

TERRA MINI-GRANT APPLICATION

2013-2014 SCHOOL YEAR

The Technology Education Resource & Redesign Alliance (TERRA) is a non-profit organization whose mission is to mobilize the resources, knowledge, and capacity of individuals, foundations, business and industry in shaping and facilitating educational policy, practice, and research for increased achievement in a global environment.

What this funds: TERRA's Mini-Grants are intended to support school-based projects in pre-K through 12 that are consistent with TERRA's mission, and have a positive impact on education by using technology. These grants should fund initiatives that utilize technology in a new and innovative way or sustainability initiatives seeking to encourage and support creative, local environmental education and stewardship activities.

Who can Apply: Florida public, charter, and private schools and educators are eligible to apply.

Amount awarded: A total of \$30,000 will be made available for a limited number of awards ranging from \$500 to \$3,000. Grant applications may be submitted for the 2014/2015 school year from September 1st through midnight October 3rd, 2014. The TERRA Grant Committee will review proposals and make funding recommendations to the TERRA Board of Directors.

What we are looking for: TERRA seeks applications for projects in which students participate in learning experiences that utilize technology in an innovative way or promotes environmental sustainability. **Funding is intended to encourage and support creative activities that build on the unique assets and strengths of individual education communities.** As part of this project, individuals receiving awards will be required to share what they learn with the broader community through outreach such as public events, presentations and displays and/or media engagement. Preference will be given to projects with matching funds or in-kind services.

Details:

- **The deadline for the 2014-15 school year is October 3, 2014. Applications received after this date will not be considered.**
- Financial assistance is limited to \$3,000 per school, per year.
- Grantees will be required to provide ongoing feedback of grant activities, documentation of their project, including a financial report of how money was spent, at least 5 high-resolution digital photos (including publicity releases), and a short reporting form.
- The Teacher/Applicant listed is whom we will contact regarding your application.
- Inquiries should be submitted via email to: grants@terraonline.org.

Application Instructions:

- To apply, please submit this completed form by October 3, 2014.
- Fill out the form completely
- Gather appropriate signatures. Applications without signatures will not be considered.
- Submit signed proposal via e-mail to grants@terraonline.org with your school name contained in the filename.
- We will confirm receipt of your application within 2 weeks via email. If you have not heard from us, please contact us at grants@terraonline.org. Awards will be sent within one month of application submission.

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A. SCHOOL AND APPLICANT INFORMATION

Submission Date:	10/03/2014	School Year: 2014-15
School Name:	Environmental Studies Center	
Applicant Name:	Marilyn Gavitt	
Principal Name:	Marilyn Gavitt	
County:	Martin	
Type of School:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Public	<input type="radio"/> Private <input type="radio"/> Charter
Student Enrollment:	N/A we serve all students	Number of Teachers: 4
Range of Grade Levels at School:	K-12	% Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch: 44% (District Average)
Applicant's Phone #(s):	Schools Main #772-219-1887	Direct # (ext. or cell)772-209-0343
Applicant's Email Address:	2900 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, FL 34957	
Applicant's Affiliation to School/Organization	Employed by Martin County School District	
If Applicant is a Teacher, please list:	Teacher's Grade Level(s):	Teacher's Subject(s) Area:
If Parent/Community Volunteer or Other non-school staff, please list School Contact as a Co-Applicant:	Co-Applicant Name:	Co-Applicant Affiliation to School/Organization:
If Co-Applicant is a Teacher, please list:	Teacher's Grade Level(s):	Teacher's Subject Area(s):

B. PROGRAM INFORMATION

Please list the focus area(s) for this TERRA Mini-Grant request.	Environmental Science	Ecology	Conservation	
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C. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: Mangrove Communities	
Project Start Date: December 2014	Project End Date: N/A
# of Students Participating: 1200 each year	Grade Levels of Students Participating: 4th
Mini-Grant Abstract (300 word max): Briefly describe what your proposed project is about. Abstracts of winning proposal will be viewable at www.terraonline.org	
Fourth grade students will participate in a field-oriented program of environmental studies designed to provide them with knowledge and appreciation of our fragile ecosystem. Project includes classroom instruction as well as visits to the Indian River Lagoon. Using digital science probes, students will gather data on air and water quality, which will then be analyzed, charted, and graphed back in the classroom using spreadsheet software. Instruction on the food chain and mangrove habitat will be interactive using engaging software and a multi-touch flat panel. A digital microscope connected to the flat panel will allow for examination of plankton, plant life, and other organisms that live in the mangrove community. Finally, students will create a digital project highlighting their learning at the end of the unit.	

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Mini-Grant Project Proposal (1500 word max)

Please explain how your proposed project/activity will enhance learning for your students. Include the following:

- 1) How is your project innovative? (25 points)
- 2) How will it fit into your curriculum (include standards)? (10 points)
- 3) How will it encourage long-lasting change in your classroom, school or community? (20 points)
- 4) How will technology be utilized? (20 points)
- 5) What evidence will you collect to show student gain? (10 points)
- 6) How will participants share your project results with the community? (15 points)

Our project is innovative because it is designed to provide students with knowledge and appreciation of the environment through hands-on field work, data collection and analysis, and the use of technology tools to transform their learning. *Mangrove Communities* is a two week unit of study that every 4th grader in our district will participate in. The culminating activity will be a visit to our Center where students will learn about the mangroves and the important role they play in our ecosystem through a hands-on learning experience. During their field work, students will work in teams to collect data on temperature, tides, water density and salinity. Students will collect specimens of plant and animal life to examine and categorize.

All activities and learning experiences are interdisciplinary and aligned with our current Florida Standards and NGSSS. Center teachers collaborate with 4th grade teachers on delivering the instruction and creating the content.

This project encourages long-lasting change by teaching our children to appreciate the natural ecosystems that have not been harmed by human impact. The Indian River Lagoon borders our county on the east side. It is home to more than 2,200 species of animals and more than 2,100 species of plants. Many of these organisms make the Indian River Lagoon their home, including four types of mangroves. Students will learn the importance of these trees and the role they play in the food chain through authentic activities. We will examine the impact of urban expansion and the devastating consequences when growth encroaches upon our waterfront habitats. This is a program that will be repeated year after year.

Technology plays a critical role in this project. Prior to going out in the field, the teacher will present a flipchart with background information to access prior knowledge. Students will interact with software on the multi-touch flat panel monitor. Students will use digital science probes to collect data and record artifacts using a digital camera. Following their field studies, students will return to the Center to examine the specimens collected. Using a microscope, students work in groups to examine and categorize organisms. The teacher will guide the instruction by connecting a digital microscope to the multi-touch flat panel monitor for ease of classroom viewing of tiny plankton magnified to 3000x. Students will use spreadsheet software to create charts and graphs to assist with data analysis. When students return to their school, they can choose to create an instructional video or Prezi using photographs taken on the day of their trip to the Center. Technology will truly transform the learning for our students as they create, collaborate, communicate, and use critical thinking skills.

Student projects will be evaluated to determine comprehension. A pre- and post-test will be conducted to show student gain.

Our project success will be celebrated and shared with the community through a press release, website update with pictures, and a big thank you to TERRA on our marquis. We will feature the project in our monthly newsletter, Turtle Tracks.

Here is what we are currently using:

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D. BUDGET: Describe all costs associated with your project activity. *(Attach additional pages if necessary)*

Service/Item Description	Cost
Promethean Activtouch Panel Touch-65" and ActivInspire Software	\$3,499.00
Stand for Activtouch Panel	\$489.00
Installation of Panel and Stand	\$800.00
Total Cost of Project	\$4,788.00
Amount requested from TERRA:	\$3,000.00
If matching/additional funds have been identified to help pay for your project, please list →	Source: ESC Council Funds (Director Account)
	Amount: \$988.00
If any goods or services have been donated for this project, please list →	Source: Integrated Telcom, Inc.
	Goods/Services: Installation of Panel and Stand (\$800.00 value)

E. COMMITMENT

By submitting this application and signing below, you agree to the following:

- TERRA is not liable for any injuries or losses that may occur as a result of participation in the proposed project.
- The applicant is responsible for submitting required documentation via e-mail to TERRA including on going updates, financial report, high-resolution digital photos (and media releases) that are cleared for use in TERRA's outreach materials, and any mini-grant project-related lessons developed. A short reporting form will be sent to schools when awards are made.
- Schools that do not submit reporting documentation materials automatically waive this remaining 10% and may jeopardize future funding opportunities.
- Equipment purchased using mini-grant funds will become the property of the school receiving funds.

Applicant's Name:	Marilyn Gavitt		
Applicant's Signature:		Date:	10/03/14
School Administrator/ Principal's Name:	Marilyn Gavitt		
School Administrator/ Principal's Signature		Date:	10/03/14
School Address (for mailing of award)	2900 NE Indian River Drive, Jensen Beach, FL 34957		