Helena Education Foundation

# Great Ideas Grant Program

**2014-15 Application**

###  APPLICATION SUMMARY PAGE

**Please complete responses to all questions.**

**Working Together to Make Us Better\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ $\_257.00\_\_\_\_**

Project Title (This name will be used in publicity so be creative!) Funds Requested

Number of Students to be served: \_\_\_44\_\_\_ Grade Level(s): \_\_\_\_K\_\_\_\_\_

Number of Schools to be served: \_\_\_\_1\_\_\_

Type of Grant: \_\_\_\_\_\_ Individual (funded up to $1000)

 \_\_\_\_\_X\_ Group (funded up to $3000)

 (ALL applicants must sign signature page.)

Subject(s) affected by this project::

\_\_X\_\_ Arts \_\_X\_\_ Math \_\_X\_\_ Science \_\_X\_\_\_ Speech

\_\_\_\_\_ Foreign Language \_\_\_X\_\_ Social Studies \_\_\_\_\_ Library \_\_\_\_PE/Health

\_\_\_X\_\_ Special Education \_\_\_X\_\_ Business \_\_\_X\_\_ Reading/Language Arts

\_\_\_\_\_ Career/Technical \_\_\_X\_\_ Counseling & Guidance

\_\_\_\_\_ Other: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Using ONLY the space below, please provide a summary of the program in 50 words or fewer. We will be using your summary for publicity about the grant recipients, so please try to explain the purpose, proposed impact and how our project meets our creativity and collaboration goals.

‘Working Together to Make Us Better’ puts cooperative board games into the hands of kindergarten students in an effort to build communication skills, teach fair play and encourage teamwork.

**Working Together to Make Us Better**

Section 1 - Justification

1. Project Need

The future business leaders of America will need to rely heavily on cooperation, teamwork and communication skills. They will look for the same traits in their employees. As we prepare our students to be successful in school and beyond, we must foster these traits often and early.

1. Purpose of Project

Incorporating cooperative board games into the classroom will give everyone who plays the chance to practice working together as a team for a common goal. Students also practice communication skills (such as active listening and verbal acuity), and fair play. Teambuilding and trust are fostered. These games also give children, that might not often feel successful, empowered or included at school, a chance to fit in; A trend, that when encouraged, will continue throughout their academic career.

You can read more about cooperative games at:

<http://www.peaceablekingdom.com/Departments/Fun-Stuff/What-is-a-Cooperative-Game.aspx>

The games we’ve chosen reinforce the academic skills lined out in the National Common Core Standards. The games in this grant strengthen a wide range of subject areas including math, literature, science, social studies, art and culture.

Section 2 – Relevance To Goals

1. Creativity and Innovation

In the tradition classroom, learning games are common place and helpful, but often pit student against student. The games in this grant give all students the chance to practice learning while being a productive member of a team at the same time.

1. Extension of Student Learning Beyond Class

Cooperation, teamwork, and communication are valuable skills that, when practiced regularly, will carry over and be used at home, on the playground and someday in the work place.

1. Collaboration

My grade level teaching partner and I work together to develop enrichments and supplements for our reading, science, math and art curriculum for both kindergarten classes at our school. These educational games will align with Common Core.

We have also recruited the help of a local toy store in selecting our games. In partnering with this merchant, we not only take advantage of their expertise, but we are able to support a local business.

1. Availability of Other Funding

Our yearly classroom budget is $150, and is already allocated to other projects. In addition, a diverse set of educational games are well outside our classroom budget.

Section 3 –Project Description

1. Design

Every day, as part of our math and reading instruction, students go to activity and game stations. An educational, cooperative game will be included as a part of the daily stations. Playshop (exploratory free play time) is also a developmentally critical part of kindergarten. Students will be provided these games as an option during Playshop time.

1. Budget

Please see attached budget sheet.

Section 4 – Evaluation, Dissemination, Future Plans

1. Evaluation

Student success will be measured by informal observation and by student self reflection. Since games will be played daily, if students are struggling, we will be able to review and redirect learning and, if need be, try again the following day.

1. Dissemination

We hope to share stories of our successes with these cooperative games with the teachers and students at our school and with other kindergarten teachers across the district.

1. Future Plans for Expansion, Replication

We look forward using these great learning games year after year, class after class. Furthermore, we anticipate sharing our story of team building successes with other teachers throughout the Helena area.

We are excited about the opportunity to enrich our curriculum and the lives and minds of our students with cooperative games.

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**BUDGET FORM**

**2014-15 Application**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Budget Item** | **Vendor** | **Unit Cost** | **Shipping** | **Qty** | **Total Cost** |
| 1. | **Cauldron Quest** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$20** | **$0** | **1** | **$20** |
| 2. | **Sunny Day Pond** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 3. | **Hoot, Owl, Hoot** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 4. | **Mermaid Island** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 5. | **Dinosaur Escape** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$18** | **$0** | **1** | **$18** |
| 6. | **The Great Cheese Chase** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 7. | **Buzz** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$18** | **$0** | **1** | **$18** |
| 8. | **Race to the Treasure** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 9. | **Stone Soup** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$16** | **$0** | **1** | **$16** |
| 10. | **Feed the Woozle** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$20** | **$0** | **1** | **$20** |
| 11. | **Willie’s Wiggly Web** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$20** | **$0** | **1** | **$20** |
| 12. | **Stack Up** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$25** | **$0** | **1** | **$25** |
| 13. | **Snug as a Bug in a Rug** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$20** | **$0** | **1** | **$20** |
| 14. | **Community** | **Lasso The Moon** | **$20** | **$0** | **1** | **$20** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **Total** |  | **$257.00** |  |  | **$257.00** |