit [www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com) or call 1-800-323-9084.

#### **About Discovery Education**

Discovery Education is a division of Discovery Communications, Inc., the leading global real-world media and entertainment company. It produces and distributes high-quality digital video content in easy-to-use formats, in all core-curricular subject areas. The leader in digital video-based learning, Discovery Education is committed to creating scientifically proven, standards-based video resources for teachers, students, and parents that make a positive impact on student achievement. Through strategic partnerships with over 25 public television stations across the country, its public service initiatives, products, and joint business ventures, Discovery Education helps educators around the world engage students in the joy of learning by allowing them to explore the world and satisfy their natural curiosity. For more information, visit [www.discoveryeducation.com](http://www.discoveryeducation.com).