

*Jeanie Ritchie Grants - Funded by MPAEF*

| <b>Jeanie Ritchie Grant Application<br/>2019-2020</b>   |  |
|---|--|
| Project Title:  | Outdoor Classroom: Natural STEAM                   |
| Lead Teacher/<br>Project Director Name:   | Steffany Cressey                                   |
| Email Address:  | scressey@mpcsd.org                                 |
| Best Phone Number:  | 650 346 7831                                       |
| Names of Other Teacher<br>Participants (include<br>school if project will span<br>multiple campuses): | M. Sanchez, M. Napolitani, L. Stickles, A. Oprandy |
| Principal's Name:   | Sharon Burns                                       |
| Director of Technology<br>Name:<br>(if applicable)  |  |

Before this application is submitted, it is necessary for the principal to review it.

Has the review been completed?  Yes  No

Date of Review: 10/3/19

I have reviewed this proposal and am aware that it is being proposed for implementation and will be supported through the Technology Department.

Director of Technology Signature/Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please Note:** The Jeanie Ritchie grant process is anonymous. Your application will be considered according to an ID number only. Please do not include the name of your school in the body of your application. This title page will not be made available to the committee until the grants are awarded.

*Jeanie Ritchie Grants - Funded by MPAEF*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>Project Title:</b><br><b>Outdoor Classroom: Natural STEAM!</b>   |   |
| <b>Note:</b><br>This year, \$15k has been added to the JRG for grants on global awareness, global leadership or world culture. Please check box if your grant is in this category.  | Type of Grant (check all that apply)<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Global awareness</b> , global leadership, or world culture focus<br><br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New<br><input type="checkbox"/> Repeat ( ____ # years)<br><br><input type="checkbox"/> Technology Support Approved |
| <b>Grades Involved</b>  | <b>Number of Students Involved:</b> 110 students  |
| <b>Total Funding Requested</b><br><br>\$ 676.00   | <b>Date(s) when will the project be conducted:</b><br><br>Autumn, winter and spring   |
| <b>Project Description</b><br>(Use this form or attach a separate sheet)  |   |
| <p>1. <b>Goals:</b> What are the goals of the project? What are you trying to teach?</p> <p>Students benefit from being outside. (See evidence articles below)</p> <p>The goal of this grant is to get students outside (not just for recess) in a focused, productive way, connecting students with nature, while completing STEAM challenges, learning math, reading, writing, and science.</p> <p>This summer several people helped me clean and trim our arbor area; we wrestled a big metal picnic table into the space, cut overgrown grapevines, sanded and varnished our donor benches. The space is rough after years of near neglect but it's almost ready to welcome students. The goal is to create a working space so students can benefit from being outside, working, collaborating, and creating in a natural setting, an "outdoor classroom".</p> <p>Articles about students benefiting from being outside:<br/> <a href="https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/leaf/school-grounds/documents/outdoor%20education%20research%20for%20school%20Grounds.pdf">https://www.uwsp.edu/cnr-ap/leaf/school-grounds/documents/outdoor%20education%20research%20for%20school%20Grounds.pdf</a><br/> <a href="https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/brain-waves/201802/the-benefits-learning-outdoors">https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/brain-waves/201802/the-benefits-learning-outdoors</a><br/> <a href="https://www.learningliftoff.com/the-surprising-benefits-of-outdoor-learning/">https://www.learningliftoff.com/the-surprising-benefits-of-outdoor-learning/</a></p> |   |
| <p>2. <b>Core Activities:</b> Describe what students will <u>do</u> as they participate in the project. How will the project accomplish its goals?</p> <p>Our idea is to make a space that is comfortable and supportive of learning outside rather than in a closed room with artificial light. We will be able to work on regular curriculum while outside as well as special projects. Regular work can include math practice with chalk, silent reading as well as partnership reading, writing workshop and writing about projects and events outside.</p>   |   |

*Jeanie Ritchie Grants - Funded by MPAEF*

Special Projects will be photographed for posterity (to be used for writing, SeeSaw, photo albums, etc.) and supplies will be reused as much as possible.

**Special projects will include:**(Their writing and photos will be displayed in our hallway or classrooms.)

Fairy House Challenge (Students will plan, create a supply list, and build from natural supplies gathered from the garden.) Gnome Garage Challenge (Students will plan, create a supply list, and build from natural supplies gathered from the garden.)

Mandalas (Students will plan, create a supply list, and build from natural supplies gathered from the garden.)

Pressed Flowers and Leaves: Flattened leaves and flowers will be used in the structures and mandalas as well as “create a creature and tell their story”.

**Special Environments will include:**

Reading Logs (literally): logs will be used by students to create lounges to lay on, relax and read.

Science Set Up: Large table will be used for experiments designed by students using Project Based Learning modules (“What Can You Do With a Tree”, “What are Seeds”, “Dissecting and Drawing a Flower”).

Buddy Benches: Four donated and refurbished benches will be available for “Reading Buddies” (reading together, discussing reading with partner, reading independently).

3. **Innovation:** To what standards and/or aspects of the curriculum is the project linked? In what ways does it go above and beyond what is normally required?

Supplies will be reused as much as possible: photographs of students’ work will be part of end projects. Houses, mandalas, logs, etc. will be dismantled so new projects can be made. Students will collect sticks, leaves and flowers from our garden to use as is or press in the flower presses. Not only are they using higher level thinking to create something new they will draw rough drafts, then “blueprints” before construction begins to pre-plan their designs. (Practice strengthening that executive function!)

A free field trip to Lyngso Building Materials in San Carlos will be scheduled so students can choose some of the materials (stones and sand) they will use to build.

**Standards addressed/covered:**

2-PS1-1. Plan and conduct an investigation to describe and classify different kinds of materials by their observable properties. [Clarification Statement: Observations could include color, texture, hardness, and flexibility. Patterns could include the similar properties that different materials share.]

2-PS1-3. Make observations to construct an evidence-based account of how an object made of a small set of pieces can be disassembled and made into a new object. [Clarification Statement: Examples of pieces could include blocks, building bricks, or other assorted small objects.]

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.7

Explain how specific images (e.g., a diagram showing how a machine works) contribute to and clarify a text.

*Jeanie Ritchie Grants - Funded by MPAEF*

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.2.3

Describe the connection between a series of historical events, scientific ideas or concepts, or steps in technical procedures in a text.

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.2.7

Use information gained from the illustrations and words in a print or digital text to demonstrate an understanding of its characters, setting, or plot.

**4. Success Evaluation:**

a. If this is a new grant, how will you know that the program has been successful? Students' creations will be photographed and the students will write: step by step building directions and/or fictional stories about their projects.

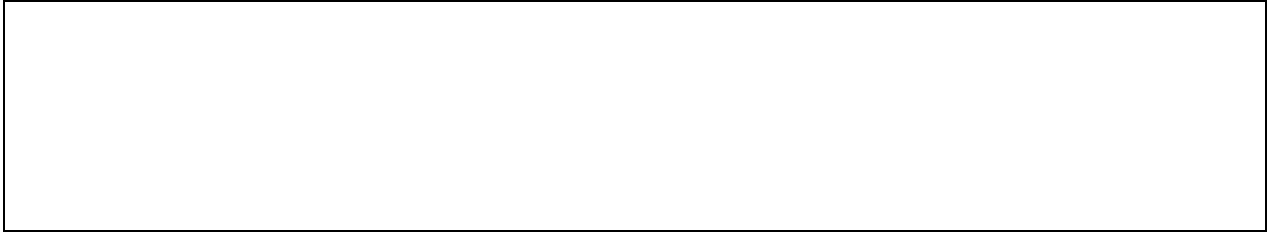
This space will be used in many ways: To evaluate the success we will have the students create a model of their favorite time in the garden working. Photographs will be taken and shared with friends and families via "SeeSaw" and work will be displayed on the walls inside our rooms. A photo album will be kept to honor past work.

- b. If this is a repeat grant request, attach last year's completed evaluation form.  
PLEASE NOTE: REPEAT APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT AN EVALUATION.
- c. If this is your 3<sup>rd</sup> year of funding, what steps are you taking to obtain funding from other sources? Funding from Jeanie Ritchie ends at year four.

**5. Detailed Budget:** Include all expenses, e.g., sales tax, shipping, etc. If any materials can be re-used in future years, please indicate this in the information provided.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| Building materials  |           |
| (stones, string, ribbon, flat marbles, wire, colored sand)  | 60.00     |
| Chalk   | 25.00     |
| Supplies from Lyngso  | 25.00     |
| Storage crates  | 85.00     |
| ( <a href="https://www.ikea.com/us/en/p/trofast-storage-combination-with-boxes-pine-light-white-stained-pine-white-s19102659/">https://www.ikea.com/us/en/p/trofast-storage-combination-with-boxes-pine-light-white-stained-pine-white-s19102659/</a> ) |           |
| Flower Presses 5 @\$25  | 125.00    |
| 2 Rolls of planning paper   | 85.00     |
| ( <a href="https://www.staples.com/Alliance-Wide-Format-Engineering-Paper-24-lb-Bond-30-x-500-2-Rolls/product_1667623">https://www.staples.com/Alliance-Wide-Format-Engineering-Paper-24-lb-Bond-30-x-500-2-Rolls/product_1667623</a> )                 |           |
| Table cloth (water proof, cleanable)  | 46.00     |
| ( <a href="https://www.amazon.com/Retro-Yellow-Oilcloth-Tablecloth-Gingham/dp/B01FY7EKKO?ref_=fscpl_pl_dp_5&amp;th=1">https://www.amazon.com/Retro-Yellow-Oilcloth-Tablecloth-Gingham/dp/B01FY7EKKO?ref_=fscpl_pl_dp_5&amp;th=1</a> )                   |           |
| Sundial   | 40.00     |
| ( <a href="https://www.wayfair.com/outdoor/pdp/rome-industries-new-salem-sundial-roe1099.html">https://www.wayfair.com/outdoor/pdp/rome-industries-new-salem-sundial-roe1099.html</a> )   |           |
| Shade cloth (10 ft.)  | 50.00     |
| Decorative ceramic planters 2 @ \$25.00   | 50.00     |
| Hummingbird feeders 2 @ \$20 each   | 40.00     |
| Logs (bundle of various sizes)  | 40.00     |
| Seeds (to plant, to use as part of houses and mandalas: sunflower, pumpkin, beans)  | 30.00     |
| Total   | \$ 701.00 |

*Jeanie Ritchie Grants - Funded by MPAEF*



Please email questions, comments and your final application to: [jeanieritchiegrants@mpaef.org](mailto:jeanieritchiegrants@mpaef.org).

Thank you for submitting a Jeanie Ritchie Grant Application!