

Fellsmere Elementary School  
2019-2020 School Year Letter of Idea- Grant Funding for Schools  
**Name of Project:** Kids of a Feather

**Additional Information about the Project:** The students at Fellsmere Elementary will sustainably incubate, hatch and raise their school flock of chickens. They will be responsible for care taking, compassionate animal husbandry, and sustainable living practices. This opportunity provides the students with a tangible application to STEM and ELA curriculum which is relevant to our school and our surrounding rural community.

**How this project aligns with the School Improvement Plan:** Fellsmere Elementary is a Title 1 school with a 90% minority and 100% economically disadvantaged student population located in a rural setting. Fellsmere Elementary places an emphasis on community and is driven by a “standards-based core curriculum across all content areas with collective data driven instructional decisions that are focused on engagement and are differentiated to student need.” By incorporating learning strategies and multisensory experiences to raise and care for chickens, the students will increase their learning gains. Our vision is that “as a school, we work collaboratively with colleagues, students, parents and the community to achieve this shared educational purpose.”

**Amount Requested:** \$2000.00

**Total Project Cost:** \$2013.80

**Targeted Population:** ESE students

**Number of children to be served and grade level(s):** 89 students in ESE grades 1-5

**Succinct Summary-**

- **The Issue:** For the past 5 years, our school has been challenged with earning greater than a “C” on our school report card. Our ESE students have demonstrated the least amount of learning gains which has restricted our outcomes.
- **The Change:** In keeping with the philosophy of growth mindset, our school believes that ESE students raising a flock of chickens with a hands-on and personal commitment will promote learning and connecting on a deeper level across all areas of the curriculum and therefore improve our school grade/outcome.
- **The Action:** Students will initially incubate a set of 6 eggs in conjunction with STEM curriculum. The students will research and set up the chicken habitat to encourage independent planning and problem solving. Students will foster their academic success and cultivate their talents in and out of the classroom through a variety of daily, weekly and monthly tasks to manage their flock of chickens. ELA proficiency will be stimulated through activities that target applied vocabulary and language.

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**Grant Oversight:** With administrative support, the ESE team (teachers and therapists) will be responsible for oversight of the project. The ESE team will work with the general education teachers through co-teaching and in-service opportunities to encourage learning excitement and carry over in the classroom.

**Monitoring Progress and Results:** Progress and results will be monitored and reported through i-Ready, IEP progress reports, data chats and FSA results.

**Volunteers:** Fellsmere Elementary will provide volunteers from the community as well as parents and teachers from within our school.

### Itemized Budget:

Item	Cost
A secure and properly designed coop with a run	\$700
A feeder and drinker	\$35
A fresh supply of bedding for the nesting boxes	\$191.88
Chicken feed, shell grit and treats	\$400
Secure storage drums for feed and bedding	\$60.72
A Hen Health Kit to prevent any poultry illness, pests or parasites	\$130
Incubator Classroom Pack for 7 eggs	\$440
6 hatching eggs	\$56.20
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2013.80</b>

\*These prices were gathered from either Amazon or mypetchicken.com. The chicken coop was researched and priced through several different companies to meet our specifications.

- A secure and properly designed coop with a run = \$700
- A feeder and drinker = \$35
- A fresh supply of bedding for their nesting boxes = \$16/month = \$191.88
- Chicken feed, shell grit and treats = \$400
- Secure storage drums for feed and bedding =  $\$30.36 \times 2 = \$60.72$
- A Hen Health Kit to prevent any poultry illness, pests or parasites = \$130
- Incubator Classroom Pack for 7 eggs = \$440
- 6 hatching eggs = \$56.20

“Students with a growth mindset understand they can get smarter through hard work, the use of effective strategies, and help from others when needed.”

#### Daily Chicken Keeping Tasks

- Egg collection and recording
- Chicken behaviour observation and recording
- Chicken training - [tricks and obedience](#)
- Refill the feeders and drinkers

#### Weekly Chicken Keeping Tasks

- Top-up the coop bedding
- Rake and clean out the chicken run
- Flock health check - observe the flock for any health issues

#### Monthly Chicken Keeping Tasks

- Remove and replace all bedding
- [Clean the coop, chicken run and surrounds](#)
- Clean and re-fill feeders and drinkers
- [Individual hen health checks.](#)
- Your children can candle the eggs, and see how the embryo is developing

Candling is the way you can check to see that the embryos of the baby chickens inside your incubating eggs are developing and growing. It's very easy to do - all you need is a bright torch and a dark room! Just shine the torch onto one end of the egg, which will illuminate the inside. Then, you will be able to identify whether an embryo is developing