

Brave Spellors and Authors in Kindergarten

*2020 - Collaborative Classroom Grant
Application*

Billings Public Schools- Beartooth

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Application Form

***Teachers - Check out the new Collaborator feature tutorial:**

Collaborator Video Tutorial: (2 minutes)

Collaborator Written Tutorial:

Project Name*

Name of Project

Brave Spellers and Authors in Kindergarten

Amount Requested

Amount Requested

\$717.00

Grade Level

Please select the grade level most appropriate for the grant you are writing.

Primary (K-3)

Primary Subject Area*

Please choose the primary subject area.

Language Arts

School

Please select your school.

Beartooth Elementary

Applicants*

Please list the educators collaborating on this grant. Please upload the Collaborative Signature Page with your grant submission.

Paige Bealer
Nicole Redmond
Sofia Anderson

Collaborative Grant Signature Page*

Please upload the Collaborative Grant Signature Page listing all educators collaborating on the grant.

Screen Shot 2021-02-26 at 8.41.03 AM.png

Number of Students Served

Please enter the number of students that will be served by this grant.

60

Project Cost

What is the amount you are applying for?

\$717.00

Statement of Need

Please describe the need for this project. For example, how will this project impact student learning?

At the early age of 5, children are developing the skills to put their thoughts on paper. This may be scribbles and letters, or sentences and stories. For most this skill takes time and guidance so that it is not something to fear, but rather something to look forward to! When working with a lent book of Lucy Calkin's Writer's Workshop this year, our team has seen amazing results in our students thus far. Children are guided to begin the writing process through easy and developmentally appropriate lessons that build up their confidence in being "brave" spellers and writers. Our students will be able to write Narrative, Informational, and Opinion pieces that follow the Essential Understandings that are reported on in Kindergarten, aligning with Lucy Calkin's books that focus on those specific writing styles.

When Kindergarten students begin writing many and most are also still working on recognition of letters and sounds, and it proves especially difficult for kids to then transfer that into writing. Using Lucy Calkin's program we have seen that it allows students to move their way into writing without the letter knowledge right away. Beginning with picture dictation, students can put their stories onto paper. This allows students to confidently go about putting their thoughts on paper. This is a crucial step in learning how to write because it is starting kids out on the right foot for the remainder of their writing career. If students are confident in their writing and enjoy doing it, they will continue on to bigger and greater pieces.

Granting us these kits for each classroom in the Kindergarten grade level will allow us to reach all of these kids at the starting point. This new kit and series are developmentally set up for Kindergarten specifically. We intend to use a 40-minute chunk each day for Writer's Workshop so that writing becomes a priority for our littles. Each of us having our own kit will allow us constant access to the mini-lessons, online resources, and accompanying resources such as modeling texts and display charts.

Primary Goal

Please describe the primary goal of the project and how it blends with School District 2 goals and curriculum.

Writing has proven to be of primary importance throughout the years. However, the impact technology has taken on in our classrooms leads to less pencil to paper in many cases. This has not been the case in our building as we all agree that this is of dire importance. The hand dexterity and fine motor skills of our students are progressively getting weaker as the years go by, and we account for this with the increase in the use of tech where we have everything at our fingertips. Taking the time out of our day to dedicate solely to developing writing skills is something we as a team are very excited about and have put into place. Our students will be able to write Narrative, Informational, and Opinion pieces that follow the Essential Understandings that are reported on in the Kindergarten report card here in SD2. Lucy Calkin's books focus

on those specific writing styles and are easily implemented into the everyday setting we hope to continue with increased complexity.

Collaborative Focus*

Please describe how your project will foster collaborative learning for students in the classroom. Please share an example of how teachers involved in this grant will be collaborating to support teaching and learning in the classroom.

Writer's Workshop is time to guide students to become confident and capable writers. Students work toward sharing their personal viewpoints and knowledge, and their skills are often reflected in what they write. We as teachers will use student writing samples to guide our Professional Learning Communities. We will help each other examine what skills our students are showcasing as well as where we can provide additional support and guidance. The program materials offer suggestions as well as how teacher language can motivate and inspire students to do their best work. Students will also be able to collaborate with each other. A large part of the Lucy Culkin's program is showcasing work with peers. This provides opportunities to compliment products and suggest areas for progress.

Project Description

Briefly identify the major activities and materials involved in your project.

The Lucy Culkin's Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing, Grade K with Trade Book Pack kits include; Four Units of Study, A Guide to the Writing Workshop in Primary Grades, If... Then... Curriculum, Writing Pathways: Performance Assessments and Learning Progressions, Large-Format Anchor Chart Sticky Notes, Online Resources, and Mentor Texts. This would be for one kit in one single classroom. We are looking to get three total so that each classroom has full access to the resources.

Resource/Product Web address included below.

https://www.heinemann.com/products/e08953.aspx?_ga=2.185697453.546537438.1613516155-1169096017.1613516155#fulldesc

Professional Development

If your project includes professional development how will it improve student performance?

In the case of getting this program granted, we hope to have the Literacy trainers within the district that are specifically trained in Lucy Culkin's to come to our school for support and guidance as we take on the program fully. The Writer's Workshop has proven to be quite a bit of work to upkeep, and having the support to allow us to keep it up will be crucial for our team to be successful. We have already had so much support with the team as we have begun the process within our grade level, and know that the support is there for us if needed as we start our Lucy Culkin's journey fully next year.

Project Timeline

When will you implement your project?

The Lucy Culkin's program is a school year unit of study. By the time it arrives, we will be working on writing narratives, as directed by our district pacing. The materials would provide support as we begin that unit. Lucy Culkin's writing curriculum, as a whole, would benefit us next year as we can begin with the writing units early in the year, and begin with the training and guidance from the in-district trainers promptly since we would already have the materials needed to do so. This program is modeled in a way to take us through

the entire year with our students as we shape them into strong writers in informational, narrative, and opinion writing styles.

Plan for Evaluation

How will you evaluate student outcomes for your project?

The school district has a writing rubric and checklist that we are able to use as we evaluate student work. This includes identifying the using illustration to relate to the idea, topic sentence, adding supporting details, capitalizations, punctuation, spaces, and proper handwriting formation, and age-appropriate phonetic spelling. The Lucy Culkin's Writer's Workop Unit also includes notes for teachers on how to extend in specialized situations.

Project Budget

Please explain how the funds from this grant will be spent to support your project goal. You can either type or upload a project budget to show how funds will be used. Please identify other funding sources if applicable.

Units of Study Lucy Culkin's Kindergarten with trade books kits are priced at \$239.00 each on their product website listed below. With all three classrooms, the total budget needed would be \$710.00. No additional funding would be needed for professional development since we have the resource of our literacy coaches in the district.

https://www.heinemann.com/products/e08953.aspx?_ga=2.185697453.546537438.1613516155-1169096017.1613516155#fulldesc

Supervisor Approval*

I have received approval from my supervisor to apply for this grant.

yes

Attachment 1

Please attach any photos, pages from catalogs, or other documents below. This is completely optional.

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Attachment 2

Attachment 3

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- Screen Shot 2021-02-26 at 8.41.03 AM.png
- Screen Shot 2021-02-17 at 9.12.24 AM.png

Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools
Collaborative Classroom Grant Application
Signature Page

Please list the individuals collaborating on this grant submission.

Printed Name	Signature
Nicole Redmond	Nicole Redmond
Sofia Gómez Anderson	Sofia Gómez Anderson
Paige Bealer	Paige Bealer





 [Download a Sample](#)

Units of Study in Opinion, Information, and Narrative Writing, Grade K with Trade Book Pack

A Workshop Curriculum

By Lucy Calkins, Teachers College Reading and Writing Project, Columbia University

Lucy and her TCRWP colleagues draw on over 30 years of work to help children begin their lifelong writing journeys in kindergarten. Growth in kindergarten writing is astounding. Youngsters begin approximating writing in the first unit by drawing and labeling their own books. By the second unit, they begin to write true stories. In subsequent units, children write informational how-to texts and craft persuasive texts like petitions.

[Read Full Description below »](#)

Bundle

In Stock

List Price: \$298.75

Web/School Price: **\$239.00**

QTY

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