Words Come To Life In Wallykazam!, Nickelodeon's Brand-New Animated Preschool Literacy Series, Premiering Monday, Feb. 3, At 1 p.m. (ET/PT)

NEW YORK, Jan. 14, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- <u>Nickelodeon</u> invites preschoolers to discover the magic of words as the network debuts the brand-new animated literacy series <u>Wallykazam!</u> (26 eps) on <u>Monday, Feb. 3, at 1 p.m. (ET/PT)</u>. <u>Wallykazam!</u> follows the adventures of a troll named Wally and his pet dragon, Norville, who live in a forest with giants, goblins, ogres, sprites and other mythical creatures. Wally uses his magic stick to make words come to life on screen that start with a specific letter, sound or rhyme. Each episode features a new set of magic words that Wally uses to playfully transform the world around him.

(Photo: http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20140114/NY46234)

Wallykazam! is Nickelodeon's first preschool series that embeds a literacy curriculum into a full-length story, introducing skills such as letter and sound identification, rhyming, vocabulary development and comprehension strategies. Celebrity guests featured in season one include Vanessa Bayer (SNL), Weird Al Yankovic, John O'Hurley (Seinfeld), Kate Micucci (The Big Bang Theory) and Alanna Ubach (Nick at Nite's See Dad Run). Created by producer/writer Adam Peltzman (Emmy Awardwinning The Backyardigans and Bubble Guppies), the series will regularly air weekdays at 1:00 p.m. (ET/PT) on Nickelodeon.

"Wallykazam! offers a new approach to literacy by weaving it into a comedy-driven story with funny characters and adventures that will keep preschoolers laughing and engaged," said Teri Weiss, Executive Vice President, Nickelodeon Preschool. "The series furthers Nickelodeon's commitment to producing high-quality, curriculum rich content that helps prepare young children for the important adventure of starting school."

In the series premiere, "Naptime for Borgelorp," Wally babysits Ogre Doug's hyper and unpredictable pet Borgelorp. Ogre Doug gives Wally two instructions: get Borgelorp to take a nap and, most importantly, make sure he doesn't eat any purple flowers. Wally uses magic words to help tire out the rambunctious creature and desperately tries to keep him away from purple flowers, but Bobgoblin has other plans. The words introduced in the episode start with the letter "s" and include somersault, soar, sandwich and symphony.

Nickelodeon's award-winning website for parents and preschoolers, www.nickjr.com, features the Wallykazam! page with letter tracing activities, a word wheel craft, Wallykazam! board game, puzzles, coloring pages, and more. Parents can also visit NickJr.com's Creativity Center and "send a letter" to Wally for a chance to see their child's artwork on TV. Beginning Feb. 3, the full series premiere episode will be available on the site and free for download on iTunes the week of Jan. 27.

About Nickelodeon

Nickelodeon, now in its 34th year, is the number-one entertainment brand for kids. It has built a diverse, global business by putting kids first in everything it does. The company includes television programming and production in the United States and around the world, plus consumer products, online, recreation, books and feature films. Nickelodeon's U.S. television network is seen in more than 100 million households and has been the number-one-rated basic cable network for 18 consecutive years. For more information or artwork, visit http://www.nickpress.com. Nickelodeon and all related titles, characters and logos are trademarks of Viacom Inc. (NASDAQ: VIAB, VIA).

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