Greensburg Salem Education Foundation

Golden Apple Grant Application

Complete each section of this page and use it as the cover sheet for your application, which should include all of the items described below. Applications may be mailed to GSEF, PO Box 674, Greensburg, PA 15601 or delivered via Inter-School Mail Attn: GSEF, Middle School Office.
Additional copies of this application may be downloaded from the Foundation Website at www.GSEdFound.org

I. Application Information

Name **YOUR NAME HERE** Building **GSSD BUILDING**

Home Phone **724-555-5555** Cell Phone **724-555-5550**

Additional Applicants Involved in Project **GRANT FOR 5 KINDERGARTEN CLASSROOMS**

x District Employee □ Student □ Other _____

II. Project Title

Title **STEAM Activities for Kindergarten**

Dates/Duration of Project **2018 & beyond** Amount of Grant Request **$661.59**

III. Project Narrative (attach separately)

Your narrative may be from one to four pages long **BUT MUST** include the following:

1. **Short description of the project (1-3 sentences)**
2. Detailed description of the project including
   a. Project Need.
   b. Project Description (include if is it totally new or an enhancement to current activities).
   c. The population that will benefit from the project, including number of students served.
   d. Project goals and/or learning objectives.
   e. How you will measure or document the impact of your project.
   f. Short narrative explaining your expenditures.

IV. Project Budget – see attached form

1. List specific projected expenses using Golden Apple Grant Budget Worksheet format. **An incomplete budget form will disqualify your proposal.**
2. List any other funding sources supporting your project.

V. If requests are for technology, GSSD Coordinator of Technology signature is required. ____*Signature here*_____

VI. Building Principal's Acknowledgement (section to be completed by principal)

I am in agreement with this grant request. **X** Yes □ No (If No, please explain on reverse side.)

Principal's Signature *Principal Signature* Date **May 1, 2018**

(If applicant is a student) Parent's Signature _____

APPLICATION DEADLINES

There are two grant-award periods each year. Grants will be accepted from

- **March 15 to May 1, with award notification by June 15.**
- **September 15 to November 1, with award notification by December 15.**

II. PROJECT TITLE – STEAM Activities for Kindergarten

Description of Project - *The money from this grant would be used to extend the learning of our students through STEAM activities that support the Kindergarten Literacy Common Core State Standards, while integrating the Common Core Writing Standards. The lessons would have a close tie to the current Kindergarten curriculum.*

III. PROJECT NARRATIVE

It is imperative that our littlest learners begin, in Kindergarten, to "*know, use and interpret scientific explanations of the natural world; to generate and evaluate scientific evidence; to understand the nature and development of scientific knowledge; and participate productively in scientific practices.*" ~Taking Science to School

The Pennsylvania Department of Education's Framework for Grades Pre K to 4 states that "*science learning in the classroom requires curricula based on factual knowledge and conceptual development, helping children build on their natural curiosity to develop skills and knowledge in the sciences.*"

In other words, it is important that our Kindergartners learn "*how* to think, not *what* to think" through a variety of hands-on interdisciplinary activities that are supported by informational mentor texts.

A. Project Need

Because we have no funding available for additional science materials, we are looking for ways to purchase non-consumable materials to use in our Kindergarten classrooms. The items to be purchased are the mentor texts needed for each teacher-created lesson, as well as "hands-on" materials to support those STEAM lessons.

An important component of reading and writing development is the use of mentor texts. Especially in Kindergarten, it is important for our littlest learners to experience informational books about subjects that support a variety of science concepts. The Common Core State Standards expects young writers to begin to use narrative, informational and opinion writing; this can be accomplished enthusiastically through STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics) activities.

Please note: Materials from the FOSS Science Kit will continue to be utilized, as well as appropriate manipulatives from our EveryDay Mathematics program, to help defray the cost of this project. Every effort will be made to use additional books as mentor texts currently found within our Traits Writing, StoryTown Language Arts curriculum and our school library.

B. Project Description/History

Our current Kindergarten Science Curriculum is the FOSS Trees Unit of Study. This curriculum consists of life science lessons that develop beginning awareness of the characteristics of trees, the functions of each part, the basic needs of trees and the life cycle of a tree.

Several years ago, the Kindergarten teachers enrolled in a Project Learning Tree course through the Pennsylvania State Game Commission to both supplement and enrich the school district's FOSS lessons. Those lessons have proven to be very engaging for the children, while providing more in-depth information about trees and environmental education.

That course led to the creation of a district-wide Kindergarten field trip to Twin Lakes to extend the study of trees and the natural environment. This year, 11 Kindergarten classrooms visited Twin Lakes. The sessions consisted of several activities from Project Learning Tree, from the FOSS unit and teacher created lessons on the Western Pennsylvania environment. *The schedule for the day is attached.*

On May 7th of this year, Hutchinson Elementary held a day-long STEAM Carnival for all students. Kindergartners spent the day rotating between the classrooms to participate in a variety of STEAM activities that focused on the school's theme, Outer Space. The lessons included all areas of STEAM in the hands-on sessions. Those science activities were very well received by the Kindergartners, and guided the students through the process of awareness, knowledge, challenge and action. Both boys and girls were excited and actively engaged in the lessons. *A copy of the Kindergarten schedule is attached.*

It is through the above activities that we recognize the need for additional opportunities for our Kindergartners to experience Science activities more frequently throughout the school year.

C. Benefitting Population

This grant will allow my Kindergarten class the opportunity to explore concepts in scientific literacy. The lessons and materials will be shared with the other Kindergarten classrooms at Hutchinson, allowing approximately125 children to participate in the STEAM experience.

D. Project Goals/Learning Objectives:

- To provide grade-level appropriate mentor texts that support the current Kindergarten Curriculum and the Common Core Curriculum by expanding student understanding of Key Ideas and Details; Craft and Structure; and the Integration of Knowledge and Ideas specifically in the area of Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Mathematics (STEAM).

- To stress the importance of Informational text and quality children's literature with Kindergartners and to use those texts to promote narrative, informational and opinion writing in the area of Science.

- To allow children the opportunity to explore STEAM concepts through their natural curiosity and inquiry-based learning with the use of a variety of hands-on materials.

What better way to accomplish those goals and build knowledge and skills than through developmentally appropriate inquiry-based activities with teacher guidance and support? It is my hope that we can extend scientific learning through the teacher-created lessons, mentor texts and materials supplied by this grant.

E. Measurement of Program Impact

Greensburg Salem Kindergarten students will be positively impacted through the use of STEAM materials, mentor texts and teacher-created lesson plans. The exposure to quality literature and informational text used consistently is important for the literacy development of each child. The materials they use to explore these concepts will help build the foundation of scientific inquiry and learning.

This grant will augment scientific learning while building Kindergarten students' foundational literacy skills and supporting growth in reading, comprehending literary and informational text and writing in a variety of ways.

Program documentation will include lesson plans and student work, such as graphic organizers, writing samples, photos of explorations, etc. Student learning will be evaluated through in-depth discussion, journal writing and teacher observation with checklists and appropriate formative assessments.

F. Expenditure Narrative

The mentor texts chosen support the teacher-created Common Core lessons. Several sites were searched to find the best price for the books; they can be ordered from Amazon, Barnes & Nobles and Scholastic Books. The hands-on materials for science exploration will be purchased from local stores (Walmart, the Dollar Tree, etc.) and science sites, Oriental Trading and Lakeshore, in order to make the most cost efficient purchases.

*Additional Funding***:** At our Meet the Teacher night, I plan to ask parents to help support the STEAM activities in any way they can. I will provide a list of materials that we will need (some items may need to be purchased and some may be materials that need to be collected from home at no cost). That allows all families the opportunity to participate at a level they are comfortable with.

*Future Funding***:** The books and materials purchased through this grant will be used each year, so no additional funding will be necessary for this STEAM project.

IV. PROJECT BUDGET

Project Costs Items (materials, stipend, supplies, etc.)

Qty	Item Description	Vendor	ISBN	GSEF Funding	Total
5	Book Set: @ $30.44/each What is Science? What is a Scientist? I Use Science Tools	Barnes & Noble	123-123	$152.20	$152.20
1	National Geographic Little Kids Big Book of "Why?"@ $11.57	Barnes & Noble	234-234	$11.57	$11.57
1	Trees, Golden Guide	Barnes & Noble	345-345	$6.95	$6.95
1	Glo-Germ Powder Kit #KT-GLOPOWD @ 31.50 plus $6.98 shipping	hometrainingtools.com	456-456	$38.48	$38.48
6	Unisex White Lab Coats @ $13.99/ea – no shipping charge	rmfkidslabcoat.com	567-567	$83.94	$83.94
1	Science Discovery Chest: Lab tools for Kdg.#DD128@ $199.00	lakeshorelearning.com	321-321	$199.00	$199.00
1	Jumbo Specimen Viewer – set of 12 #LA876 @ $39.99	Lakeshorelearning.com	432-432	$39.99	$39.99
1	Gateway Safety Goggles: Set of 6 #FS383 @ $19.99	lakeshorelearning.com	999-999	$19.99	$19.99
12	Plastic Tweezers/Forceps #TW512 @ $11.99	lakeshorelearning.com	999-888	$11.99	$11.99
1	Petri Dishes: Set of 12 #WF371 @ $8.99	lakeshorelearning.com	777-777	$8.99	$8.99
1	Shipping Costs	lakeshorelearning.com	111-111	$88.48	$88.48
	Total Cost of Grant:			**$661.59**	**$661.59**
		Materials Provided By School District			
	Chart Tablets				$25.00

	Science Journals, Class Set				$25.00
	Sponges				$3.00
	Tape (Masking/Transparent)				$10.00
	Materials Donated by Teacher/Parents				
	Ziplock Baggies				
	Cotton Swabs				
	Coffee Filters				
	Food Coloring				
	Table Salt				
	White Vinegar				
	Rubber Bands				
	Plastic Ice Cube Trays				
	Assorted Balls/Marbles				
	Potting Soil				
	Black Light Bulbs				
	Clipboards				
	Assorted Seed Packets				
	Plastic Water Bottles				
	Paper Towel Tubes				
	Plastic Containers/Tubs				
	Terry Cloth Washcloths				
	Assorted Recycled Materials (coated wire, bottle caps, metal washers, etc.)				

Note to potential grantees –
This grant also included several attachments that were mentioned in the narrative and pages from websites showing the items to be purchased.