

Examples of Previously Granted RCSS Minigrant Requests

I am requesting funds to purchase weights and a balance scale (catalogue page attached) for my fourth grade students. This will be used this year and in future years as well. Concepts of weight and mass and comparative measuring are investigated in both fourth grade science and math.

Currently, I borrow scales from our fifth grade science lab, but these are only occasionally available and do not allow for the comparative measures we need to make. Having appropriate equipment set up in the classroom permanently would allow the "spontaneous" investigations children this age love to initiate.

I now have a class set of Apple II computers in my classroom and would like to convert my Chemistry, Physics and Earth Science demos into student lab activities. This will involve building about a dozen interface devices that convert the computer into a temperature sensor. I have learned the necessary electronics by attending several summer interfacing workshops at Ithaca College. I estimate the total cost at about \$200. I've included a listing of the materials needed, and my layout for preparing a printed circuit board that will reduce construction time. I intend to involve our technology students with the PC board, as this is something they learn in their technology course. I've also included verification of how the remainder of the funding will be provided.

As part of my responsibilities, I provide an intensive, hands-on program in archeology for approximately 90 intermediate students. To support this program, I am requesting \$149.95 to purchase Delta's "Fossils-Earth Science Videolab" which includes such student station activities as analyzing mold casts and creating fossil replicas. This lab would enable students to actively participate in their own learning and use the inquiry method when manipulating and studying the fossils. This lab is reusable so future classes will likewise benefit. In addition, I am preparing a workshop for the Rochester Teacher's Center where the lab would be part of the materials presented to the teachers to consider for use in their classrooms.

Delta Education, Fossils-Earth Science Videolab, #53-220-2595, \$149.95

Our school's "creative courtyard" has been established to increase student awareness of the natural world. In addition to a bird feeding/identification area and garden we are in the process of developing a weather station. The following materials will be used by students in grades 1-3 for daily weather reporting:

Taylor Maximum Minimum thermometer	18.50
Taylor Indoor/Outdoor thermometer	9.80
Tru-Chek Direct Reading Rain Gauge	7.25
Weather Meter	5.50
Sundial	30 00
Wind Wizard	38.50
2 Bird identifiers (for use on window)	<u>4.00</u>
Total	\$113.55

I plan to have my students do a project that integrates math, science and technology. This involves small teams each building a model home. Each team will receive a cardboard box and tool kit consisting of; extra cardboard sheets, 4 batteries and holders, 1 model motor, wire, masking tape, Elmer's glue, 2 light bulbs and holders, and a pair of wire cutters. The task is to construct a model home having at least 2 rooms, each with a light bulb with a switch. The house must also contain an appliance that is created with the motor. The homes must also be decorated and furnished to scale. Upon completion of the project students will take a test requiring them to explain and diagram the circuitry of their home, and figure the area and perimeter.

The estimated cost of materials for this project is about \$100.