



News Release
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GLOBAL LEARNING INITIATIVE PRESENTS INTERNATIONAL AWARD FOR INNOVATION IN LEARNING

Bologna Italy--Highlighting the depth of quality learning materials internationally available, the Global Learning Initiative (GLI) awarded the first GLI Awards for excellence in educational publishing at the 2003 Bologna Children's Book Fair, held April 2-5 in Bologna, Italy. The GLI, a partnership between the Bologna Children's Book Fair and The Association of Educational Publishers, facilitates international rights sales and business development among K-12 educational publishers worldwide within the context of the Book Fair.

Under the theme, "Innovation in Learning," publishers presented their best products for consideration by a panel of international judges. Entrants submitted product mission statements to help judges understand the product's goals and also had to demonstrate its use to the panel. The winners were chosen not only for the quality of their content but also their unique approach to learning.

The award recipients are:

* "EduROM" from Young Digital Poland (Poland). Judges cited this interactive publication for its interesting use of text and visuals and its multi-sensory approach.

* "The World of Words 7" from Rokus Publishing (Slovenia). Combining print, video, audio, and Web resources, this multimedia entry provided flexibility and ease of management for both the teachers and students in teaching and learning prose and poetry.

* "www.readinga-z.com" from Reading a-z.com (USA). This Web site contains an incredibly well thought out, leveled reading program with great versatility in uses, especially for reading disadvantaged children.

Receiving an honorable mention was "highlightskids.com" from Jersey Cow Software Company Inc. (USA). As the companion Internet resource for "Highlights for Children" magazine, this Web site was honored for its interactive features and encouragement of literacy development.

"The GLI Award for Innovation in Learning aims a new spotlight on educational publishers," said Charlene Gaynor, executive director of AEP. "Rather than just focusing on the curriculum for a particular country, the award shows that products can have a global appeal that transcends local standards and focuses on the needs of students worldwide."

In addition to the GLI Award, the 2003 Global Learning Initiative included a demonstration classroom, industry-specific seminars, and a collective exhibit of educational publishers. For more information on the GLI, visit www.edpress.org/international/home.html.

About the Bologna Children's Book Fair

The Bologna Children's Book Fair is the world's leading event for children's publishing, dedicated to the sale of rights and international co-productions of books and software. Bologna offers a comprehensive survey of published products, the latest multimedia developments, and the finest illustrations from around the world. For more information go to www.bookfair.bolognafiare.it.

About the Association of Educational Publishers

Since 1895, AEP--the United States' national, nonprofit professional organization for educational publishers--has provided print and digital publishers with the resources needed to thrive in today's changing education and publishing environment by tracking education, legislative, and industry information and trends; creating networking opportunities; and fostering excellence in educational publishing through professional development and recognition programs. For more information call 856-241-7772, e-mail mail@edpress.org, or go to www.edpress.org.