

2012 Competitive Grant Recipients

The Foundation's eleventh annual competitive grant opportunity in the amount of \$10,000.00 will impact over 1,300 students. The 2012 grant recipients are:

- Lake Prairie Elementary teacher Mary Ann Sytsma (\$900.00);
Three Creeks Elementary teachers Stephanie Olson, Trisha Stanton, Linsey Waterstraat (\$900);
Oak Hill Elementary teacher David Lilly (\$1,200) "*Rendezvous with a Comet.*"
In preparation for a mock space mission that will take place at the Challenger Learning Center at Purdue University Calumet, all fifth grade students will spend several weeks learning and practicing the many tasks they will be responsible for while on this mission. They will focus on following directions, sequencing, problem solving, listening skills, task analysis, and working cooperatively as a team: All tasks needed for a successful space mission.
- Three Creeks Title 1 reading teacher Kristen Hughes (\$555.00) "*Key Links Literacy Set.*" This is a kit with unique focus panels to provide explicit teacher/parent guidance before, during and after reading with teacher tools, assessment guide, and benchmark cards. The book set will benefit students by offering them high interest, relevant text with a standards-based comprehension question framework built into each page.
- Three Creeks Elementary teachers Mary Stinnett, Janet Bailey, and Marilyn Stuckert (\$1,000.00) "*Study Trip to Indianapolis.*" All Three Creeks fourth graders will be visiting the Indiana State Museum and Indiana State House. This will be a culminating event for a yearlong study on Indiana, according to the state standards.
- Three Creeks Elementary literacy coach Sarah Taylor (\$962.00) "*Enemy Pie-Author Visit.*" This grant will help fund a Three Creeks visit from Derek Munson, author of "Enemy Pie." He will do four presentations giving students an appreciation of the process used to create books. This not only supports the quest to create readers and writers but the book promotes the school's anti-bullying program.
- Three Creeks Elementary teacher Kassie Hanger (\$495.00) "*Keeping Students' Minds-in-Motion.*" This grant will cover the cost of the training for this program, which will then be used in the classroom and then be brought to other staff members. The program offers a unique blend of gymnastics, balance exercises, and applied technology, all focused on strengthening the brain's ability to process and organize information efficiently.
- Lowell Middle School Language Arts teacher Megan McCollister Iussig (\$554.00) "*The Art & Enchantment of Storytelling.*" This gives accelerated 8th grade language arts students the opportunity to see the Chicago play, **Big Fish: A New Musical of Epic Proportions**. The play will then serve as inspiration for students to explore the art of stories and storytelling in their own creative ways. They will work collaboratively to identify the power of stories and how they can affect the world in which we live while, also, examining story structure and analyzing themes.
- Lowell Middle School Science teacher Beverly Free (\$300) "*Junkyard Wars.*" This project gives students the opportunity to design and build a machine that will perform a specified task. The students will design a car that will run by changing potential energy into kinetic energy. Students will benefit by enabling them to participate in a hands on, collaborative opportunity that will specifically address the technology and engineering standard for grade 6 Science.

- Lowell High School PE/Health Education teacher Annette Weiland (\$2,384.00) “*New Tech Fitness.*” This grant purchases Nike Fuel Bands, which will count steps, calories burned, and the amount of time exercised with immediate results. It is hoped that students will learn what it actually takes to be healthy and then return this knowledge back to their families and friends.
 - Lowell High School teacher Joe Gianotti (\$750) “Indianapolis College Crawl.” This grant helps to give the academic decathlon and academic super bowl teams the opportunity to do a two day visit to the University of Indianapolis, Butler University, and IUPUI. While there, students will take campus visits and meet with a professor about their respective areas of team study. In addition to the colleges, students will visit the Indianapolis Art Museum and the Indiana Medical History Museum since both have material relevant to this year’s curriculum.
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