

**TO:** The Foundation for Public Schools of Edgefield County  
**WHAT:** Vision Grant Summary (2021-2022)

First of all, I want to thank the Foundation and its members for the approval of this grant. The funds supplied provided all the necessary materials for our students to engage in a new way to expand their creativity and express themselves creatively. The Gelli Plates, brayers and ink were a huge hit with our students and they were beyond excited to use them to create their own art.

I decided to focus on introductory lessons with the Gelli plates this year to help teach the basics of Printmaking. This provided a simple way to get everyone comfortable with the new medium without an extensive amount of pressure and anxiety. There is a good chance that none of our students have ever seen or even heard of a Gelli Plate, so it was exciting to witness their reactions with a new way to create art. The lessons were focused on Monoprinting, which is the most “painterly” way to create unique works of art using the materials. It provides healthy exploration and the freedom for students to explore the materials on their own to produce interesting artwork that cannot be easily replicated from student to student making each one special. Every student was engaged, every student was amazed, every student wanted to create more and more of these artworks. They were continuously inspired and this energy about them pushed their creativity and helped to encourage higher order creative questioning as they tried new things on each piece. I could not have been more pleased with the lessons outcome and the engagement of our students. The lessons were a complete success!

I believe the lessons that I provided the students with these Gelli Plates were the highlight of the school year and I look forward to being able to continue to introduce them to more ways we can use these tools. That’s the great thing about these materials. Now that they are provided, I will be able to continue to expand upon our students experiences with them throughout their elementary education. There are endless possibilities with this medium and my hope is that these creative and “hands-on” skills will continue to develop and grow as our students move through their educational journey.

Thank you for the funding of this grant and providing our students new and unique learning opportunities! It is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

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