

Glendale Elementary School

“Experiencing Exciting Expeditions”

- **About the project:** For the 2017-18 school year, Glendale Elementary School has the vision of having our Media Center focus on science, thus creating a STEMedia. We currently have 3rd-5th grade students working on a 5 -week rotation during their media time. At the end of the 5 weeks, students have had an opportunity to dissect a piece of informational text, complete independent research pertaining to text, work in a cooperative group to respond to guiding questions, create group projects, and present information to peers.

Glendale currently services 581 students ages Pre-K through 5th grade. Of these students, 86% are economically disadvantaged. According to 2016-17 state assessments only 38% of our 5th grade students are proficient in Science and 51% of 3rd-5th grade students are proficient in ELA standards. According to the 2017 Fall iReady diagnostic testing, the majority of our students are falling below grade level in vocabulary knowledge and comprehension of informational text. Research shows that between grades 1 and 3, it is expected that economically disadvantaged students' vocabularies increase by about 3,000 words per year, while middle-class students' vocabularies increase by about 5,000 words per year. We believe the lack of vocabulary is directly affecting the student's comprehension of grade level content material.

To support our students, we would like to add the use of Google Expedition to our current STEMedia rotations. Google Expeditions allows the teacher to assign a virtual field trip that aligns to the content being taught. Our hypothesis is that the implementation of Google Expedition will allow our students the opportunity to virtually experience multiple opportunities they would otherwise not be able to. This in turn would increase each student's schema and give them a concrete representation of abstract terms and concepts that they are encountering in content material. According to the National Education Association, field trips are particularly important for disadvantaged students as they provide students with a unique opportunity to level the playing field. Having access to thousands of virtual field trip opportunities would allow our students access to experiences that they would otherwise be unable to have.

- **Amount Requested:** \$9499
- **Total Project Cost:** \$9499 (Glendale Elementary has staff and additional resources necessary to implement program)
- **Targeted Population:** All students in grades 2-5 (If we receive the grant we would expand our STEMedia to include 2nd graders)
- **Number of children to be served and grade level:** Approximately 418 students grades 2nd-5th
- **Succinct Summary**

1. **Issue:** Our students are struggling in comprehension of informational text and understanding of content vocabulary.
 2. **Change:** As a result of this grant, we would expect that our students would have the exposure to experiences that will serve to solidify their understanding of grade level informational text as well as the academic vocabulary associated with the text. This should lead to a higher number of students that are able to master the Florida Standards.
 3. **Action:** Materials necessary to embed virtual field trips into current curriculum would be ordered. The Media Specialist, Instructional Coaches, and classroom teachers would collaboratively plan future lessons for both the classroom and STEMedia in order to ensure the virtual field trips are being used to support student understanding.
- **Oversight:** Project will be monitored for fidelity of implementation by both the Principal, Adam Faust, and the Assistant Principal, Michelle Banack. Literacy Coach, Rene' Koppelman, will ensure the sustainability by facilitating weekly collaborative planning with classroom teachers and Media Specialist.
 - **Monitoring:** The following data will be used to monitor the progress:
 1. **iReady Diagnostics**
 2. **Unify Formative Assessments**
 3. **2018 State Assessments**
 - **Itemized Budget:**
 - 30: Student Devices
 - 30: Virtual Reality Viewers
 - 3: Rapid Chargers
 - 1: Teacher Device
 - 1: Router
 - 1: Charging Cart
 - Technical Support**Bundle Price: \$9,499**