

News Release



Controller of the State of California - Kathleen Connell

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STATE CONTROLLER ANNOUNCES OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF WEB SITE FOR YOUNG STUDENTS

Kids Sense Aims to Expand School Children's Knowledge of Government, Economics and Personal Finances

SACRAMENTO—State Controller Kathleen Connell announced today the official launch of Kids Sense, a new addition for school children ages 8 through 13 on the State Controller's Office (SCO) Web site (www.sco.ca.gov). The lively design and interesting content of Kids Sense invites students to browse and explore the site. The Controller introduced Kids Sense via an interactive live Webcast from the Balboa Elementary School in Northridge. Kids Sense is a unique Web site with learning materials designed to broaden our young students' knowledge of government, economics and personal finances.

“As more students log on to the information super-highway, we have a genuine opportunity to ensure that our young people have access to relevant, meaningful and engaging learning materials,” said Connell. “As Chief Financial Officer for the state and as the mother of two young boys, it's important to me that the Internet offer public informational materials which will inspire students to constantly learn,” she added.

The following are highlights of the Kids Sense Web site:

- **Get to Know the Controller** provides a profile of State Controller Kathleen Connell, Frequently Asked Questions, SCO Factoids and General Fund Factoids. Each month Kids Sense will debut a video on a topic of interest for young students. On June 7, the first video will be released of the Controller's visit to an offshore oilrig in Santa Barbara. Connell's visit will highlight the “Rigs to Reefs” program associated with her role as the Chair of the States Lands Commission. The next video will showcase the shipwreck Brother Jonathan discovered a century later off the coast of Crescent City and the treasures found on board.

Kids Sense Web Site/2-2-2

- **Lessons** for teachers in the classroom and for students to learn more about managing their money through the following two interactive programs: Saving Your Money and Budgeting Your Money. There are lessons on Where does California's Money Come From? And Where does California Spend its Money? A Glossary explains those difficult to understand terms.

- **Games** such as Tic Tac Toe and a Jigsaw Puzzle are tied to the financial theme of Kids Sense.

- **SCO Kids Club** contains a colorful certificate for children to print out making them an official member of the SCO Club.

"The Web site's appeal stretches beyond the interest of only young students," explained Connell. "Kids Sense encourages interaction and learning for children and adults alike."

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To view Kids Sense, visit the State Controller's Office Web site at www.sco.ca.gov