

Grant: Flexible Seating

Participant: Hailee Derrick

After receiving the Teacher Vision Grant, I quickly took the money donated and used it for my classroom. I was moved from 5th grade to 3rd grade around the same time and so my use for it quickly changed. I did not have time to train my new students on how to use the flexible seating system, but we did end up changing the format of our classrooms. We ended up combining the classes in a Read 180 group and a non Read 180 group because my partner teacher would be out on maternity leave during December and part of January, and my administrator did not want the students missing EL from a certified teacher. We decided that I would teach EL to both groups in order for that not to happen. We had many changes over a month.

Since I did not have time to train my students on the flexible seating, I did come up with one supply I could use the money for rather than what I originally requested, and that was for seat pockets. Seat pockets are very expensive, but crucial in transition time. These helped dramatically because students were coming in and out of my classroom during the day. I also was able to use the money for a shorter table and chairs, which I originally did ask for with the Teacher's Vision Grant. With the extra set of students in my classroom at all times, this created an additional spot for students to work at group work. I also like to use this as a reward because the students enjoy working at the table.

Hopefully, when I switch back to 5th grade next year, I can use the flexible seating options that I have for what I intended it to be used for. Students already have the options in my classroom, so this is a great building block for the future. I will add in pictures of the students using these supplies throughout the school year.

Thank you so much for all of your help in my classroom running smoothly!

Hailee Derrick