



## BEF Classroom Innovation Grant Awards Fall 2011

### **The Literary Vlogger**

Project 15 of 100

School: Aloha High

Recipient: Alana Bertram, Golda LoBello, Andrea Hartz, Ken Martinez

Award: \$772

### **Funding provided through the Dave Gettling Technology Fund**

In *The Literary Vlogger*, students will be given the opportunity to communicate what they have learned through You-Tube style video blogs (vlogs). After studying a work of literature, students will record themselves vlogging as characters from the work. They will demonstrate their understanding by not only recounting what happens, but explaining characters motivation, the emotional impact of significant events, and even predicting future actions based on characters' past behaviors.

### **African Serengeti Safari**

Project 16 of 100

School: Aloha High

Recipient: Helen Lovgren

Award: \$775

Thirty-five high school English Language Learners (ELL) will be involved in a partnership and volunteer project with the Oregon Zoo. Under the direction of the staff of the Oregon Zoo Education Department and the ELL teacher, this project will provide students with a learning opportunity to use both their first and second language skills. Students will research the animals of the African Serengeti in preparation for working as volunteers in the zoo's Predators of the Serengeti exhibit. Students will disseminate information about the animals to zoo visitors.

### **Project MAC (Middle School Mentor Academy)**

Project 17 of 100

School: Aloha Huber Park

Recipient: Karla Ramirez, Veronica Galvan

Award: \$625

Project MAC is a sustainable opportunity that teaches seventh grade students to mentor kindergarten through fourth grade students in reading and math. The project is designed for the mutual benefit of both seventh grade mentors and the younger students they are assisting. School leaders and peers will hold the seventh graders to high standards as they develop into important members of their school community.

### **Evaluating the Earth's Landscape**

Project 18 of 100

School: Beaver Acres Elementary

Recipient: Jennifer Whitten

Award: \$937

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

Acting as Geotechnical Engineers, fourth grade students will work through the engineering design process to evaluate a fictional landscape in Nepal, and make recommendations for a potential site to build a bridge. In addition students will have the opportunity to participate in OMSI's traveling program – Let's Rock. The program will connect students with scientists in our community, while learning about the dynamic forces that shape our Earth, and how to properly identify rocks and minerals.

### **Cultivating Scientific Literacy Through Cartooning**

Project 19 of 100

School: Beaverton High School

Recipient: Molly Lynn Sultany, Gabrielle Hendel, Kelly Hoch

Award: \$412

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

Students will develop scientific literacy through an interdisciplinary approach that merges art, writing and science. Two-hundred Science Inquiry students will create comic book pages with original illustrations and text, as they explore ecological interactions, human impact on the environment, and the ecological services that support life on earth. By sharing their work with their peers, students will engage in collaborative learning. Direct vocabulary instruction will benefit students, improving comprehension, retention and writing skills. Students will produce a comic book for the classroom library.

### **5<sup>th</sup> Grade College Planning**

Project 20 of 100

School: Chehalem Elementary

Recipient: Chris Sonnichsen

Award: \$1,000

Students who are given the opportunity to visit college campuses make the connection between their own education and future possibilities. College becomes an accessible reality and high school completion a necessity. All 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will spend a day touring a local college campus. They will meet with teachers, administrators and students, as well as visit lecture halls, dorm rooms, the library, gym, etc. The goal of this project is to enlarge the world-view of students to encourage them to set self-goals and to understand the value of what an education means to their future.

### **Engineering Design 2<sup>nd</sup>/5<sup>th</sup>: Designing Maglev Systems**

Project 21 of 100

School: Chehalem, Errol Hassell, Scholls Heights

Recipient: Erika Hansen-Rudishauser

Award: \$730.50

#### **Funding provided through the Dave Gettling Technology Fund**

This project will help prepare students, in 18 classrooms at 3 schools, to succeed within the ever changing, competitive global job market, by giving students early opportunities to engage in the processes utilized by scientists, engineers and mathematicians as they seek to investigate and solve real world dilemmas. The Engineering is Elementary Project utilizes highly motivating, student-engaged lessons to support engineering design processes through integrated instruction. Common science standards in second and fifth grade classrooms offer a unique opportunity to collaborate, share resources and engage in cross grade level science exploration.

### **Introduction to Trait Writing Through a Community Study**

Project 22 of 100

School: Elmonica Elementary

Recipient: Megan McCoy, Priscilla Paik, Jessica Strong, Jane Unger

Award: \$1,000

This project integrates and provides exploratory platform from which second grade students will demonstrate content knowledge through their understanding of the writing process. The second grade classes will visit a rural community to tour the post office, fire station and wheat farm/pumpkin patch. In the six weeks leading up to the trip students will be introduced to the 6 + 1 traits of writing, as well as the writing process. The trip will culminate in a 5-week writing project in which students will compose a narrative of their experience.

### **iKindergarten**

Project 23 of 100

School: Errol Hassell Elementary

Recipient: Rebecca Duda

Award: \$618

#### **Funding provided through the Dave Gettling Technology Fund**

The iKindergarten project will provide children extended practice as they work on identifying capital/lowercase letters, letter sounds, and basic sight words by using an iPad. Utilizing this technology will allow students to receive instant feedback as they work toward key kindergarten learning targets.

### **Digitally Digging it with Dignity**

Project 24 of 100

School: Five Oaks Middle

Recipient: Rae Ann Strauser, Tina Chavez

Award: \$1,000

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

The project will assist students who struggle to read proficiently via targeted fluency, vocabulary development and comprehension intervention. Following the written word while listening to the audio version of the text on an iPod will make core literature accessible, particularly for special education and English Language Learning students. The iPod will provide equal access to education in fully inclusive settings in a dignified, engaging manner.

### **Tapping Our Possibilities**

Project 25 of 100

School: Greenway Elementary

Recipient: Susan Bomber

Award: \$930

Grant funds will be used to purchase an iPad that will provide unlimited learning opportunities for students who experience autism, behavioral challenges and cognitive disabilities. Students will be able to use the iPad as not only a tool to access academic content, but also for communication, behavior management, social skills, fine motor practice and more. The project will turn students' fascination with technology into skills that will improve their quality of life at school, home and within the community.

### **Anatomy in Clay**

Project 26 of 100

School: Health and Science School

Recipient: Denise Farrell

Award: \$918

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

*Anatomy in Clay* will provide students with hands-on learning techniques to re-enforce and strengthen the retention of material presented in Anatomy class. Mannequins will be used, along with clay, to construct muscles and organs to add to an existing skeleton. This hands-on approach will allow students to grasp the human body in three dimensions spatially. The activity-based class will allow students to use their critical thinking skills in the construction of the human body and its systems.

**Deals on Wheels**

Project 27 of 100

School: Highland Park Middle

Recipient: Kate England

Award: \$900

Grant funds will be used to create a student store that will provide peer to peer-modeling opportunities for special education students and practical experiences for students in the specialized education classrooms in the school. The special education students will be paired with other students to work a shift in the store. Working side-by-side with typically developing peers will give students the opportunity to practice social skills, communicate with others and learn practical money skills.

**Take Home Technology for Kindergarteners**

Project 28 of 100

School: Kinnaman Elementary

Recipient: Gladys Reynaud

Award: \$950

**Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

Although educational electronic games designed for early learners are available in stores, many students do not have access to these learning tools due to their cost. Grant funds will be used to purchase portable games by Vtech and Leap Frog for kindergarten students to take home on a rotating basis. Students will be able to hear, practice and identify letters of the alphabet and their sounds in a repeated and engaging manner.

**Interact and Capture**

Project 29 of 100

School: Oak Hills Elementary

Recipient: Laura Zindle

Award: \$960

**Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

The goal of this project is to provide interactive technology based learning experiences for students with special needs in a self-contained special education classroom. The E-Beam (Electronic-Beam technology) will provide students with interactive and engaging learning experiences in all subject areas by turning the computers and whiteboards into interactive surfaces.

**Literary Arts Magazine**

Project 30 of 100

School: Springville K-8

Recipient: Sarah Manuel

Award: \$530

The aim of this project is to establish a middle school literary arts magazine. Sixth and seventh grade students will meet regularly after school throughout the year to: research and review existing middle school literary arts magazines; develop peer editing, content and design rubrics based on this research; solicit and review student submissions in poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction, graphic texts, and visual art; work with writers and artists to revise, edit and format their work; apply peer editing, content and design rubrics to multiple drafts of the magazine; finalize digital layout of the magazine; and submit the magazine for publication.

**JA Biztown**

Project 31 of 100

School: Springville K-8

Recipient: Frank Falkowski, Cynthia Pawlowski, Kimberly Bakanec

Award: \$1,000

Using the Junior Achievement curriculum, 5<sup>th</sup> grade students will learn about communities and economies, financial literacy, work readiness, and business management. At Junior Achievement Biztown students will receive hands-on experiences through business and community simulation, practicing the skills they acquired throughout the nineteen lessons taught prior to Biztown.

**iPads and the iGeneration**

Project 32 of 100

School: Stoller Middle

Recipient: Katie Rarick

Award: \$998

**Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

In Media Literacy class students are exposed to a wide array of media elements and they learn to critically analyze those messages from the mass media. The primary objective of this project is to expand students' knowledge of how advertising impacts their buying choices. Students will learn key advertising techniques used in commercials and magazine advertisements. Students will then apply this knowledge by creating a commercial of their own. The iPads will play a pivotal role in the commercial development as they can film, take still images, research their product and create their commercial using iMovie all with the same device.

### **Learning and Applying Mathematics through Scientific Fieldwork**

Project 33 of 100

School: Southridge High

Recipient: David Carpenter

Award: \$500

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

The main purpose of the project is to develop and implement a curriculum that promotes a laboratory-based, collaborative and highly interactive model of instruction that encourages active student participation in the learning process for at-risk students. Applied mathematics will offer at-risk students the unique opportunity to explore, revise and finally understand mathematical concepts by participating in a series of carefully designed activities. These field-based activities will include hands-on exploring of the mathematics used in scientific equipment, using the equipment in the field, collection of quantitative field data, and analyzing field data through graphics and statistics.

### **K-20 Collaborative Approach to Science CCR**

Project 34 of 100

School: Southridge High

Recipient: Diana Baker

Award: \$1,000

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

This field-based educational project will help at-risk students meet their credit requirements for science and expose them to relevant experiences to help them master scientific knowledge, literacy and thinking. This collaborative project between District science teachers, Portland State University science professors and graduate students will offer at-risk students the opportunity to obtain science credit outside the regular school day. The desired outcome of the project is to increase the number of at-risk students who identify themselves as future science, technology, engineering and mathematics college students.

### **Arts in Education: Integrating Art into the Curriculum**

Project 35 of 100

School: Vose Elementary

Recipient: Karin Bryson, Yanick Mesa, Maria Pedraza

Award: \$1,000

Art education can foster critical thinking as well as cognitive and social development. The goal of this project is to effectively integrate the arts across all subject areas. Grant funds will be used to create “art trunks” that will include the materials necessary to integrate art instruction into all aspects of the curriculum.

### **Opal Creek Ancient Forest Overnight**

Project 36 of 100

School: Vose Elementary

Recipient: Angela Baker Sanchez

Award: \$1,000

#### **Funding provided through the Mike Osborne Memorial Award Fund**

As a culmination to the 5<sup>th</sup> grade science studies, students will go on an overnight trip to the Opal Creek Ancient Forest Center. There, students will solidify their academic knowledge under the guidance of Opal Creek instructors. Students will explore sustainability, ecology, watersheds, astronomy and geology through hikes, observations and journaling. Students will present a science fair project based on their experience.

### **Mathlab**

Project 37 of 100

School: West Tualatin View Elementary

Recipient: Kalay McNamee

Award: \$500

#### **Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

Math Lab is an educational program that is designed to provide targeted math computation instruction and practice to support students in second through fifth grades. Students will be tutored at their individual level with the goal of improving math computation and math fluency. Community members from a retirement facility, Unitus Community Credit Union and other neighboring groups have committed to serving as volunteer math coaches.

### **Arduino: Inventing with Computers and Machines**

Project 38 of 100

School: Westview High

Recipient: Brian Gerber

Award: \$918

#### **Funding provided through the Dave Gettling Technology Fund**

The Arduino Experimentation Kit will provide a platform to do electrical engineering (wiring), computer science engineering (programming), and mechanical engineering (building with parts that respond physically to the hardware and software commands), into an invention designed and built by students. The kits disassemble and are reusable.

**Family Book Clubs**

Project 39 of 100

School: William Walker Elementary

Recipient: Adrienne Gillespie

Award: \$960

The Family Book Club project will be an opportunity for parents and children to share a literary experience. The clubs will meet to discuss literature in a cross-generational setting, encouraging children to read high-quality high-interest literature, discuss ideas and issues in a safe environment and connect with important people in their lives. Each family will be provided with a copy of the current book under discussion, ensuring that everyone has access and can participate. The clubs will take several formats such as:

- Mother-Daughter Book Club
- Club de Lectores (for Spanish speakers)
- Parent-Son Book Club
- Parent-Grandparent Book Club

**Together We Continue**

Project 40 of 100

School: William Walker Elementary

Recipient: Sheryl Feuz

Award: \$1,000

**Funding provided through the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program**

*Together We Continue* extends the BEF funded project initiated in 2010 to promote comprehension strategies with challenged Special Education Learners. Incorporating iPads into the literacy project will enrich, inspire and continue to build fluency and comprehension strategies. Technology, together with the class library, purchased with the previous BEF grant, will provide the additional push these children need to make more significant gains in their reading.

***With thanks to our generous donors, including the Dave Gettling Technology Fund, The Mike Osborne Memorial Award Fund, and the BEF Building STEAM 4 All Program, the Beaverton Education Foundation was able to award \$21,933.50, funding 26 classroom projects.***