

Foundation for Fort Mill Schools 2013-2014 Grant Award winners

Innovative Classroom Project Grants: \$750

Samantha Warren, 3rd Grade Teacher, Orchard Park Elementary School:

It's Time for Kids to investigate: Using non-fiction kids' magazines and digital cameras to synthesize their reading and compose informational writing investigations.

This project promotes informational reading, writing, and investigating by utilizing *Time for Kids* children's magazine and digital photography as essential learning tools in the classroom across all of third grade.

Emily Gaither, 2nd Grade Teacher, Riverview Elementary School:

Research in the Classroom: Learning through Non-Fiction Books

This project aims to improve reading scores and increase understanding of the content by getting nonfiction leveled books into the classroom and increase the time students are engaged in reading, writing, and research about curriculum based topics.

Susan Balsinger, Reading Specialist, Sugar Creek Elementary School:

Power Up a Kindle to Power Up a Reader

This project provides a portable library to low achieving students to increase their reading minutes. Students will received the Kindles on a rotating basis for independent, guided, and at home reading.

Bethany Prain, 3rd Grade Teacher, Gold Hill Elementary School:

Multiplication Master in a Flash!

This project aims to strengthen both accuracy and speed with solving multiplication and division problems through the use of Flashmasters, which are hand-held electronic devices.

Jill Douds, Special Education Teacher; Terry Bauer-Brown, Guidance Counselor; Donna Randall, School Nurse; Yvette Senesi, Special Education Teacher, and others, Fort Mill Middle School:

Grow With Us

This project will educate students about plants, recycling, soil, water, and composting. Students will build raised bed gardens, fertilize soil, plan the garden layout, plant, water, nurture, and pick vegetables.

Kelly Yates, Kindergarten Teacher, Riverview Elementary School:

Razzle Dazzle Reading with RAZ-Kids

This project provides over one hundred eBooks to PreK-1st graders. Students will be able to record their own reading allowing teachers to have real-time samples of a student's reading fluency.

Missy Babinchak, 4th Grade Teacher, Orchard Park Elementary School:

Take Math Into Your Own Hands

This project provides math manipulatives to help students build a conceptual understanding of mathematics by allowing them to concretely see or illustrate a mathematical concept or equation.

Mandy Pyrc, Monika Dunbar, Karen Pickitt, Jeaneen Wainman, Special Services Teachers, Pleasant Knoll Elementary School:

School Inclusion Project

This project helps students with disabilities practice socially acceptable behaviors in a naturally occurring environment by pairing with same-age peers with common interests for social events.

Janet Gaither, Math Specialist, Springfield Elementary School:

5th Grade Fraction Action

This project provides fraction manipulatives to 5th grade students to help increase test scores and greater understanding of abstract math concepts.

Kristina Combs, 7th Grade Social Studies Teacher, Fort Mill Middle School:

FMMS WEB Crew “You Get Back What You Give”

This project will train 8th graders to act as positive role models, mentors, and teachers who then guide the 6th and 7th graders to discover what it takes to be successful in middle school.

Vicki Ball, Special Setting Teacher, Nation Ford High School:

Cooking 411

This project aims to increase independence in the kitchen among students with intellectual disabilities served in a special setting classroom.

Meredith Garrison, 1st Grade Teacher, Pleasant Knoll Elementary School:

Books for Book Bags

This project provides appropriate level books to first grade students to take home and practice reading strategies with their families.

Vicki Niedermeier, Special Education Teacher, Nation Ford High School:

Writing Tools for Success in Life

This project provides assistive technology for students to make academic progress in the areas of written and expressive language. Students can develop ideas, sentence structure, and apply writing mechanics by composing with their voice instead of paper and pencil.

Amanda Brogdon, 4th Grade Teacher, Springfield Elementary School:

Get that Sophisticated Look by Exploring a Good Book

This project provides book genres appropriate for 4th and 5th grade boys and aims to close the gap between males and females in reading assessments, with an emphasis on African American males.

Amy Rohring, 2nd Grade Teacher; Kaleb Greenan, 4th Grade Teacher; Ashley Pfountz, Kindergarten Teacher, Gold Hill Elementary School:

Engineering a Path to Success: Learning Through STEM

This project will incorporate Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math activities and materials into the curriculum for classroom exploration.

Professional Development Grants: \$250

Ryan Milling, Guidance Counselor, Orchard Park Elementary School:

Bucketfilling Program

This provided training on the Bucketfilling Program which will then be implemented at Orchard Park Elementary School.

Marion Cook, Lead Teacher; Heather Wolf, Reading Specialist, Springfield Elementary School:

Fountas and Pinnell Prompting Guide

This provided a flip-chart tool that gives a comprehensive collection of precise language to use when teaching, prompting for, and reinforcing effective strategic actions in reading.

TEC Dowling Grant for Technology: \$500

Ashley Mantel, Title 1 Teacher, Riverview Elementary School

Why can't I skip my twenty minutes of reading?

This grant provided voice recorders for students to record themselves reading. This allows teachers to evaluate reading fluency and develop individualized instruction for improvement.

Principal Project Grant: \$1,000

Keith Griffin, Principal; Sara Wallace, Teacher, Springfield Middle School

WEB Project

This project will train 8th grade leaders as positive role models and mentors who guide the 6th graders to discover what it takes to be successful during the transition to middle school and facilitate 6th grade success.