



**HOLT, RINEHART AND WINSTON**

A Harcourt Education Company

$\pi = 3.14 = \text{March 14} = \text{Texas Pi Day} = \text{Pies!}$

**Holt Sponsors Texas Pi Day to Focus Attention on Mathematics and Gives Teachers Free Lesson Plans**

**AUSTIN, Texas – March 2, 2005** – To highlight the importance of mathematics education and help students see that mathematics affects their everyday lives, Holt, Rinehart and Winston is sponsoring Texas Pi Day on March 14 by giving K-8 teachers in Texas free math lesson plans and a serving of reality-based fun.

Pi, or  $\pi$ , is a mathematical concept that is taught and understood around the world. Texas Pi Day will occur on March 14, 2005, in recognition of the numeric significance of the date: 3.14. Holt's free teaching activities encourage teachers to give their students a fun experience with mathematics while they discover how math affects their lives in seemingly hidden ways. Teachers are encouraged to use the all-American dessert, pie, as a foundation for exploring the number pi. Not only do *pie* and *pi* sound alike, but pies are circular and the number pi is used in geometric equations related to circles.

"We created this activity in an effort to raise awareness of the importance of mathematics in our daily lives and to focus on mathematics education," said Judy Fowler, president of Holt. "Mathematics literacy is a core component of our country's plan to bring US students to the forefront of education success. We hope that this event will inspire students to look at mathematics in a new light and be more interested in their math classes."

During the first two weeks of March, Holt staff will deliver the free lesson plans to schools throughout Texas. Many schools will also receive free pies from Holt in an effort to encourage participation and thank them for their extraordinary daily efforts in teaching our youth.

Public and private schools throughout Texas can download the activities at [www.hrw.com](http://www.hrw.com).

### **About Holt, Rinehart and Winston**

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