

SUNDANCE/NEWBRIDGE **PRESS RELEASE**

Editorial Contact:

Michael Stugrin

(562) 498-6353

mstugrin@earthlink.net

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWBRIDGE EDUCATIONAL PUBLISHING EXPANDS POPULAR LEVELED NONFICTION READER OFFERINGS

Northborough, MA, October 26, 2006—Newbridge Educational Publishing, a leading publisher of K-8 instructional materials and a unit of Hights Cross Communications, Inc., today announced major new product releases, building on its popular **Discovery Links** leveled nonfiction science readers for Grades K-2 and **Thinking Like a Scientist**, inquiry based science readers for Grades K-3. Newbridge is also introducing **Visual Vocabulary Builders**, which uses real-world photos to help students in Grades 1-4 and English Language Learners develop science concepts.

“Newbridge Educational Publishing has developed well-regarded expertise in leveled nonfiction reading instruction,” said Paul Konowitch, Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing’s President. “Our **Discovery Links 2** leveled nonfiction readers combine science content, research-based reading strategies, and the highest-quality photography. **Discovery Links 2** helps introduce children to nonfiction reading and writing, which supports development of their cognitive abilities. This science leveled reading program supports the intensifying national emphasis on science instruction, particularly the newest NCLB instructional and testing requirements.”

Newbridge’s **Discovery Links 2** is an innovative supplemental reading program that has become popular with thousands of elementary school teachers. **Discovery Links 2** was developed under the guidance of Dr. Brenda Parkes, a nationally respected literacy expert. According to Dr. Parkes, the program “provides solid science content, supports the development of effective strategies for reading and comprehending informational texts, and involves children as active participants in their learning.”

Thinking Like a Scientist 2, for Grades K-3 classrooms, helps build critical thinking and reading skills. **Thinking Like a Scientist 2** has been expanded to include 24 Big Books and corresponding Little Books used to teach process skills and the “big ideas” of science through engaging texts and hands-on investigations.

Visual Vocabulary Builders develops science concepts and vocabulary with more than 250 real-world photos. 32 standards-based topic sets are organized around life, earth, and physical science. The program also features word cards, audio CDs, and complete

teaching support. The cards, which provide vocabulary in English and Spanish, help English Language Learners and all students in Grades 1-4.

About Newbridge Educational Publishing: Newbridge Educational Publishing is a leader in nonfiction reading in the content areas of social studies, science, and math for grades PreK–8. Newbridge offers a vast array of standards-based instructional programs. These programs provide the comprehensive teacher and assessment resources needed for success in the classroom.

About Hights Cross Communications:

Founded in 1997 and based in White Plains, NY, Hights Cross is a leading developer and publisher of products for the kindergarten through twelfth grade, or K-12, supplemental education, library, and medical education markets. Hights Cross imprints include: Sundance/Newbridge Educational Publishing (Northborough, MA), Triumph Learning (New York, NY), Buckle Down Publishing (Iowa City, IA), Options Publishing (Merrimack, NH), Recorded Books (Prince Frederick, MD), and Oakstone Publishing (Birmingham, AL). For more information, visit www.hightscross.com.

Safe Harbor Statement: This press release contains forward-looking statements. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as “may,” “will,” “should,” “could,” “would,” “expect,” “plan,” “anticipate,” “believe,” “potential,” and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are based on assumptions and subject to risks and uncertainties. These risks, uncertainties, and other factors may cause our actual results, performances, or achievements to be materially different from those expressed or implied by our forward-looking statements. Factors that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our forward-looking statements include, among others, changes in external market factors, changes in our business or growth strategy, or an inability to execute our strategy due to changes in our industry or the economy generally, the emergence of new or growing competitors and various other competitive factors. In light of these risks and uncertainties, there can be no assurance that the events and circumstances described in forward-looking statements contained in this press release will in fact occur. You should read this press release completely and with the understanding that our actual results may be materially different from what we expect. We will not update these forward-looking statements, even though our situation may change in the future. We qualify all of our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements.