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**Holt Releases I.D.E.A. Works! To Help Social Studies Teachers Meet
IDEA Mandates For Special Needs Students**

Teacher Resource Package Has Modified Activities, Quizzes, and Tests

AUSTIN, Texas – November 14, 2003 – Holt, Rinehart and Winston today announced the release of a special education resource package, I.D.E.A. Works! Special Education CD-ROM, made up of teaching resources for the Holt social studies textbook series. I.D.E.A. Works! includes modified activities and assessment as required for Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) of special needs students who are included in mainstream classrooms (www.hrw.com).

“I.D.E.A. Works! from Holt provides teachers with modified curriculum and assessment materials that accompany Holt social studies textbooks and that help teachers meet IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) mandates,” said Judy Fowler, president of Holt. “I.D.E.A. Works! is a simple yet highly effective tool to help special needs students be an active part of their classroom. It is also one way to immediately meet requirements for diverse learner needs as specified in the *No Child Left Behind Act*.”

The I.D.E.A. Works! Special Education CD-ROM was the brainchild of Certified Special Education Teacher, Valorie Brown. Ms. Brown had been teaching at McNeil High School in Austin, Texas when she approached Holt with the idea for creating I.D.E.A. Works!. “I had an idea for how to make special education modifications for teachers to use so that they could truly include special needs students and comply with federal special education IDEA mandates without investing an inordinate amount of time modifying static resources,” said Ms. Brown. “Holt embraced my ideas and together we developed an excellent and highly-usable teacher resource that teachers have long been hoping for.”

Each version of the I.D.E.A. Works! Special Education CD-ROM includes all the lessons, activities, quizzes, and tests needed for each Holt social studies textbook and includes print-ready vocabulary flashcards that match the vocabulary in each textbook chapter. Teachers simply place the CD-ROM in their Macintosh or Windows computer and select the materials they need from six groups of resources: Guided Reading Strategies, Main Idea Activities, Daily Quizzes, Chapter and Unit Tests, Vocabulary Activities, and Print-Ready Flash Cards. Each group of resources is further defined by chapter so that teachers can easily find the materials they need in a print-ready PDF file or an editable Microsoft Word file.

As specified by IDEA guidelines, the I.D.E.A. Works! resources are slightly altered to allow special needs students to engage in the same activities and quizzes as their peers albeit using a modified version to make them easier to understand and complete. Typical modifications include simplified

vocabulary, shorter instructions, choice reduction in tests and quizzes, examples for modeling assignments, increased print size, and enhanced visual aids. Teachers can further individualize the editable activities, as needed.

Currently, an I.D.E.A. Works! Special Education CD-ROM is available for *Holt People, Places, and Change*; *Holt Call to Freedom: Beginnings to 1877*; *Holt World Geography Today*; *Holt World History: The Human Journey*; and *Holt American Nation: The Modern Era*. All schools that adopt these Holt social studies textbooks will receive the corresponding version of I.D.E.A. Works! for their textbook as a free resource from Holt.

Due to widespread interest in IDEA mandates and mainstreaming special needs students, Ms. Brown has been invited to speak about I.D.E.A. Works! at a ticketed session during the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development Annual National Conference in New Orleans in March 2004.

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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