

TERRA MINI-GRANT APPLICATION

2015-2016 SCHOOL YEAR

The Technology Education Research & 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 grades 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 \$50,000 will be made available for a limited number of awards ranging from \$500 to \$3,000. Grant applications may be submitted for the 2015-2016 school year by midnight September 30, 2015. 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, individual 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 2015-2016 school year is September 30, 2015. Applications received after this date will not be considered.**
- Financial assistance is limited to \$3,000 per school, per year.
- Grants will be made to schools to fund the project specified in the proposal.
- Grantees will be required to submit an interim report and a final report using an electronic form provided by TERRA.
- 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 September 30, 2015.
- 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 deadline.

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A. SCHOOL AND APPLICANT INFORMATION

Submission Date:	9/30/15	School Year: 2015-2016
School Name:	Lake Panasoffkee Elementary School	
Type of School:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Public <input type="radio"/> Private <input type="radio"/> Charter	
Student Enrollment:	523	Number of Teachers: 32
Range of Grade Levels at School:	PreK - 5	% Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch: 73
School Mailing Address:	790 CR 492N, Lake Panasoffkee, FL 33538	
County:	Sumter	
Principal Name:	Bridget Veal	
Principal's Email Address:	Bridget.veal@sumter.k12.fl.us	
Applicant Name:	Nicole Wade	
Applicant's Phone #(s):	352-793-1093	61211
Applicant's Email Address:	Nicole.wade@sumter.k12.fl.us	
Applicant's Affiliation to School/Organization	Assistant Principal	
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.	Hands On STEM Learning	Florida Science Standards	
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C. PROJECT INFORMATION

Project Title: LPES STEM Challenge	
Project Start Date: 10-1-15 (Or as soon as grant is awarded)	Project End Date: May 2016
# of Students Participating: 140	Grade Levels of Students Participating: 4 th and 5 th Grade
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 Students in grades 4-5 will compete in the "STEM Challenge" by create products utilizing the mobile eBeam device. Each class will focus on a specific skill involving Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM). Students will display their projects through school or district programs, including our Family Activity Nights (FAN Club) in the Spring. Successful outcome will be measured by each group's ability to create a new product that is rated through a rubric scoring.	

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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)

To increase the knowledge necessary to meet the challenging standards as set forth by the Florida Department of Education, students at Lake Panasoffkee Elementary School will participate in a collaborative project that emphasizes concepts and skills directly related to Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematical (STEM) curriculum. This year, our science FCAT scores decreased (from 73% to 59%). Also, on our baseline district assessment, 36% of 4th graders and 18% of 5th graders scored proficient at a level 3 or higher. When analyzing the data further, we see that "Nature of Science" was our weakest area on both assessments. We would like to use the following project to increase our focus on those specific standards. We believe hands-on learning is the best way for students to better understand the standards. This will not only support our efforts toward increasing our FCAT scores, but also support the goals of our district's STEM advisory team. Our success in this project will be shared with other science teachers in the district at the end of the grant period.

The grant would allow LPES to purchase an eBeam device for each 5th grade classroom (4 total classrooms; three of these teachers also teach math and science to 4th grade students, thus impacting 7 classrooms of students). This device allows any magnetic board to become an interactive digital tool.

Once the grant is awarded, each instructional program participant will complete professional development/training that cultivates their skills in the use of the wireless eBeam device. Once the training is complete, each teacher will immediately begin in the use of the device to become "experts" in how to effectively use for classroom instruction. Instructional participants will collaborate as a team to develop lessons and activities that directly increase student's skills and understanding in the use of this device. The ultimate goal is to create lessons that will engage students to use the device to research, design and develop collaborative "digital" products/projects. Students will also receive instruction in the use of basic word processing skills. Current state mandated testing requires students at 4th and 5th grade to have the capability to manipulate and maneuver through computer based programs that demonstrate their understanding of curriculum benchmarks.

By December, each class will submit a topic of interest and initiate their project. A detailed timeline will be implemented to maintain momentum and assist with meeting grant deadlines. All projects at the primary grade level will focus on a mathematical or technology skill identified through the educational standards as set by the Florida Department of Education. All projects will require a digital report and video component. Student projects will be displayed at a Family Activity Night (FAN Club) in the Spring 2016. All participating students will be awarded a certificate of participation and information will be shared with the local media.

Student Outcomes:

At least 73% of 5th grade project participants will score proficiently on the 2016 FCAT Science Assessment.
At least 70% of all project participants will score proficiently (level 3 or higher) on the Discovery Education Science Assessment (district assessment) in May 2016.

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

Service/Item Description	Cost
Purchase of 4 eBeam (wireless) Sets	\$3200.00
Subs for Collaborative Planning Time/Training for 4 Teachers	\$364.00
	\$
Total Cost of Project	\$3564.00
Amount requested from TERRA:	\$3000.00
If matching/additional funds have been identified to help pay for your project, please list <input type="checkbox"/>	Source: School Recognition/Internal Funds
	Amount: \$564.00
If any goods or services have been donated for this project, please list <input type="checkbox"/>	Source:
	Goods/Services:

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 an interim report and a final report using an electronic form provided by TERRA Schools that do not submit an interim report and a final report will not be eligible for future funding opportunities.
- Equipment purchased using mini-grant funds will become the property of the school receiving funds.

Applicant's Name:	Nicole L. Wade		
Applicant's Signature:	Nicole Wade	Date:	9/30/15
School Administrator/ Principal's Name:	Bridget M. Veal		
School Administrator/ Principal's Signature	Bridget M. Veal	Date:	9.30.15