

Record # 131 Date Submitted: 2011-04-06 12:55:30
 My principal has reviewed: Yes

Project Name: **Neighborhood Map Machine and Community Construction Kit**
 Project Type: **SocialStudies** Explain Category:

This is a Mini Grant
 Resident Name: Email: Telephone:

Grades: **2nd 3rd**

Number of Students **120**

Yes, I will undertake project with partial funding.

DESCRIPTION: This grant proposal requests funding for the purchase of the software programs Neighborhood Map Machine and Community Construction Kit. Although availability of these programs could benefit the entire school, our current focus is on grades 2 and 3. The two software programs will be an essential part of the Social Studies curriculum, but will also incorporate Math and Language Arts skills. The programs also align with the state of CT Social Studies Curriculum Framework and Social Studies and Math Grade Level Expectations (GLEs). Two key elements in the Social Studies curriculum in grades 2 and 3 are geography and community features. Neighborhood Map Machine and Community Construction Kit have not been used in our school in recent years; however, two of our grade 2/3 teachers have used the programs in different schools. Both programs offer a deeper understanding of geography and communities by providing hands-on activities with the physical building and constructing of a map and a small scale community. Neighborhood Map Machine is a hands-on software program designed to get students to create, explore and print maps. Students will learn challenging navigation concepts while exploring maps of their own neighborhoods, other communities or imaginary places. In this program, students can create and print a map adding roads, buildings or landmarks. They can explore ready-made maps allowing them to enhance their map reading and directional skills. There is also a mystery component to the program. Students will be given directional clues to solve a map mystery. Community Construction Kit enables students to design buildings on the computer and print them out into 3-D paper cutouts. Students can design a variety of historical or present-day communities. Paper cutouts form 3-D buildings which can be put together to create an entire community. The program features include a variety of present-day and historical communities. These community buildings are architecturally accurate and are printable in multiple sizes. This allows students to compare and contrast this society to present-day society. Both programs complement each other and can be used together. Neighborhood Map Machine provides practice for the basic and complex mapping skills while Community Construction Kit allows for further development and discussion of the community as a whole. Both programs allow for a wide range of instruction and are able to facilitate all learners. Basic mapping skills are taught and practiced on these programs, however, enrichment activities can also be provided for students that would benefit from more challenging material. Both programs also include a teacher's guide to give directions for the programs and lessons to enhance student learning. For both software programs we are requesting a 30 computer CD package. We will receive 30 CDs per program. Having 30 CDs will allow us to access the program on any computer in the school (up to 30 computers at one time) and will also allow teachers to teach and display the programs on the classroom smartboard. The CDs are a one-time purchase. Once they are purchased they can be used year after year with future classes. We have contacted West Hartford Information Technology Services and are aware that the software programs are compatible with the current school computers and printers. Further information on these products can be found at the following websites: <http://www.tomsnyder.com/products/product.asp?SKU=NEIV20>
<http://www.tomsnyder.com/products/product.asp?SKU=CCKCCK>

GOALS: Neighborhood Map Machine and Community Construction Kit are software programs that will be beneficial to grades 2 and 3 specifically related to the Social Studies curriculum, but also including elements of Math. With the purchase of these two programs we will be able to enhance our specific units of study in grade 2 and 3. As a part of the second grade curriculum, students need to identify types of communities such as rural, suburban and urban. Neighborhood Map Machine will allow students to work with maps of all three types of communities. Map skills will be enhanced through the program as students learn how to read a map and identify specific roads and landmarks using the map and the key. Using this software, students can develop their own maps of their community with specific features that are necessary for a successful community. Community Construction Kit takes the map skills that students learn through Neighborhood Map Machine and challenges students to create their own community. Models of buildings, trees and landmarks will be put together to display necessary services in the community, businesses and homes. Grade 3 will use Neighborhood Map Machine to teach mapping skills. Through the program, students will explore ready-made maps and practice directional and map-reading skills. Concepts strengthened through this program include using a compass rose for direction, using the map key, and measuring distance. Students will also be able to create a map of their own neighborhood where they can add their neighborhood streets, specific houses and landmarks. The map concepts learned and reinforced through this program will allow students to study maps of Connecticut and New England as we continue our practice of map reading skills throughout the school year. In grade 3 the Community Construction Kit will primarily be used during the Native American Unit of study. In this unit students are expected to identify features of the land that effect the way the Native Americans live. They also compare and contrast the Native American villages to our communities today. On Neighborhood Map Machine students will be able to create a map of the land their tribe of study lived on (plains, woodlands, forest and coast). Community Construction Kit allows students to create the physical structures that will be on the land, such as trees, longhouses, plank houses, teepees, etc. Students can construct these features on the computer, print them out, put them together to make 3-D structures and place them on the land map to create an entire Native American village. These communities can be constructed to scale allowing students to see the set-up of a Native American village. This is an essential part of the grade 3 Native American unit where students can explore Native American communities and compare and contrast the Native American village to present-day communities.

TIME LINE: Grade 2 Social Studies Community Unit will take place September - October 2011 Grade 3 Native American unit - Spring 2012 (mapping skills throughout the school year)

EVALUATION: Teachers will be able to measure the success of the programs by the student development of maps and physical community structures created on the software programs. Mapping skills can be evaluated through the correct creation of a specific map. The West Hartford Social Studies curriculum in grade 2 and 3 also includes reading of maps of our community, the state of Connecticut and the New England region. Effectiveness of the Neighborhood Map Machine will also be evident when students, given other maps, will be able to read the map using the directional signals, compass rose, key and scale. The effectiveness of the Community Construction Kit as related to the Social Studies curriculum will be measured in the creation on the community structures in grade 2 and the Native American structures in grade 3.

Amount Requested: 1,908.00 Other Requested: 0

BUDGET	AMOUNT	DESCRIPTION	SOURCE
Materials	1,800.00	Neighborhood Map Machine = 900.00, Community Construction Kit = 900.00	Tom Snyder products
Equipment			
Supplies			
Honoraria			
Travel			
Shipping	108.00		
Mounting			
Installation			
Other 1			
Other 2			

Total	1,908.00
Reason I didn't submit report:	
I am applying for One grant	
Yes, I will submit an evaluation.	
Yes, you have my permission to use my application.	

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