



## Instructional Grant Program - Innovative

Submission Deadline: September 19, 2013

Name: Melissa Twisdale School: Barron Elementary

School Address: 45 Fox Hill Road

Telephone No. (757) 851-5100 Email: mtwisdale@hampton.k12.va.us

Position & Title: (K - 5) Reading Specialist

Project Title: K-5 Buddies

This project is designed for: Elementary

Target Grade Level(s) Kindergarten and fifth Grade Subject Areas Reading & Writing

Complete the following:

1. Describe the grade level target population, subject or subjects being taught, overall curriculum goals and SOLS being addressed by the project.

SOL's:

Kindergarten-

- K.1 The student will demonstrate growth in the use of oral language.
- K.3 The student will build oral communication skills.
- K.5 The student will understand how print is organized and read.
- K.6 The student will demonstrate an understanding that print conveys meaning.
- K.7 The student will demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts.

Grade 5-

- 5.5 The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of fictional texts, narrative, nonfiction, and poetry.
- 5.7 The student will write for a variety of purposes:
- 5.8 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and paragraphing
- 3.9 The student will write for a variety of purposes. a) Identify the intended audience. b) Use a variety of prewriting strategies. c) Write a clear topic sentence focusing on the main idea. d) Write a paragraph on the same topic. e) Use strategies for organization of information and elaboration according to the type of writing. f) Include details that elaborate the main idea. g) Revise writing for

clarity of content using specific vocabulary and information.

3.10 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.

b) Use transition words to vary sentence structure.

5.8 The student will edit writing for correct grammar, capitalization, spelling, punctuation, sentence structure, and paragraphing.

Our students in fifth grade are adopting a kindergarten buddy to care for and support academically and emotionally during the school year. The students will have opportunities to read together, write together, and have lunch together. The main academic project during the school year will involve the fifth graders writing for their kindergarten buddies. Our goal with this activity is to provide an authentic and relevant writing experience for the fifth grade students, as well as memorable and meaningful reading experiences for the kindergarten students. The books will be published through an on-line publisher and the kindergarten students and fifth graders will receive copies of the book at the end of the school year. For each copy of the book we purchase, we will receive one free book.

2. Provide a comprehensive overview of the project to include, project objectives, explanation of innovative learning experiences, expected student outcomes and assessment practices for the project. Include plans for dissemination of the project after it is completed.

This yearlong project will begin with the fifth grade students and their kindergarten buddies meeting for a buddy reading session. This will soon be followed with the fifth graders meeting with their K buddies again in order to conduct an interview to find out their interests and favorites. The fifth grade students will use this information as they plan the writing of a fairytale, which will feature the K student as the main character.

Fifth graders are required, as part of their curriculum to compose a piece narrative writing. The writing of the fairytale will fulfill this. The planning, story mapping, editing and revising (all required assignments) will be part of this project. After the fifth graders have completed the rough drafts of their stories, they will be ready to complete the online version, which will be published by "studentpublishing.com." This innovative use of technology in the language arts classroom provides our community of learners, authentic and relevant opportunities for writing and reading. This learning project will help our fifth graders understand the important difference they can make in the lives of our youngest students; while, we hope the youngest members of our learning community will look up to their older 5th grade buddies. Not only does this project provide meaningful work for our learners, it also connects them to the reality that their behavior and attitudes matter and make a difference in the world around them. (see supporting research: <http://www.edutopia.org/pbl-research-annotated-bibliography#barron2>)

We plan to celebrate our 'K-5 Buddies' project when the books arrive at the end of the school year, by bringing the 'K-5 buddies' together one last time to receive and read the published books. I plan to chronicle the stages of the project this year so that we can share the process with our Barron stakeholders as well as with other school communities.

3. Provide a timeline outlining the preparation and events of the project. Note that funded projects must be implemented within the school year and a project report must be completed. (See Hampton Education Foundation website for Project Report form)

**October:** K-5 Buddy Meetings and Interview

**November - February:** Writing instruction to support composition, written expression, vocabulary, story mapping, planning, drafting and revising.

**February - March:** Editing and Proofreading for final on-line draft, which will include adding pictures. Volunteers will be involved during this stage of the project.

**April/May:** K-5 Buddies Celebration

Budget:

Item	Quantity	Cost
\$15.00	75	\$1,125.00
		(balance will be taken care of with PTA reading funds)

Total Requested: \$1000.

*Melissa C. Swisdale*

Applicant Signature

9-16-13

Date

*Andrew L. Riddick*

Principal Signature

9-16-2013

Date

Submit a typed original and 3 copies to:  
Ann Bane, SAC, 1 Franklin Street, Hampton, VA 23669

Application should be signed and dated by the teacher submitting the Grant Proposal and by the principal of the school. Applications not signed by the principal will not be considered. A committee of Foundation Board Members will review Grant Applications.