

2021 Teachers Vision Grant
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Third Grade
W. E. Parker Elementary

Thank you so much for accepting my grant application last year. The title of my grant project was “All Over the Map” The main objective was to incorporate literature into the study of geography. This year the South Carolina standards changed for third grade Social Studies. The main focus has been South Carolina History but changed to World Geography, which includes the study of places, landscapes, environments, and people, and how they have affected each other over time.

The maps and the globe that were purchased helped students to have a better understanding of where places are and the difference between continents, countries, states, and cities. Our school wide theme is “Learning is An Adventure”. Places all over the world have been spotlighted on the intercom by our students each day. My students have been able to locate the places and oceans on our maps and the globe. They made connections with the places we read about with our literature..

The two topics where the literature had the most influence on my students were in Unit 4, Natural Disasters, and Unit 5, Culture. In Unit 5, they learned facts about the natural hazards and natural disasters such as floods, hurricanes, tornadoes, volcanoes, and wildfires. The literature that I purchased sparked interest in those topics while science and social studies skills were being integrated. The students were also able to make connections with our state when discussing experiences with hurricanes, tornadoes, and floods that happen in South Carolina. Also, the literature on different cultures, especially the folktales, was very helpful in grabbing the attention of my students. The class also learned how geographic characteristics influenced culture around the world. The students enjoyed read-alouds based on the different cultures. Later this year we will read picture books about the cultures of South Carolina.

We have not completed our end of the year project at this time. During the month of May, we plan to have a Travel Fair. Students will collaborate in groups and create Travel Brochures for a chosen region in South Carolina and share it with the class.

Again, I would like to say thank you for providing rich literature to incorporate with my geography lessons. The books helped to change the way my class sees the world.

