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## Greetings!

Halloween tidbits for all ages, plus an interactive Q&A with *The Vietnam War* co-director, a guide for teaching critical thinking about news and online info, new materials from Sesame Street and a 21-day STEAM challenge -- it's all here! --Kit Lively, KERA Education Director, [klively@kera.org](mailto:klively@kera.org)

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## Thinking Critically about News and Online Information

Media literacy is an essential skill for a range of subjects -- from science to social studies to English language arts. New resources from PBS LearningMedia and WGBH in Boston can help students identify, analyze, and investigate the news and information they get from online sources. The materials also provide a behind-the-scenes look at journalism and how information is researched, shaped, and reported. The site includes **videos, blog articles, student handouts, lesson plans, and tip sheets for families**, along with a link to "Crossing the Divide," a real-time cross-country road trip with some early-career journalists as they report on diverse communities and issues that divide us and stories that unite us.

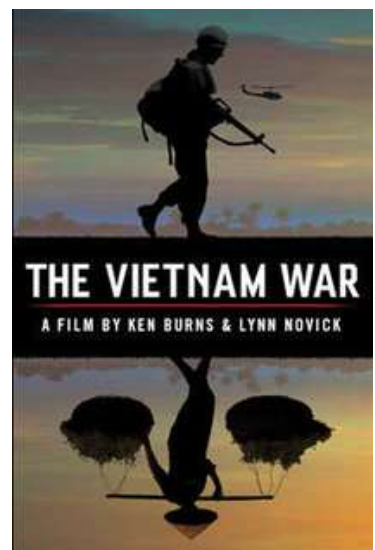


- [Examine News and Media Literacy Collection.](#)
- [Link to Crossing the Divide.](#)

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## Interactive Q&A with Co-Director of Vietnam War Documentary

Teachers and students are invited to join PBS for a FREE live-streaming-only event featuring filmmaker Lynn Novick, co-director with Ken Burns of the PBS documentary *The Vietnam War*. During the interactive discussion, she will discuss the Vietnam War era while sharing personal, behind-the-scenes insights from working with U.S. and Vietnamese veterans, historians, and everyday people who witnessed the War firsthand. Throughout the conversation, participants can pose questions to Novick, participate in polls, and screen segments from the documentary. The live stream is on **Wednesday, November 8, at noon.**



[Get more information and sign up here.](#)

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## 21-Day Fall STEAM Challenge

Here's a chance to receive daily emails helping you find STEAM activities in everyday settings around school and home. The emails, from TalkSTEM in Dallas, will contain multiple challenges with different age groups in mind, so you can pick any that suit your needs or share them with students' families to do at home. (STEAM stands for science, technology, engineering, arts and math.)



[Find more information and sign up here.](#)

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## New from Sesame Street: Helping Kids Manage Trauma

When a child endures a traumatic experience, the whole family feels the impact. But adults hold the power to help lessen its effects. Several factors can change the course of kids' lives: feeling seen and heard by a caring adult, being patiently taught coping strategies and resilience-building techniques, and being with adults who know about the effects of such experiences. Sesame Street in Communities is here with videos, printables and workshop materials to bring these factors to life.

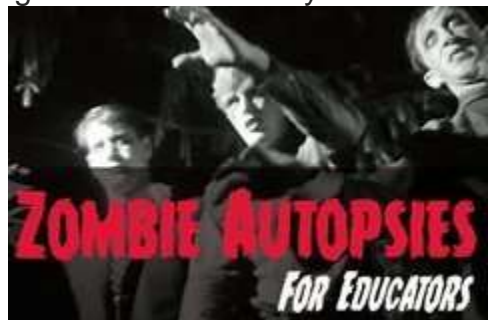


### [Sesame Street materials on handling trauma](#)

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## Halloween Ghoulishness in Science, Math and Art

- [All about Halloween \(grades 2-6\)](#) Halloween hasn't always been about candy and costumes. Take a look back at the historical traditions about spirits that are the basis for this holiday. Includes [link to free iBook All About the Holidays](#) with lesson plans, additional resources, and more teacher support.
- [Peg+Cat: Tiger Trick or Treat \(PK-1\)](#) An encounter with a tiger separates Peg from her treats, but she uses counting and problem-solving skills to get them back.
- [Sid the Science Kid: Halloween \(PK-1\)](#) These Halloween-themed videos teach what makes bats, spiders and skeletons cool. Students will also learn how to make green slime!
- [Flesh-Eating Beetles \(grades 6-12\)](#) Flesh-eating beetles are in many ways super-helpful to museum scientists. This short video explains why.
- [The Zombie Autopsies for Educators \(grades 8-12\)](#) Students learn about the brain while fighting the zombie apocalypse with this neuroscience-focused lesson series.
- [Rogue Taxidermist Sarina Brewer \(grades 9-12\)](#) Learn about the rogue taxidermy movement and see how one artist pushes artistic boundaries with her ethically sourced, hybrid creations.



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## Don't Forget! StoryCorps Oral History Project Begins Soon

StoryCorps invites teachers and students age 13 and up to participate in The Great Thanksgiving Listen, in which teens choose an elder to interview during Thanksgiving week. They choose questions, find a quiet place, and record the conversation using the StoryCorps app. Interviews in this national project become part of the StoryCorps Archive at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, where they will serve as an invaluable resource for future historians. The project is a great way to sharpen listening and interview skills. **Be sure to use the latest Great Thanksgiving Listen app for best results.**



[Click for the latest information and to sign up.](#)

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Questions? Suggestions? News to share? Contact Kit Lively: [klively@kera.org](mailto:klively@kera.org) or 214-740-9344

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