

Kellie Stawicki
Reidy Creek
Second Grade
Reading To Core Proficiency

This grant was written with the goals of allowing students to become 21st century thinkers. By providing them with quality non-fiction text to read and comprehend, their breadth of knowledge has expanded, their ability to extract and understand important text features has enabled deeper vocabulary development, and their ability to write about core content by forming opinions and supporting them has become strong.

Since purchasing non-fiction books for our class, I have used daily and weekly writing to evaluate the impact reading non-fiction has had on my students. They have become voracious readers, writing about the things they are learning daily by reading non-fiction. In reviewing student successes, my students reading ability has risen from 1 year to 2.5 years in growth.

I believe that the success of this project lies in giving students high interest books to read, which in turn makes them want more eventually creating true readers. Because of my success with these books, my second grade team has decided to purchase books with funds we have from PTA fundraising allocated to our grade level. We will be completing the series of book sets that I have already purchased and sharing all of the materials in our grade level.

For many years, I have collected books for my students to read and enjoy, primarily fiction books that students love to read. Because of the Escondido Education Foundation and the grant that I was given, I have seen a new side to what kinds of books students really love to read. While it is still important to provide a variety of genres for my students, non-fiction books have created a completely different momentum in my classroom.

In light of the huge success I feel has come from this grant, I chose to write another grant for books through Donor'sChoose.org. After months of seeking donors, it was funded this week and I will be purchasing another \$750 worth of non-fiction books for my classroom in the next school year. I am excited to have a new section of my classroom library dedicated to non-fiction. My student's can't seem to get enough and I am happy that I have had the opportunity to support this much needed area of academic growth for them.

I have included photos of my student's with their books. They are well worn in the short time they have been in our classroom because they are the most sought after books in our classroom. Thank you again for the opportunity.

Reidy Creek Second Graders thank you!

