

Welcome to *DragonflyTV* SciGirls, Volume 2!

Before you begin sharing these hands-on, girl-focused inquiry materials with your group, take a minute to learn a little about our program.

DragonflyTV (DFTV) is an award-winning multimedia science education program combining television, community outreach, the Web, and fun. Produced by Twin Cities Public Television (tpt), *DragonflyTV* engages tens of millions of children, parents, and teachers with accessible science activities. *DragonflyTV* is designed to appeal to children from diverse ethnic, socioeconomic, and educational backgrounds, especially underserved girls. By modeling and celebrating girls' science capabilities, *DragonflyTV* has always shown that if girls can dream it, they can do it.

DragonflyTV's first step has been to attract children with a TV show unlike anything they've seen before. The *DragonflyTV* television program is broadcast nationwide on PBS stations. The show presents kids doing their own real-life science investigations in a style that captures the attention of today's media savvy generation. *DragonflyTV* also extends far beyond the television screen, offering a variety of standards-based video, print, and electronic learning tools for use in schools, homes, community organizations, or any place girls gather to explore, create, and discover.

Building on the success of *DragonflyTV's* presentation of science inquiry conducted by children, *DragonflyTV* produced a new series of episodes known as *DragonflyTV: GPS*, containing stories of science inquiry that take place at science museums, science centers, zoos, and aquariums around the country. Each inquiry story begins at a science institution where kids engage with an exhibit of some kind, then continue their experience outside the museum with a related investigation of their own. We think this is an exciting way to present science institutions as places where inquiry happens. We hope you'll agree.



Over its six broadcast seasons, *DragonflyTV* has become a unique showcase for girls in science. Tokenism is out and inclusiveness is in at *DragonflyTV*: girls are featured throughout our broadcasts, outreach materials, and Web site (pbskidsgo.org/dragonflytv). In fact, over half of the *DragonflyTV* kid scientists are girls.

Because of our commitment to increasing girls' science literacy and interest, *DragonflyTV* created the SciGirls program. *DragonflyTV* SciGirls is a collaborative program funded by the National Science Foundation that empowers informal science educators to deliver hands-on science encouragement and career guidance to girls who visit their institutions. SciGirls is based on existing standards-based *DragonflyTV* outreach resources. These resources, including live-action videos, educator's guides, children's science magazines, and Web-based activities, teach the process of full inquiry.

SciGirls will empower your girls to ask questions, communicate, and encourage one another. This dissemination project supports collaborative, tactile learning, setting girls on the "science fast track" toward improved critical thinking skills, enhanced problem-solving abilities, and ultimately, career success. We at *DragonflyTV* thank both the National Science Foundation and you for sharing the SciGirls program with the girls in your community.

