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New Calendar Planner Added to Holt One-Stop Planners Allows Teachers to Customize Lesson Plans and Prepare for High-Stakes Tests

AUSTIN, Texas – December 9, 2003 – Holt, Rinehart and Winston announced today that a Calendar Planner has been added to the Holt One-Stop Planner with Test Generator® – a CD-ROM based teacher’s resource supplement for Holt textbooks. The Calendar Planner helps teachers customize lesson plans, manage class schedules, and access teacher resources in a highly flexible manner while they prepare their students for high-stakes tests.

The One-Stop Planner is a CD-ROM teacher’s resource containing teacher guides, copy masters, and visual resources to complement Holt textbooks. With the newly released Calendar Planner, teachers can more efficiently use the One-Stop Planner to set up the entire school year with the lesson plans from their Holt textbook plus they can customize the schedule to accommodate holidays, the start and end dates of school, and in-service days.

The Calendar Planner is easy to use; teachers simply drag and drop the preset pacing guides onto the calendar and the program automatically populates the lessons and activities across the appropriate days, weeks, and months according to the time required for each lesson plan component. Teachers can manipulate the pacing guide to accommodate their district’s standards and testing schedule or customize it to accommodate learning differences, outside material, or other teaching variables. There are also direct links to the individual teaching resources on the One-Stop Planner so that teachers can quickly preview and print the materials they need.

“The Calendar Planner allows teachers to customize their schedule to suit the needs of their classroom and to address the priorities of time and high-stakes testing while ensuring students adequately grasp content,” said Judy Fowler, president of Holt. “Adding the Calendar Planner to the One-Stop Planner gives teachers another time-saving tool that helps them streamline preparation time and spend more time with students.”

The Calendar Planner from Holt is the only system of its kind that can check for missing standards when a pre-set schedule has been altered, which alleviates teacher concerns that by customizing their lesson plans they might overlook important standards. Holt is also the only publisher to include a quick printing tool that prints all the day’s resources with one click of a button.

PuzzlePro™—a puzzle-generating program that quickly makes four different puzzles from the textbook vocabulary lists—has also been added to the One-Stop Planner. In 30 seconds, PuzzlePro can make a word search, jumble, cryptogram, or crossword puzzle from the selected vocabulary list and then

print out the puzzle or save it as an electronic file for students to complete. An automatic grader for the electronic puzzles then makes grading an easy task. For special needs students, teachers can alter the puzzle difficulty by choosing to simplify the puzzle, provide additional help, or create a different type of puzzle. The Crossword PuzzlePro Player also enables special needs students to complete the puzzles electronically by having the terms, definitions, and directions read to them.

The Calendar Planner and PuzzlePro features are available on One-Stop Planners for *Holt Middle School Math*, the newly-released *Holt Elements of Literature*, and *Holt Biology* and will soon be available for other Holt textbook One-Stop Planners in social studies, language arts, science, world languages, and math.

About Holt, Rinehart and Winston

Holt, Rinehart and Winston is a leading publisher of textbooks and educational materials for grades six through 12 and is part of Harcourt Education, a global education provider serving students and teachers in PreK through grade 12, adult learners, and readers of all ages. The Harcourt companies are Harcourt School Publishers; Holt, Rinehart and Winston; Harcourt Supplemental Publishers (including the Rigby and Steck-Vaughn imprints); Harcourt Assessment; Classroom Connect; Harcourt Canada; Harcourt Religion Publishers; and Harcourt Trade Publishers. For further information, please call (800) 992-1627 or visit www.hrw.com or www.harcourt.com.

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