

2014-2015 Educational Grant Application

Submission Date	2014-03-26 17:22:05
Name of Grant	Take Me on A Wild Adventure
Primary Contact	Michelle Apgar
Applicant E-mail	michelle_apgar@allenisd.org
Phone Number	(972) 727-0650
Additional Teachers/Staff who are applying for or will be working with this grant:	Susan Megert, Amy McAleavey, Elizabeth Hedary, & Carmen Mendoza
Campus	Boyd Elementary School
Curriculum Area	Science
Grade Level(s)	Kindergarten
Students Impacted	120
Approver Name	Kyle Purifull
Approver E-mail	kyle_Pursifull@allenisd.org
Project Purpose	<p>At Boyd Elementary School, we serve students who are both at-risk and economically disadvantaged. We serve a large population of Bilingual Spanish and English as a Second Language Learners. Many of our students enter school having had little or no experiences outside of the home. Experiences that children typically enjoy on the weekends with their family are not possible for these children due to limited resources. These students have had few opportunities to engage in life experiences that are hands-on and educationally enriching. The absence of such life experiences creates gaps in vocabulary, reading and listening comprehension, and overall learning. We would like to offer them the opportunity to visit and experience the Dallas Zoo. This would be an enriching event that we believe will help students develop an understanding of living things-what they need, how they survive, and how they are alike and different in so many ways!!</p>
Project Description	<p>The Boyd Kindergarten teachers and parent volunteers (1 per 10 students) would take two school buses to the Dallas Zoo. Our target population is Boyd Kindergarten students, which consist of approximately 80 monolingual and 40 bilingual students. Students would benefit greatly from this experience by developing and utilizing oral language and new vocabulary, having authentic exposure to a variety of animals, making comparisons, and then writing about the experience when we return.</p>

Allen ISD Goals/TEKS

K.10A Sort plants and animals into groups based on physical characteristics such as color, size, body covering
K.10B Identify parts of animals such as head, eyes, and limbs.

K.2 Scientific investigation and reasoning- The student develops abilities to ask questions and seek answers in classroom and outdoor investigations.

Measurements

Student learning will be measured by student's ability to communicate about the animals observed on the trip through both oral and written tasks. Such activities would include sorting of animal pictures and/or plastic models to indicate knowledge of body coverings, size, and other physical attributes. Evaluation of understanding will be demonstrated in student drawings and pieces of writing. Teacher will evaluate student's ability to apply scientific investigation and reasoning skills through observation of student's asking questions and making hypothesis'.

Teaching Methods

Prior to the trip, teacher will read many nonfiction books about animals- including books that teach about animal coverings, parts that help animals survive, where they live and why, and other attributes of animals. Teacher will use discussion and writing to activate prior knowledge and help students make connections.
During the field trip, teacher will ask many questions and encourage oral language about the animals. Students will engage in writing experiences involving research about animals that they found particularly interesting.

Timeline for Project

This will be a one day field trip, preferably in the Spring.

Curriculum/System Support

This field trip enhances and supports Allen ISD science curriculum in it's effort to help student's understand the ways in which animals and living things are made to live in our world.
Allen ISD seeks to create life-long learners that achieve their highest potential. By offering students enriching learning experiences, such as this, we provide the environment for such development to occur.

Additional Comments

We have noticed that our student's lack of personal experiences affects their learning. We would like to have the opportunity to offer them as many experiences as possible at school so that they may have more schema to relate to their learning.

Instructional Supplies or Resources

NA

Supplies Budget

0

Technology

NA

Technology Budget

0

Staff Training / Staff Development

NA

Training Budget	0
Transportation/Field Trip	Bus - \$500 Zoo Tickets - \$5 each/\$600 total
Transportation Budget	\$1100
Other	NA
Other Budget	0
Total Budget	\$1100
Additional Funds	NA