

Hello,

Firstly I would like to thank you for accepting my grant application. After I had received the grant I started planning the individual classes. I first made a rough lesson plan and then started ordering the supplies that I would need for each class. I then worked on publicity. I created a flyer and sent it to the local middle school. Then I sent the flyer to the STEM network (an organization that posts local STEM programs) I also asked the library, where the event was being held, to put my program in their monthly newsletter. Before every class I looked over the lesson plan and assembled the supplies I would need for the class. I arrived half an hour early at the library for each class to set up tables chairs and any other supplies I might need.

During the first class on the 11th of July we learned about windmills. We read the book "[The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind](#)" and then built miniature windmills to show how much power a windmill has. I set up a fan on one side of a table and the kids put their windmills on the other side. Then we added pennies to a bag on the windmill's end to see how many pennies their windmill could pull up. We had a competition to see who's windmill could pull up the most pennies. 6 kids attended the class and they all seemed to really enjoy it.





On July 13 I taught about the importance of clean water and then read the book “Ryan and Jimmy and the well in Africa that brought them together”. We made water filters. We made the water filters with rocks, sand, coffee filters, strainers and cotton balls. I made an artificial “dirty water” made up of dirt, oil, sand, and other dirty things. The water filters were actually a big success and they filtered the water quite effectively. Some of the students asked me if they could drink it and I told them it would probably not be a good idea. I showed them a real water filter that I had cut open so they could see the inside. For this class all 8 students that signed up attended and really enjoyed the competition.









For the third class I taught about microfinance. We read the book "22 Cents" and then created a diagram showing how microfinance is such a powerful tool in places that have a lot of poverty and how exactly it works. Once they all had the basic idea of how micro finance works we played a game to show how microfinance can help small businesses in the real world. Everybody got a role playing card: either a shop owner, a shopper, a store owner, or a banker. First the shop owners would borrow small amounts of money from the bank, then they would go with their money to the store where they would buy items to sell to pay the bank back. Once all of the shop owners had bought their items the shoppers could come and buy the items for an amount that the shop owners would decide. Once the shoppers had spent all their money we all gathered back in a circle to discuss if any of the shop owners had made a profit and what they had done that was different from the other shop owners. At the end of the class I passed Kiva gift cards for everybody and explained how to use them, I explained that they could loan it to anybody in the world and then that person would repay them money which they could then lend back out. I had 7 people attend the micro finance class and they all seemed very excited to be playing a game instead of building something, Ha ha.



The last class in the program I thought about trees and their importance in the world and read the book "Seeds of Change" Once I had finished reading the book seeds of change, Ranger Elisa, a park ranger for the Army Corp of Engineers talked about the importance of trees on Cape Cod, how to keep a forest healthy and what sort of trees we have here on Cape Cod.

After Ranger Elisa had given her presentation we planted as special plant that I had gotten from a classroom pack for from an organization called Massachusetts pollinators, the plant was supposed to be very good for pollinators. Once we had planted the seeds I handed out trees to everybody so that they could have a tree to plant in their backyard. At the end of the class I had everybody take a survey to see how they enjoyed the four classes that I had taught.






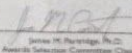

On the survey I asked 3 questions, on a scale of one to ten how much did you enjoy the 4 classes, what was one thing you learned from this class and what is one thing you would suggest to improve the classes. Most students rated my class as a nine out of ten. Some things they wrote for the second question were “how I can improve the world!” and “I learned that trees are very important.” For the last question some students wrote that there was “nothing” to improve about the class I was hoping for more specific feedback on the last question but did not get as much as I had hoped. One student did say that he/she wanted the classes to be “more competitive” and another answered that he/she would have liked “more classes” despite not getting as much feedback as I would have wanted I still thought of a few things that I would do differently if I did this project again. First of all I think that I would charge a small amount of money such as five dollars to attend the class. Once the students got to the class however I would give them their money back. This would ensure that all of the people signed up for the class attended the class or sent me an email that notified me that they would not be attending the class. I also would have made the classes longer maybe by 15 minutes for half an hour because for some of the classes I found that we ran out of time at the end and we would have to cut some of the activities short. Overall I was satisfied with my results from the surveys and I would say that my 4 classes were a success.

Because only seven students attended the microfinance class I was left with six leftover keep the gift cards. (after mine and Ranger Elisa's cards). I decided to contact my local library and Mrs. Johnson and work with the book club that I am in to read a book about micro finance. Once we as a book club have read the book about microfinance I will give each member of the book club a Kiva gift card. I did this because I wanted to make sure that whoever I gave the gift cards to would know how micro finance works and understands what they are doing when they lend their \$25 out to people in need.

Thank you for the opportunity and experience!



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