

Classroom Connect and The Franklin Institute Form Partnership to Bring Wonders Of Science and Technology to K-12 Classrooms Nationwide

BRISBANE, Calif., Jan. 28

Classroom Connect, Inc. and The Franklin Institute today announced that they have formed a content partnership that will enhance Classroom Connect's suite of online classroom learning resources with content from The Franklin Institute Online's science and technology collections.

As part of the agreement, Classroom Connect and The Franklin Institute will co-develop student-focused learning resources that highlight TFI Online's science and technology collections and broaden their access to K-12 schools nationwide. These learning resources will be made available to educators and their students through Classroom Connect's suite of subscription-based classroom learning resources at <http://www.classroom.com>. In addition, Classroom Connect will link from its searchable, multimedia Library to various resources from TFI Online's digital collections of photographs, audio and video files, as well as Web sites.

Examples of the classroom learning resources being developed by Classroom Connect and The Franklin Institute Online include:

- Spotlight on Technology: Achieving Flight

- Spotlight on Technology: Photography

- Connected Lesson: Benjamin Franklin and the Scientific Method

"The Franklin Institute's focus on historically important science and technology information complements Classroom Connect's mission to provide educators with the highest quality educational content available," said Judith Hamilton, president and CEO of Classroom Connect. "We are proud to have this partnership with TFI Online and know our customers will benefit from this and other partnerships we have with leading museums and institutions nationwide."

"Both The Franklin Institute and Classroom Connect have been among the first to explore ways to bring online resources into the K-12 classroom. This was an important consideration in deciding to work together," said Karen Elinich, director of Educational Technology Programs for The Franklin Institute Online. "We're excited to have Classroom Connect as our online curriculum partner to help continue TFI Online's mission to promote public understanding of science, as well as science education and achievement."

The Franklin Institute is the latest to join Classroom Connect's partner list of world-renowned museums and libraries. Other existing relationships include those with the American Museum of Natural History and the Library of Congress.

About The Franklin Institute Online

The Franklin Institute Online is an initiative of The Franklin Institute Science Museum, founded in 1824 in Philadelphia. Today, The Franklin Institute is recognized for its innovative online science education programs and for developing museum-school partnerships that have become national models for innovative teacher development and hands-on science in the classroom. The Institute also promotes and perpetuates the legacy of Benjamin Franklin through major awards honoring achievement in science and in business leadership.

About Classroom Connect, Inc.

Classroom Connect, Inc., a business unit within Harcourt, Inc., is a leading provider of professional learning and classroom learning resources that foster successful use of the Internet in K-12 education. Headquartered in Brisbane, CA, with offices in El Segundo, CA, Minneapolis, MN and Abilene, TX, Classroom Connect has more than 170 employees. Its primary product brands include: Connected University(R) (online professional development); Classroom Today(TM) (online classroom curriculum); The Quest Channel(TM) (online adventure learning expeditions); Connected Conferences(TM) (live, nationwide events); Connected Workshops(TM) (on-site seminars); and Classroom Connect Newsletter(TM) (monthly Internet education journal). Its partners include some of the nation's most respected organizations, including the American Museum of Natural History, the Library of Congress and NASA. For more information about Classroom Connect, visit the company's Web site at www.classroom.com.

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