

The Washington Post

Grants in Education

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MARYLAND

German Kasperle Theater in the Classroom

Washington Waldorf School
4800 Sangamore Road, Bethesda, Md. 20816; 301-229-6107;
FAX 301-229-9379
Submitted By: Jannette Patterson

As part of the German studies program, the ninth grade students rehearse and perform simple interactive puppet theater skits for the students in the lower grades at Washington Waldorf School. These puppet shows increase awareness of German language and culture and enhance the German studies program.

Kindermusik for Kids

Montgomery Knolls Elementary School
807 Daleview Drive, Silver Spring, Md. 20901; 301-431-7667;
FAX 301-431-7669
Submitted By: Steve Sinni

Kindermusik uses music and movement to nurture a child's musical, physical, social, emotional and cognitive development. First and second grade children learn melodic notation as well as how to create their own compositions by using an instrument called a glockenspiel.

PALS: Parent Access Leads to Success

Thomas Claggett Elementary School
2001 Addison Road South, District Heights, Md. 20747;
301-499-7057; FAX 301-808-4458
Submitted By: Robin Scott, Deborah Witsken, Sylvia Jackson-Taylor and Linda Kennedy

The Parent Infant Program and the Program for Deaf and Hard of Hearing based at Thomas Claggett Elementary School provides early intervention services and education to deaf and hearing impaired children from birth through elementary school. PALS provides access to information relevant to hearing impairment and parenting students with hearing impairment.

History Documentary Project: Vietnam Nurses Tell Their Story

Connelly School of the Holy Child
9029 Bradley Boulevard, Potomac, Md. 20854; 301-365-0955;
FAX 301-365-0981
Submitted By: Ken Woodard

Advanced Placement United States History high school students research and videotape still images from the National Archives as well as conduct interviews with Vietnam Veteran Nurses. The research and footage is the basis for a documentary that will be broadcast by Montgomery County Television.

Natural Science Enrichment Project

Paint Branch Elementary School
5101 Pierce Avenue, College Park, Md. 20722; 301-513-5300;
FAX 301-513-5303
Submitted By: Joan Ramsay

This enrichment project places live plants and live lesser-studied animals in the kindergarten classrooms. Providing kindergartners with the experience of having live plants and animals that show the variety of living things expands their appreciation and knowledge of the world.

Lunch Buddies

Hollywood Elementary School
9811 49th Avenue, College Park, Md. 20740; 301-513-5900;
FAX 301-513-5383
Submitted By: Nancy Schnickner

The Lunch Buddies Program fosters a close connection between the new ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) students and the rest of the student population at Hollywood Elementary by matching older and younger children together to eat lunch and read a story together. This program celebrates the many cultures represented at Hollywood and encourages reading for information and enjoyment.

Cross-Age-Teaching of Science

Damascus High School
25921 Ridge Road, Damascus, Md. 20872; 301-253-7030;
FAX 301-253-7046
Submitted By: Don Ayotte and Elena Pisciotta

Damascus juniors and seniors in the Cross-Age-Teaching of Science classes design interactive demonstrations and hands-on experiments that illustrate biological and physical science topics encountered by local elementary students in their science studies. Damascus High School students utilize hands-on, interactive and experimental teaching techniques to present their activities to the elementary school children.

What Does the Stock Market and SAT Prep Have In Common?

Frederick Douglass High School
8000 Croom Road, Upper Marlboro, Md. 20772; 301-952-2400;
FAX 301-627-3377
Submitted By: John Pish

This project gives high school students access to newspapers, magazines and journals that provide information about the stock market. Students use these magazines to gain information necessary for participating in the Stock Market Game. The Stock Market Game develops reading and research skills while enhancing students vocabulary and analytical skills.

Inquiring About History

Germantown Elementary School
19110 Liberty Mill Road, Germantown, Md. 20874;
301-353-8050; FAX 301-601-0393
Submitted By: Anita O'Neill and Michelle Kirkpatrick

The Inquiring about History project provides the opportunity for fifth grade students to engage in an exploration of historical events from different cultural perspectives. Students interact with a variety of primary and secondary sources during their explorations. Upon completing their research, students will create a museum to share with other students and the community.

Learning Styles and Literacy in Kindergarten

Laurel Woods Elementary School
9250 N. Laurel Road, Laurel, Md. 20723; 410-880-5960;
FAX 410-880-5964
Submitted By: Elizabeth Kelley and Paul Carpenetti

This reading program uses a variety of books, audio compact discs and three dimensional alphabet letters that target the diverse learning styles present in the kindergarten classroom. The materials address the needs of kinesthetic, visual and auditory learners in order to increase the number of students achieving on or above grade level status at the end of the year.

Intergenerational Reading

Leonardtown High School
23995 Point Lookout Road, Leonardtown, Md. 20650;
301-475-0200; FAX 301-475-0204
Submitted By: Tammy Parsons and Pat Rauh

This program brings Leonardtown High School students participating in the Child Development Program and young children in the area together for a reading program. The high school students travel to several different locations to observe and then practice the skill of reading to young children. They also learn about preparing appropriate activities to accompany their stories.

M4=Making Math Measurements Meaningful

Washington Episcopal School
5600 Little Falls Parkway, Bethesda, Md. 20816; 301-652-7878;
FAX 301-652-7255
Submitted By: Nancy Wright

M4=Making Math Measurements Meaningful is composed of two school-wide math events that bring elementary and middle school students together. Eighth grade students assist teachers during a Scavenger Hunt where clues are obtained by solving measurement word problems. "Pi Day" is an activity where the eighth grade students take on teacher roles and lead the younger students in measuring activities.

Introduction to Algebra – A "Hands-On" Approach

Milton Somers Middle School
300 Willow Lane, La Plata, Md. 20646; 301-934-4663;
FAX 301-934-2982
Submitted By: Janice McCue

This project involves the use of the "Hands-On Equations Learning System" as a method of instruction. The visual and kinesthetic approach to learning about math is designed for eighth grade students who have had difficulty with the study of math. Through this project, these students have the opportunity to explore abstract concepts of algebra in an innovative and meaningful way.

Middle School Book Project

Wilde Lake Middle School
10481 Cross Fox Lane, Columbia, Md. 21044; 410-313-6957;
FAX 410-313-6963
Submitted By: Martha Fulda

This project allows middle school students to select books from a collection of popular children's books. The reading classes at Wilde Lake Middle School are structured around these books. Having popular titles readily available to students helps to increase their interest in reading and develops the skills necessary to master the content in other academic subjects.

Using Engineering Processes to Understand and Apply Solar Energy

Central Elementary School
130 Stepneys Lane, Edgewater, Md. 21063; 410-222-1075;
FAX 410-222-1078
Submitted By: Karen Fowler

Fifth graders who are members of the Engineering Club use the principles of solar energy to collect, store and convert solar energy to a useful application. This project emphasizes the importance of mathematics and science by allowing the students to participate in a hands-on project using solar panels and measuring equipment.

Watkins Mill Elementary School Literary Magazine

Watkins Mill Elementary School
19001 Watkins Mill Road, Montgomery Village, Md. 20886;
301-840-7181; FAX 301-840-5319
Submitted By: Marcia York, Patricia Decker, Frances Frey, Tracey McCabe, Samantha Proger, Amy Vermillion, Tracey Duvall and Michelle Stanton

The Watkins Mill Elementary School Literary Magazine contains one piece of illustrated writing by each student from Headstart through fifth grade. This project represents the collaboration and integration of writing and art across all grade levels and provides an authentic publication experience for each student.

The Frost School Amphibian & Reptile Inventory Science Project

The Frost School
4915 Aspen Hill Road, Rockville, Md. 20853; 301-933-3451;
FAX 301-933-3330
Submitted By: Daniel Bishop

High school students at The Frost School design, develop and test live traps for amphibians and reptiles over a nine-month period. Students complete an inventory/survey of the species present on school property. The final projects include a science report, oral presentations and development of a school specimen collection.

Eat Your Way Through The Alphabet

Mt. Rainier Elementary School
4011 32nd Street, Mt. Rainier, Md. 20712; 301-985-1810;
FAX 301-985-1814
Submitted By: Marcia Baughan and Susan McKinley

Young learners will use their five senses as they eat foods that begin with each letter of the alphabet. This project will reinforce the phonetic teaching of the alphabet. Students will have the opportunity to grow herbs to be used in food preparation,

prepare some of the foods, sample foods from different cultures and then write about their experiences.

Fountain Rock Nature Center – Exploring the Lives of Local American Indians

Emmitsburg Elementary School

300 South Seton Avenue, Emmitsburg, Md. 21727;
240-236-1750; FAX 240-236-1751

Submitted By: Charlene Rippeon, Jennifer Seibert and Cynthia Wantz

In order to better collect and more deeply evaluate information regarding the location and natural environment of Woodland Indians, second graders at Emmitsburg Elementary School explore artifacts through creative and innovative activities at Fountain Rock Nature Center. Through this project students will demonstrate an understanding of historical and current events as they compare the lifestyles of American Indians to those of people living today.

Basic Rescue Techniques

Carver Elementary School

47382 Lincoln Avenue, Lexington Park, Md. 20653;
301-863-4076; FAX 301-862-1217

Submitted By: Chuck McNevech

Fourth and fifth grade students at Carver Elementary School are learning basic rescue skills through the use of “Basic Buddy” mannequins and a Red Cross basic rescue guide written for children. This program enables them to learn what to do in the event that a family member becomes ill or unresponsive.

Adapted Literacy

Brunswick Elementary

400 Central Avenue, Brunswick, Md. 21716; 240-236-2900;
FAX 240-236-2901

Submitted By: Wendy Campbell

The focal point of Adapted Literacy is the preschool classroom. Children’s books are adapted by adding picture symbols under the text and using a communication device to provide a spoken recording that matches the text. The purpose of this project is to provide learners with special needs a way to read books independently and with peers and to learn from literature.

Math Mania

Jenifer Elementary School

2820 Jenifer School Lane, Waldorf, Md. 20603; 301-753-1768;
FAX 301-374-9496

Submitted By: Lisa Wehausen, Stacey Shadle, Jessica Nemith and Lynne Orsega

Math Mania is an inter-classroom and intergenerational Math Day held during Maryland’s Mathematics Month in April. This event celebrates diversity in mathematical thinking and reasoning. Elementary school students come together with community leaders, business partners and parents to participate in hands-on math activities, where they discuss and celebrate different ways to solve problems.

ESL Library at Waverly Elementary

Waverly Elementary School

201 Waverly Drive, Frederick, Md. 21702; 240-236-3900;
FAX 240-239-3901

Submitted By: Jason Rubeling, Megan Taylor and Barbara Hasting

This program helps the ESL (English as a Second Language) students to meet the standards in the reading portion of the Maryland Learning Outcomes by providing books written for ESL students. The ESL Library at Waverly Elementary School promotes literacy among the ESL students. A variety of texts are available to ESL students and their families. Each book contains additional activities and strategies that parents can use with their students.

One Book for Every Classroom

Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School

4545 Ammendale Road, Beltsville, Md. 20705; 301-572-0650;
FAX 301-572-0668

Submitted By: Cynthia Vaughn

The Reading Across the Curriculum committee will select four read-aloud picture books which are shared with all students via WMLK News, the close circuited television network at Martin Luther King, Jr. Middle School. The books are selected to address a specific cross-cultural theme or to increase student awareness of a current issue relevant to their lives. Each classroom requires a copy of the book in order to conduct follow-up lessons to the stories read.

After-School Enrichment Program

Tracey’s Elementary School

20 Deale Road, Tracey’s Landing, Md. 20779; 410-222-1633;
FAX 410-867-3709

Submitted By: David Diaz and Edward Ormond

The After-School Enrichment Program provides free classes to students to enhance and enrich their learning experience at school. The classes cover the arts, literature, computers, history, geography and science. There are also parent/child classes that bring parents and their children together for a combined learning experience.

Exploring Our Cultural Roots

Tracey’s Elementary School

20 Deale Road, Tracey’s Landing, Md. 20779; 410-222-1633;
FAX 410-867-3709

Submitted By: Suzanne MacLeod, Regan Christian and Taylor MacLeod

Exploring Our Cultural Roots will help students understand how other cultures have contributed to American culture. Through the instruction of a Native American artist-in-residence, younger students will assist in building a twenty-foot tipi. Upon completion the students will participate in workshops inside the tipi in order to learn about Native American Cultures. Older students will learn how African, Irish, French and other cultures’ dance traditions led to American clogging and tap through the instruction of a music and dance artist-in-residence.

The Rainforest – A Simulated Trip to The Tropics

Middletown Elementary School

201 East Green Street, Middletown, Md. 21769; 240-236-1100;

FAX 240-236-1150

Submitted By: William Severane, Kelly Canfield, Vicki Marsh,
Shirley Nyswaner and Allison Smith

As a culminating activity for the third grade unit on Tropical Rainforests, the students participate in a simulated trip to the tropics. This two-day activity begins with “pre-trip” preparations including packing a small tote bag for the trip. The second day begins with an airplane ride to the rainforest. The flight includes an in-flight movie and tropical treats to sample. The remaining journey immerses students in a variety of activities that emphasize the importance of the tropical rainforests in our daily lives. After the journey is completed students will create exhibits about the Tropical Rainforest. Students can chose to create a paper display or create a slide show on the computer.