



# 75 x 27 Stories 🖽

### CONTACT

Tom Koch, Vice President PBS International 10 Guest Street Boston, MA 02135 USA TEL: +1.617.208.0735

jtkoch@pbs.org pbsinternational.org Part game show, part reality TV, and part spoof, FETCH! features real kids, real challenges, real science, and an unreal host named Ruff Ruffman (yes, he's an animated dog!) The series mixes live-action with animation and breaks the mold with its educational and comical take on America's reality television genre. Targeting six- to ten-year-olds, it is spontaneous, unscripted, and full of surprises.

The star/producer of FETCH! is a slightly neurotic yet lovably charismatic canine named Ruff Ruffman. He runs the show from his state-of-the-art headquarters, otherwise known as his doghouse. Rounding out the cast are Ruff's six tweenage contestants. Each epi-sode follows one or more of the cast members as they embark on mystery assignments (concocted by Ruff) to test their determination, their daring, and their intellect. True to the reality TV format, the kids have no idea what they're getting into until they're off on their challenges. If things aren't exciting enough, Ruff will throw in an unexpected twist to up the ante. At the end of each episode, Ruff awards points and declares a daily winner. And at the end of the season, the contestant with the most points wins an Unbelievably Fabulous Grand Prize!

FETCH! explores the untapped potential of the hugely popular reality television genre and proves that it can be a great venue for kids to have fun while learning problem-solving skills and teamwork. The series also offers viewers an important perspective on competition by letting them know that the value of an experience isn't just determined by winning or losing, but by what happens along the way. The series focuses on real world science, featuring kids as they pursue questions, conduct experiments, and actively investigate the world around them.

## THEMES

- Problem solving
- Teamwork
- Healthy competition

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

- Science
- Critical thinking
- Fun with learning

#### Ages 6-10



**CREDITS** *Executive Producer:* Kate Taylor *Series Producer:* Paul Serafini *Producers:* Marcy Gunther, Eric Handler *Senior Editor:* Arnie Harchik *Head Writer:* Glen Berger *Writer and Voice of Ruff Ruffman:* Jim Conroy

Image: WGBH



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