MARTHA SPEAKS CELEBRATES SUMMER LEARNING WITH NEW EPISODES AND A FUN ONLINE GAME DURING MARTHA SPEAKETH WEEKETh ON PBS KIDS

Leading into National Summer Learning Day, three new fun-filled episodes take Martha and friends on all new learning adventures beginning June 16.

BOSTON, May 27, 2014 – Summer is here and MARTHA SPEAKS is celebrating with a week of fun and vocabulary on PBS KIDS. Beginning June 16 (check local listings), everyone’s favorite talking dog will kick off Martha Speaketh Weeketh with three all-new episodes of MARTHA SPEAKS and a new meaty online game, Martha’s Steaks. During the week, fans can watch their favorite canine linguist speaking in questions, in Polish, and even Elizabethan English!

The fun continues online with the brand new game, Martha’s Steaks. Children learn vocabulary as they make Martha’s furry friends hurdle, dash, soar, and tumble to catch treats through Martha’s dream-landscape of steaks, bacon, and drumsticks! Be sure to watch out for falling hamburgers beginning June 2!

“What better way to gear up for summer learning and Summer Learning Day on June 20 than with new fun episodes and games from MARTHA SPEAKS,” says Carol Greenwald, executive producer of MARTHA SPEAKS. “Whether it’s through great games or new shows, Martha and her friends make learning vocabulary exciting and fun all summer long.”

Martha Speaketh Weeketh premieres on PBS KIDS Monday, June 16, and includes the following new episodes (check local listings):

NEW!
Monday, June 16th
Thou Callest Me a Dog
A dog speaking Shakespeare? ‘Tis a consummation devoutly to be wished and achieved when Martha swallows Hamlet. Never was a dog’s desire for meat so artfully expressed.

Martha’s Paper Chase
It’s the Town Crier deadline and Carolina needs a headline. Hot on the trail for a story, and a biscuit, Senior Canine Reporter Martha stumbles into a scoop that screams front page: the whereabouts of Big Minnie. But is exposing Minnie’s privacy worth the story?
Tuesday, June 17th
Alice Tells a Story
When Alice tells the story of how she got Nelson, her class is confused. She ate pizza while playing hockey in an animal shelter? With a little help from Helen and T.D., she might be able to tell it correctly, even if it is about cats…

Pirates and Princesses
Princesses Carolina, Alice and Helen needeth a castle. Skipper Truman and First Mate T.D. are scouring the land for a ship. The problem: Helen only has one tree house. Who will prevail in the clash between buccaneers and royalty?

Wednesday, June 18th
Tomato, You Say
Why is there a tomato on T.D.’s shirt? Helen’s eager to know. Unfortunately, she’d have an easier time getting Martha to skip breakfast than getting a straight answer from T.D. Will she ever find out?

Martha Questions
Is Martha only speaking in questions? Why would that be? Can Skits help her figure it out? Did somebody put something funny in her soup? Will the questions ever stop???

Repeats
Thursday, June 19th
Oh, Noooo!
Granny Flo’s Alphabet Soup is taking a licking from the competition, Oodles of Os. If Granny Flo goes out of business, how will Martha communicate? To increase sales, Helen, Martha, and T.D. set out to convince Granny Flo to advertise on the popular TV show, International Icon. Who will Granny Flo choose as a spokesperson?

Bye, Martha
Nefarious con artist Weaselgraff hatches a scheme to kidnap Martha by pretending to be Martha’s long-lost owner . . . from Poland. The family sniffs something suspicious, but why has Martha suddenly begun speaking Polish? Will they really have to say pozegnalny to Martha?

Friday, June 20th
Martha Sings
Martha wakes up singing and not just because she’s happy. She can’t stop! Helen and Martha visit the vet, some musicians, and an opera singer, trying to discover the source of her musical malady to no avail. Will Martha ever be able to talk without a tempo again?

TD Makes the Band
Everybody’s singing about Shecky the Sea Lion and it’s driving TD nuts! He could write a better song than that, and that’s just what he’s going to do! He recruits the gang to join his band and then sets out to write a hit song . . . about Belgium? Inspiration strikes, but what will they do for an encore?
On the MARTHA SPEAKS website parents can access a variety of fun and educational resources, lesson plans, and activities to help their children learn new vocabulary in fun and exciting ways.

You can also continue the fun with Martha and her friends on Facebook.

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About Martha Speaks
Martha Speaks works to help increase children's oral vocabulary - and how better to get kids excited about learning new words than with a dog who just can't stop talking? Throughout the episodes, Martha teaches young children vocabulary words like famous, admire, understudy, and more. Distributed internationally by DHX Media, Martha Speaks also airs on TVO, Knowledge Network, and SCN and has been acquired by broadcasters across Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. Martha Speaks is a production of WGBH Boston and Oasis Animation Inc. Martha Speaks series funding is provided in part by the WGBH Children's Educational Media Fund, including The Germeshausen Foundation. Corporate funding is provided by Chuck E. Cheese's®. Additional funding is provided by public television viewers. ©2014 WGBH Educational Foundation. All rights reserved. "Martha" and all characters and underlying materials (including artwork) from the "Martha" books are trademarks of and copyrights of Susan Meddaugh and used under license. All other characters and underlying materials are trademarks of and copyrights of WGBH. All third party trademarks are the property of their respective owners. Used with permission.

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About PBS KIDS
PBS KIDS, the number one educational media brand for kids, offers all children the opportunity to explore new ideas and new worlds through television, online, mobile and community-based programs. Kidscreen- and Webby-award winning pbskids.org provides engaging interactive content, including the PBS KIDS video player, now offering free streaming video accessible on computer- and mobile-device-based browsers. For more information on specific PBS KIDS content supporting literacy, science, math and more, visit pbs.org/pressroom, or follow PBS KIDS on Twitter and Facebook.

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