

Glassboro Education Foundation, Inc.

Send the completed application to the attention of:

Mr. Craig Stephenson
Beach Administration Building
Joseph L. Bowe Blvd
Glassboro, NJ 08028

A. General Information

Applicant(s): Mrs. Alisa McDermott and Mrs. Lori Kaszupski

School: J. Harvey Rodgers School

Principal: Mrs. Karen Carino

Grade Level or Subject: Kindergarten Inclusion

Phone: (school): 856-652-2700, ext. 8505 or 8184 (Cell #): Alisa 856-986-8795; Lori 856-889-4656

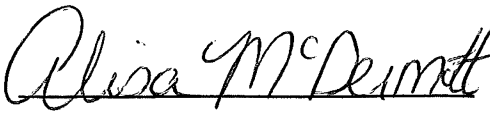
E-mail(s): amcdermott@gpsd.us and lkaszupski@gpsd.us

B. Statement of Assurances:

The applicant hereby assures the Glassboro Education Foundation that:

1. The applicant(s) meet(s) the eligibility criteria.
2. The activities and services for which the grant is sought will be implemented as written.
3. Any monies not expended within the school year shall revert back to the Glassboro Education Foundation, unless permission to carry it into the next school year is granted.
4. All publicity releases regarding a funded project will acknowledge the Glassboro Education Foundation and/or a particular mini-grant sponsor as the funding agency.
5. The grant recipient(s) will submit a final report summarizing the project's evaluation results.
6. The Board of Education authorizes the filing of this application.

We do hereby certify that all of the facts, figures and representations made in this application are true and correct to the best of our knowledge and that the assurances as stated above are understood and will be followed in their entirety.

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Applicant

Signature of Principal

Please note: from this page on, please do not include your name or your school in any of your descriptions as all applications are coded to prevent bias.

C. Project Title and Description

Title of Project: Multisensory Experience-Farm Animal School Visit

Subject Area(s): ELA-Wit and Wisdom Curriculum, Modules 1 (The Five Senses) and 2 (Once Upon a Farm)

Approximate Number of Students Participating: 3 Inclusion classes, ABA class, 4 General Education classes, approximately 175 students

Project Starting Date: Fall 2026 Project Completion Date: Spring 2027

Need: Describe the problem or deficiencies that exist which require the improvements described.

This valuable event will enhance and extend the ELA curriculum which promotes academic success; builds upon PRIDE virtues in practice daily; and encourages empathy and kindness toward living things through a direct, multisensory approach. Currently, the grade level has three inclusion classes and an ABA program with students who require accommodations/modifications in daily learning tasks. A farm animal visit would be a motivating, relevant experience for all students as it expands background knowledge with which to refer while reading both fiction and nonfiction texts with a farm theme. For optimal learning, students need to see, touch, and hear the farm animals we are reading about in our Wit and Wisdom texts. This encounter will help transform and connect abstract concepts introduced in printed texts into real-world understanding. This is a unique opportunity for students to meet farm animals from a third-generation farmer who will share facts and information in a child-friendly manner, creating an exciting and meaningful learning experience for all students, especially for those with diverse learning needs.

Strategy: Briefly describe your plan to alleviate the need/problem.

This farm animal experience will provide a direct, firsthand connection with real animals as we learn about them in our ELA curriculum. This interactive opportunity bridges the gap between textbook concepts and real-world experiences while supporting understanding and awareness. In our Wit and Wisdom curriculum Module Two, "Once Upon A Farm," we expose our students to a variety of fiction and non-fiction texts to help them gain knowledge and information about farm animals, the characteristics of animal bodies, their homes, their needs, caretaking, and products these animals provide for communities. We differentiate between fiction and non-fiction texts. A direct encounter with real farm animals will help validate the facts we are learning. As we explore the five senses in Module 1, we naturally continue related concepts in learning about a farm and its animals in Module 2. We are building upon these introduced concepts and referencing previous skills. This opportunity will provide an essential, direct experience that can boost cognitive development, empathy, sensory motor

skills, scientific inquiry, vocabulary expansion, social and emotional skill development, emotional regulation, responsibility, and sensory integration. It also builds upon our core values as we reflect upon our monthly PRIDE virtues. It is our hope that we can provide our students with a distinctive, positive experience while reinforcing all concepts learned in class. Some of our students may not ever have an opportunity to interact with live farm animals without this special event. The event will truly bring to life and solidify acquired knowledge. This experience nurtures physical, emotional, and cognitive growth in a memorable setting at our school; its impact will create a new way to reach all students.

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D. Objectives, Activities and Evaluation Techniques (This page may be duplicated if necessary)

Objectives	Program Activities to Accomplish Objectives	Completion Date	Evaluation Techniques
1. Validate text-to-world connections. 2. Enhance narrative recall. 3. Deepen text understanding. 4. Scientific inquiry while observing physical traits of animals. 5. Build empathy for living creatures/animals. 6. Use vocabulary from Module 1-The Five Senses and Module 2-Once Upon a Farm. 7. Developmental growth in students.	Interact with real farm animals and compare experiences to our texts in ELA. Prompt students to retell stories we explored while observing, listening to, and touching farm animals. Class discussions/visuals about how animal behaviors match or differ from what we have learned in texts. Identify animals' body parts; label drawings and use vocabulary presented in the Modules throughout responses and discussions. Practice responsibility, respect, and gentle interactions with animals. Farmer and animals will elicit descriptive words from students from prior learning and apply during farm animal visit.	Fall of 2026 for Modules 1 and 2; topics including the five senses (taught in fall) and the farm (taught in winter). Related skills are expanded throughout 2026, and content referenced in Spring 2027. Virtues are taught all school year, 2026-2027. Labeling, recall of information/facts, vocabulary, and fiction and non-fiction components are taught and referenced throughout the ELA curriculum.	Modules 1 and 2 response journals. Module 2-Lesson 5. Module 2-Lesson 6. Module drawings and labeling tasks. Vocabulary assessment in Module 2. "I notice" and "I wonder" sentence stems in discussions and in writing. Use of Total Participation Techniques (TPTs) to recall, discuss, and interact with farm topic. Use of expressive and receptive language observed during farm animal experience. Identify story elements and make connections; noted in teacher observations.

	Build confidence and reduce hesitation or fears while listening to animal sounds and gently touching the animals; interactions are appropriate and safe.		Use of PRIDE virtues practiced and applied in this experience. Sort fiction and non-fiction texts (assessment in Module 2).
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E. Itemized Budget

Materials/Equipment	Services	Evaluation Techniques
<u>Item(s)</u> <u>Cost</u> Willow Creek Ranch in Washington Township, NJ Farm animal visit. Fully insured. Grassy area and parking close by are needed. She is a third generation active farmer. She has set-up materials with tents and fencing for animals. Sub-total: N/A included in total cost	<u>Item(s)</u> <u>Cost</u> \$750.00 for two hours for all students in the grade level to rotate through stations for approximately 15-20 minutes. Sub-total: \$750.00	<u>Item(s)</u> <u>Cost</u> Teachers will observe student interactions. Teachers will note expressive language and safe interactions with animals. Take photographs of animals with students. Evaluation techniques will be utilized with Wit and Wisdom Modules. Sub-total: N/A \$0 Grand Total: \$750.00