

Virginia

Juggling to Learn: An Integrated Approach to Improving Reading and Sequencing Skills

John Adams Elementary School

5651 Rayburn Avenue, Alexandria, Va. 22313; 703-824-6970; FAX 703-379-4853

Submitted By: Beth Toland, April Rodgers and Stacy Hoeflich

The Juggling to Learn program focuses on improving reading and sequencing skills. Students practice juggling skills at school at least three times a week. This program introduces the physical and fun skill of juggling to a class of twenty-one first graders and four fourth grade students. The goal of the program is to develop the students' overall cognitive, social and psychomotor skills in order to improve performance in their academic subjects.

For The Girls Who Love To Get Dirty

John Adams Elementary School

5651 Rayburn Avenue, Alexandria, Va. 22313; 703-824-6970; FAX 703-379-4853

Submitted By: Hilari Hinnant

First grade students at John Adams will learn about the lives of five woman naturalists, Maria Sibylla Merian, Anna Botsford Comstock, Frances Hamerstrom, Mirian Rothschild and Rachel Carlson. Using the book *Girls Who Look Under Rocks* the students will discover how their own lives may be connected to these famous women. The students will participate in hands-on experiences in the National Wildlife Federation Certified School Habitat, on the Dora Kelly Nature Trail and in the classroom. The culminating activity will be the planting of "The Girl's Garden" in honor of the five women studied.

Learning Alive!

Alexandria Country Day School

2400 Russell Road, Alexandria, Va. 22301; 703-548-4804; FAX 703-549-9022

Submitted By: Emmet Rosenfeld

Alexandria Country Day School (ACDS) promotes environmental education by encouraging students to master basic outdoor skills that foster lifelong confidence and independence. They begin this process by having the third through seventh grade students create Learning Alive! journals to record their out-of-class experiences at ACDS. The middle school students will embark on an excursion to the Shenandoah National Park. The seventh graders will go to the Jamestown Beach Campgrounds and the eighth graders will visit Gettysburg. They will learn a variety of outdoor skills during these excursions and will record their experiences in their journals.

Prince William County Fair on Location

Aquinas School

13750 Mary's Way, Woodbridge, Va. 22191; 703-491-4447; FAX 703-492-8828

Submitted By: Sharon Cyphers

This interactive group activity expands the students' understanding of the history and development of a suburban community. Throughout a two-day "county fair" third grade students participate in activities that relate to community, recreational, industrial and service perspectives of Prince William County. These activities familiarize the students with the local products, industries, and traditions specific to the community in which they live.

Public Times – A Kinesthetic Kaleidoscope of Living

Aquinas School

13750 Mary's Way, Woodbridge, Va. 22191; 703-491-4447; FAX 703-492-8828

Submitted By: Gretta Wheeler

This activity is an interactive educational activity designed as the culmination of the fourth grade's year-long study of Virginia and early American history. It is designed to show history as a living event. The Public Times activities begin with a trip to Colonial Williamsburg, Va. Following that trip the students participate in a two-day activity where they dress in colonial costume and participate in colonial cooking, craft and game activities. Parent volunteers serve as "Master Craftsman" assisting the students with the various activities and presenting the students with "Master Craftsman" certificates once they have mastered the activity.

A Virtual Trip to South America

Barcroft Elementary School

625 South Wakefield Street, Arlington, Va. 22204; 703-228-5838; FAX 703-271-0948

Submitted By: Elvira Arnal

Second, third and fourth grade students experience a virtual round-trip flight from the Washington, DC area to the Amazonian rainforest and the Machu Picchu Inca ruins in Peru. This project offers a variety of experiences that cater to multiple intelligences and different learning styles. Language arts, math, social studies, science, music and art are all integrated into this project. The students are introduced to real life situations such as, planning a trip, buying an airline ticket, sending a postcard home and learning survival Spanish. Activities outside the school will include visiting the Amazonia exhibit at the National Zoo.

Language Development Through Digital Photography

Ball's Bluff Elementary School

821 Battlefield Lane, Leesburg, Va. 20176; 703-779-8800; FAX 703-779-8804

Submitted By: Sally Norton-Darr

This project is designed for the twenty special education students with language disorders enrolled in the county's Early Childhood Special Education program. These students ranging from two to five-years-old will be photographed during their classroom activities. These photographs will be compiled into picture books and slide shows to offer enjoyment and language stimulation to these students.

World War II: The Home Front

Bishop Ireton High School

201 Cambridge Road, Alexandria, Va. 22314; 703-751-7606; FAX 703-212-8173

Submitted By: Michael Rauer

This activity provides copies of authentic era newspapers to students studying World War II. Over a six-week period forty-six twelfth graders have the opportunity to read about life in America and how it was being reported. The newspapers make this period of history come alive with actual stories about real people. Studying the daily newspapers from that era gives the high school students a chance to see the impact that worldwide conflicts had on daily existence at that time. The students can compare and contrast the situation with the current conflict in Iraq.

Circuits, Conductors and Insulators

Brumfield Elementary School

550 Alwington Blvd., Warrenton, Va. 20186; 540-347-6180; FAX 540-341-7816

Submitted By: Kristy Hull

The purpose of this activity is to enhance the basic understanding of electricity and have students demonstrate this through creative projects and experiments. Circuits, Conductors and Insulators takes place during the electricity unit for the fourth grade students at Brumfield. Students will explore how electricity is created using activities with Genecon hand generators. They will also put together and test simple motors using magnets and coils.

Photo Journalism

Bull Run Elementary School

15301 Lee Highway, Centreville, Va. 20151; 703-227-1400; FAX 703-227-1497

Submitted By: Jolie Kelly, Charles Gardner, Leigh Allen-Hughes, Jean Botts, Blair Crabb and Catherine Kennedy

Photo Journalism is a hands-on, real-world writing program for fifth grade students of all abilities. Students will use a photograph or series of photographs to write a story, either factual or creative. Students will then publish and display their photojournalism essays in an exhibit at the school. In addition, the students will develop and present an oral presentation about their essay.

Japanese Tea Ceremony Immersion

Burgundy Farm Country Day School

3700 Burgundy Road, Alexandria, Va. 22303; 703-360-3431; FAX 703-960-5056

Submitted By: Erin Kelly

The traditional tea ceremony is considered an art form in Japan and this project immerses the students in a traditional Japanese tea ceremony. All of the students at Burgundy Farms Country Day will witness a traditional tea ceremony and then be encouraged to

participate in the ceremony with authentic Japanese implements and dress. By immersing and participating in this traditional and unique art form, students will gain an appreciation of the Japanese people and their culture.

Music Visualization Project

Canterbury Woods Elementary School

4910 Willet Drive, Annadale, Va. 22003; 703-764-5600; FAX 703-764-5697

Submitted By: Dr. Robert Newell

Using a MIDI keyboard, computer and software, the hearing-impaired students at Canterbury Woods will participate in drills that emphasize hand/eye coordination and visual representation of musical concepts. This computer technology offers an opportunity to stimulate these students' other senses to teach and reinforce music theory and skills, despite their limited aural capability. The rest of the school population will also have the opportunity to participate in this program.

Leap Into Reading!

Cougar Elementary School

9330 Brandon Street, Manassas Park, Va. 20111; 703-392-1317; FAX 703-392-7204

Submitted By: Laurel Barry

Twenty-three kindergarten students will use electronic interactive books during small group reading time and during "Free Choice" time. These electronic interactive books provide the opportunity for students at different reading levels to learn reading strategies and eventually become independent readers.

The Dolphin Press: A Publishing Center

Jennie Dean Elementary School

9601 Prince William Street, Manassas, Va. 20110; 703-257-8700; FAX 703-257-8688

Submitted By: Joanne Stoehrmann

In order to improve language arts skills in kindergarten through grade five, Jennie Dean Elementary is establishing a publishing center where students can compose and publish original, creative writing projects. Serving the entire student body, the center will help students improve their ability to reason and express their thoughts through written and oral communication.

EARS: English Achievement through Recorded Stories

Dranesville Elementary School

1515 Powells Tavern Place, Herndon, Va. 20170; 703-326-5200; FAX 703-326-5297

Submitted By: Dorothy Feeney

This project will serve fifty-three English for Speakers of Other Language students in grades one through six. EARS encourages and supports reading and the learning of English vocabulary as well as bridging the gap between home and school for these students and their parents. By using books and cassette tapes at home students will have

the opportunity to listen and hear the structure and rhythm of the English language while developing a love of reading. The students will be encouraged to invite their parents to school to listen to the stories as well, resulting in their parents also learning English.

The Electric Bard

Farmwell Station Middle School

44281 Gloucester Parkway, Ashburn, Va. 20147; 703-771-6491; FAX 703-771-6495

Submitted By: Freysa Bergthorson

Eighth grade students at Farmwell Station will produce a scene from one of Shakespeare's plays. They will choose a setting for their production and write a script which contains at least ten lines from the selected play. The students will practice, perform, record and then edit their scenes using digital editing software. The resulting films will be presented during a Shakespearean Film Festival open to their family and friends.

English As a Second Language Book Club

Farmwell Station Middle School

44281 Gloucester Parkway, Ashburn, Va. 20147; 703-771-6491; FAX 703-771-6495

Submitted By: Michelle Noland

This project provides an opportunity for ESL students to develop enjoyment and interest in reading. Each month a different book will be selected by the ESL instructors for the students to read. The instructors will assist the students who have difficulty with the books by reading the book to the student. The goal is for the ESL students to increase their use of the library to check out books and develop a positive attitude toward reading.

Our Vegetable Victory Garden

Glebe Elementary School

1601 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va. 22209; 703-228-6280; FAX 703-527-2040

Submitted By: Richard Hamilton, Greg Taylor, Diana Garmus and the Glebe PTA

The Special Education, Life Skills and designated at risk students at Glebe Elementary will have the opportunity to plant, grow, harvest and sell produce from the school's Vegetable Victory Garden. The students will gain knowledge of consumer math through these hands-on experiences. In addition, the students will learn about how plants grow and the enjoyment of nurturing a garden.

Economics Fair

William Halley Elementary School

8850 Cross Chase Circle, Lorton, Va. 22079; 703-551-5700; FAX 703-551-5797

Submitted By: Sandy Moses

Third grade students at William Halley will experience economics in a hands-on, interactive way during a two-week long economics unit. The students will create their own company, choose a CEO and create a name. They will decide what products to

produce and sell and they will earn money for arriving at their job as students. They will also be responsible for paying taxes and can save or invest their money. The students will use the money to make, sell, buy and advertise their products. Finally, the students will come together in a marketplace environment for the Economics Fair.

B.I.L.I.: Boys In Literacy Initiative

Francis C. Hammond Middle School

4646 Seminary Road, Alexandria, Va. 22304; 703-461-4100; FAX 703-461-4111

Submitted By: Robert Murphy

This innovative reading initiative targets the male students in sixth to eighth grades at Francis C. Hammond. After conducting an interest inventory of the participating students the students will be divided into groups based on similar interests. Each month a male teacher facilitating the different groups will lead them through an activity and reading expedition. This program will demonstrate to the male students that reading comes in all forms and serves many purposes, all of which are important.

The Readers Theater for ESOL Students

Herndon Middle School

901 Locust Street, Herndon, Va. 20170; 703-904-4800; FAX 703-904-4897

Submitted By: Barbara Edwards

The Readers Theater for ESOL Students is an after-school weekly activity for seventh and eighth grade students. The students will read, discuss, select, edit, rewrite and produce dramatic readings from story books that contain information about the cultural and ethnic traditions of the students. This experience aids language skills, deepens an appreciation for self and heritage, awakens cross-cultural awareness and develops a sense of place for these students.

Hawk Science Soars

Highland School

597 Broadview Avenue, Warrenton, Va. 20186; 540-347-1221; FAX 540-347-5860

Submitted By: Deborah Stevens

This program is for the science classes in grades one through five and nine through twelve at Highland's Lower and Upper Schools. Each Upper School student will partner with a student from the Lower School to work on science projects. The Upper School students will select, prepare and demonstrate each of their activities to their class-mates for review. Upon approval the Upper School students will visit their student partners at the Lower School and participate in demonstrations and hands-on activities and experiments.

Mathematics Month "Burns" at Little River Elementary

Little River Elementary

43464 Hyland Hill Street, South Riding, Va. 20152; 703-444-8000, FAX 703-444-8005

Submitted By: The Kindergarten through fifth grade teachers at Little River Elementary

The goal of this math project is to develop students into life-long lovers of mathematics. The program will feature hands-on math activities, creative brainteasers and thought provoking trivia questions. Throughout the school year the students will be involved on a daily basis in both the creation and solution stages of the math problems. The culminating event for the program will be Mathematics Month. The entire school and community will be able to participate in this program.

From Paper to Print

Little Run Elementary School

4511 Olley Lane, Fairfax, Va. 22032; 703-503-3500; FAX 703-503-3597

Submitted By: Kristi Grohal, Katherine Taylor-Goodwin and Josie Virkus

From Paper to Print is a creative writing project that will provide students with a unique publishing opportunity. This project will transform the classroom into a newsroom/pressroom and will allow first and second graders students to improve their writing skills while making a connection with the real world.

Delving into World War II: A Multi-Perspective Text Set

Manassas Park Middle School

8202 Euclid Avenue, Manassas Park, Va. 20111; 703-361-1510; FAX 703-331-3538

Submitted By: Jenny Stanley, Elizabeth Williams, Christopher Konig and Patrick Engleman

Text sets enable students to self-direct their own in-depth study of a particular topic. This text set about World War II allows the eighth grade students at Manassas Park M. S. to delve deeply into all aspects of World War II, including the European and Pacific fronts, the American home front, including Japanese-American internment camps and the Holocaust. Students will explore multiple perspective at a variety of reading levels in this interdisciplinary and interclassroom project.

Singing The Dream: A Museum Comes to Manassas Park

Manassas Park Middle School

8202 Euclid Avenue, Manassas Park, Va. 20111; 703-361-1510; FAX 703-331-3538

Submitted By: Trish Glassey, Erica Waggner and Virginia Bowerman

The seventh grade students at Manassas Park Middle School will participate in this cross-curricular and cooperative unit between language arts, civics and the arts focusing on Civil Rights and discrimination. The students will create an interactive museum exhibiting their works. The students will work cooperatively to produce a display demonstrating a clear understanding of the emotions, issues and legislation surrounding the Civil Rights Movement.

My Place In The World

Manassas Park High School

8200 Euclid Avenue, Manassas Park, Va. 20111; 703-361-9131; FAX 703-330-1218

Submitted By: Carrie Akins, Frank Kasik, Maureen Sadler and Katrina Wimbs

This program for ninth graders at Manassas Park High School is designed to help these students discover who they are by doing research on their own families and a country of their origin. The first part of the program consists of the students creating a book of writings about themselves, their families and their heritage and culture. Secondly, students will read and study two selected young adult novels featuring high-school age students. An "Ethnic Pride Festival" is the final component of the program. This festival brings the students, their families and members of the community together to celebrate the work the students have focused on throughout the school year.

Building on the Success of Project of YES (Youth Experiencing Success) Through Mentorship

Manassas Park High School

8200 Euclid Avenue, Manassas Park, Va. 20136; 703-361-9131; FAX 703-330-1218

Submitted By: Maureen Newcomb-Sadler, Charles Forrest, Tiffany Vaughn and Stephanie Orłowski

Forty ninth grade students took part in Project YES during the summer of 2003. This program was instituted to help at risk eighth grade students increase their fluency in math and English as well as help to make their transition to high school easier. During the 2003-2004 school year these forty students continue to participate in the Project YES program. They will build on the skills they attained during the summer program by participating in a variety of academic and social activities.

Bag of Books

Mantua Elementary School

9107 Horner Court, Fairfax, Va. 22031; Fairfax, Va. 22031; 703-645-6300;

FAX 703-645-6397

Submitted By: Susanne Goodrich and Pat Potocki

The Bag of Books program promotes early literacy development. Each student in the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program at Mantua Elementary will be given a personal copy of twenty different books to be read at school and kept at home in their own personal library. This allows for the carryover of successful emergent reading from the classroom to reading at home.

Math Courses Solved by Students

Mill Run Elementary School

42905 Waxpool Road, Ashburn, Va. 20148; 703-779-8927; FAX 703-779-8932

Submitted By: Gregory West

Using the book Math Curse by Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith as the basis for this program, students will be assigned the challenge of observing and analyzing math in their everyday lives. Using cameras, students will use mathematical observation skills taught throughout the year to capture these images of "math." Through oral and visual

presentations and written evaluations students will interpret the mathematical relevance of the pictures and how they relate to everyday life.

Standards of Learning Enrichment Through Opera

Mount Vernon Community School

2601 Commonwealth Avenue, Alexandria, Va. 22305; 703-706-4460;

FAX 703-706-4466

Submitted By: Darrell Smith, Ruth Driver, Carla Brown, Jean Dean, Nilda Ocasio and Barbara Kirkland

The first graders at Mount Vernon Community School will experience enrichment activities across the curriculum in preparation for the viewing of the children's opera "Pinocchio," presented by the Children's Opera Guild of Virginia. The opera enhances learning in reading, grammar, creative writing, mathematics, social studies and science through an integrated skills approach. The students use opera as a theme during reading, creative writing, journaling, math, social studies and science.

Reading RESCUE (Relate, Explore, Share, Create, Understand, Enjoy): Help For Teen Problems

Park View High School

400 West Laurel Avenue, Sterling, Va. 20164; 703-444-7500; FAX 703-444-7521

Submitted By: Nora May, Jane Sawyer, Marie Duchateau, Michelle Nicholson, Michelle Stotz and Ed Zehnder

Reading RESCUE applies the principles of bibliotherapy to introduce students to books with characters and situations that teens can relate to. The program is open to all students at Park View. Through reading and follow-up discussions, students will share books and explore more options for dealing with problems or issues. Student writing, art and website ratings will introduce others to these books.

Little Brother and Sister Book Shelf

Terra Centre Elementary School

6000 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, Va. 22015; 703-249-1400; FAX 703-249-1497

Submitted By: Katria Benson, Connie Stenerson, Krista VanValkenburg and Charlotte Roberts

The Little Brother and Sister Book Shelf will provide an opportunity for Terra Centre students to become involved in providing early learning experiences for their preschool aged siblings. There are 138 Terra Centre students with preschool siblings. The Book Shelf will be located in the library and will contain board books, ABC books, basic concept book and simple storybooks that could be borrowed by students and parents and take home to share with preschool age children.

Timber Lane Community Garden Project

Timber Lane Elementary School

2737 West Street, Falls Church, Va. 22046; 703-206-5300, FAX 703-206-5397

Submitted By: Mona Assaf, Karen McLaughlin, Denise Robinson and Elisabeth Shuba

The aim of this project is to help the Kindergarten and Head Start students at Timber Lane develop a greater understanding of plant life cycles, the beauty and wonder of gardening, the connection between plants, insects and people. The students will work with their families and the school community to take an underused area and transform it into a learning opportunity and an area of visual beauty. The students will prepare, plant, nurture and harvest a variety of common flowers and vegetables. Bug-friendly plants will be integrated to attract beneficial bugs in order to demonstrate how gardens provide an environment to support life.

Reaching Reluctant Readers

George Washington Middle School

1005 Mount Vernon Avenue, Alexandria, Va. 22301; 703-706-4500; FAX 703-706-4507

Submitted By: Diana Darwin and Nancy Howard

The purpose of this program is to engage reluctant readers in reading on a regular basis. Using books on tape will increase their confidence and comprehension. The students participating in this program will be students who have tested below average during reading comprehension tests.

Implementing Literature Circles in the High School Classroom

T.C. Williams High School

3330 King Street, Alexandria, Va. 22302; 703-824-6800; FAX 703-824-6805

Submitted By: MaryBeth Kochman

Fifty eleventh grade students will benefit from this project that fosters a love of reading and shows that reading at school and for pleasure can be fun. Instead of having the class read the same book, the classes will be divided into smaller groups, each reading the same book. Using Young Adult titles with multicultural themes and characters the students will have the opportunity to select what book they want to read. Students will discuss the selected books in small groups and share their discussions and observations with the class as a whole.