

Congratulations to SETC 2008-2009 Mini-Grant Winners!

Bay Shore UFSD

Animated Stories, Vincenzo LaRuina, Gardiner Manor Elementary School

Green Design, Andrea Karlan, Bay Shore High School

Deer Park UFSD

Professional Development: Increasing district's knowledge of RDI (Relationship Development Intervention) in order to provide more effective teaching of students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Scott Agnew, Alicia Konecny, Abraham Lincoln School

Catapult Revival, Bruce Sander, John Albeltin, Scott Surdi, Robert Frost Middle School

Mini-Grant, John Heeg, Maria Giglio, Robert Frost Middle School

Northport - E. Northport UFSD

Character Education Through Law and Literacy, 5th Grade Mock Trial, Jennifer Schempp, Christine Shaw, Fifth Ave. Elementary School

"C.S.I. Challenge" - An Interdisciplinary Mystery in History, Bernadette Black, Mark Wagner, Northport High School

Meda Su Autografo, Por Favor? Can I have Your Autograph, Please?, Anahi Walton-Schafer, Northport High School

ELA The Law Enforcement Way - Fourth Grade Junior Detectives, David Scott, Louise Quinn, Pulaski Road Elementary School

Listen Up! To the Tales of the Westward Expansion - A Podcast Adventure for 5th Graders, Rosemarie Florio, Jessica Huebsch, Fifth Avenue Elementary School

Bringing Social Studies Alive: Interactive Lessons to Enhance Student Learning, Kristen Andriaccio, Jean Kiley, Fifth Avenue Elementary School

KNN (Kid's News Network) - News Literacy and Civic Engagement for Middle School Students, Paul Newmann, E. Northport Middle School

Environmental Action Team, Karen Polk, Matt Gorman, Andrew Luberto, E. Northport Middle School

Ear Buds, Kathleen McCormick, Sandy Schumacher, Dickinson Ave. School

West Babylon UFSD

The Garden of Reading, Rose Lyn Cipparulo, Jillian Gismervik, Sonnya Graziosa, Mary Sullivan, West Babylon Junior High School

Picture This! Literacy Alive at the JHS, Christine Brower-Cohen, Carol Varsalona, West Babylon Junior High School

Going Green the Write Way!, Timothy Kahler, Kimberly Becvar, Holly Massmann, Frank Riviezzo, Sharon Wolkiewicz, Forest Ave. Elementary School

The Key to Improving Listening, Alison Kimberlein, Santapogue Elementary School

Wii Are Getting FIT!, Christopher Haug, Joseph Russo, JFK Elementary School

H.A.T.S.: Hands Across the School Cross Age Reading to Promote Character Education, Margaret DeGraff, Melanie DeLapi, Idamarie Tully, Susan Dieterle, Forest Ave. Elementary School

Dial "E" For Excellence, Alice Robinson, West Babylon Junior High School

Professional Conversations: Looking Closely at Student Work, Lisa Granieri, Stacey Ging, South Bay Elementary School

Have you thought about submitting a mini-grant next year? Visit our website at www.seteachercenter.org and click on Grants for the 2009-10 SETC Mini-Grant Guidelines and Application.

Your Opinion Matters

Offering professional development on a broad range of current and vital topics is the primary mission of the Teacher Center. We strive to meet the professional development needs of our member educators in technology, literacy, instructional strategies, grant opportunities, collegial circles and action research.

Your input on a short online survey will help us ascertain your professional development interests so we can guide our planning to deliver new and pertinent offerings.

- The survey will only take about 10 minutes to complete online.
- Individual answers to survey questions will be kept confidential.
- Results from the survey will be published on our website.
- Go to **www.seteachercenter.org** and click on survey.

This is a great opportunity to make your voice heard and ensure delivery of programming that assists you professionally.

Research Projects at www.seteachercenter.org

Consider conducting action research with colleagues next year. The Center will provide you with materials and help getting started, as well as support for the length of the project. Work with professionals in your building, department, grade level or district on a topic that will improve student learning for YOUR kids.

Visit the SETC website and click on Professional Development for information on Collegial Inquiry.

Teachers: Lead the Green Revolution At Your School

Have you been thinking of making your classroom more green? Here are some suggestions you can put into action to raise your students' environmental consciousness.

- Brainstorm with your students to solicit their "green" ideas and incorporate those ideas into your classroom that are possible in your particular school.
- Set an example by recycling your paper products and turning out lights when you leave the classroom.
- Display the recycling symbol in your classroom and place recycling containers for paper and cans in an accessible place.
- Drink your water from a reusable bottle and encourage your students to do so.
- Rotate the appointment of a "recycling monitor" to be in charge of recycling activities among your students.
- Design lessons that can easily be taught outside to encourage your students' learning in a natural outdoor setting.
- Educate your students about our throw-away culture and challenge your "lunch-baggers" by setting one day a week as a "garbage-free lunch day." Spark a school-wide change to a "green" lunch program.
- Form a volunteer student clean-up team to pick up trash around the school grounds as a break from sedentary activities.
- Place plants and flowers in your classroom and give students the responsibility of caring for them.
- With the cooperation of your faculty, administration, parents and students, start a recycling program in your school.

FREE environmental speakers are available from the Environmental Departments of Smithtown (360-7514) on a limited basis, Huntington (351-3171) and Babylon (422-7640). If your school is in one of these towns, get your administration's consent to contact them to come share their "green" ideas with your class or grade level.

Please review the resources below for eco-friendly lesson plans and guidelines for students and their families, as well as two recommended books for exceptionally comprehensive overviews of this crucial topic.

<http://www.dec.ny.gov/education/1839.html>

New York State Department of Conservation's free educational programs offered at schools.

www.nytimes.com/learning/issues_in_dept_h/20060406.html. Lesson plans, grades 6-12.

www.climateclassroom.org. National Wildlife Federation's resources for teachers and students. Click on NWF/NAAEE Guidelines tab.

www.pbs.org/now/classroom/global_warming.html. Lesson plan and resources.

<http://kids.niehs.nih.gov/recycle.htm>. National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences Kids Pages.

Friedman, Thomas. **Hot, Flat and Crowded**. New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2008.

McDonough, William. **Cradle to Cradle, Remaking the Way We Make Things**. New York: North Point Press, 2002.

The Teacher Center will be taking steps next school year to "be green" too. We will be phasing out our published paper newsletter with just three editions for the entire school year and we will be bringing more news to you in our monthly e-newsletter, which you can access at www.seteachercenter.org anytime.

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