

Worthington Bicentennial Teachers' Grant Proposal

Looking Back

Slate Hill Elementary

La Donna Liggins

Amount Requested: \$500

LOOKING BACK

Project Objectives: Our Bicentennial Celebration study will begin with a review of the Third Grade Graded Course of Study. This will give those students who attended Worthington Schools in third grade an opportunity to review and share their prior knowledge of Worthington's history. This will provide students who are new to the district necessary background information and the project rationale. The study of early America is a major part of the Fifth Grade curriculum. As a result, the students will be provided the opportunity to compare and contrast the way of life for the Worthington settlers to the way of life for the colonists who settled the New England, Middle, and Southern colonies. Students will use and apply entrepreneurship skills as they plan to develop a simulation of an early Worthington settlement. This will give the students the opportunity to apply the economic concepts they learned in Junior Achievement and Blast Off Citizenship Books as they plan their settlement. Again using prior knowledge and new knowledge the students will be able to provide possible explanations as to why the settlers settled as they did. In addition, students will be given the opportunity to complete a KWL chart prior to and immediately following the project's introduction.

Project Description: Throughout the project, students will be engaged in experiential learning activities. Students will be given three to four 3 x 5 index cards. They will be guided in their thinking about possible information they will need to know prior to establishing their settlement. In the establishment of their settlements, they should consider type government, town leaders, self-sufficiency, and the role they will play. We will be making two site visits to assist the students in the planning of their settlements. One visit will be to The Orange

Johnson House and the other to the Ohio Historical Society. During the visits, the students will be given the opportunity to ask their questions and they will be expected to take notes on the presenters responses. In addition, we would request a visit from a member of the Worthington Historical Society and from a member of the Worthington Memory Project committee. Our media specialist would also assist us by making available to the fifth grade students a collection of books, videos, and other materials relevant to the Worthington's history. The Professional Land Surveyor Organization of Central Ohio will also be contacted to visit our school for a presentation. They will explain how and why the town was laid out as it was. As a result of their presentation, students will understand how mathematical and scientific concepts were used to develop the town.

Students will also use historical and concept maps as they plan their settlements. An interdisciplinary approach will be used to guide the students in their implementation. After they have established their settlements, the presentation then becomes a Living Time Line. The time line will reveal social status, government, business owners, and the daily living of early Worthington.

Project Time Line: In September of 2002, the students will be introduced to the Bicentennial Celebration Project. We will then begin reviewing the history of early Worthington. We will also secure dates and attendance for our site visits and the school visits presentations. By January 2003, characters, roles, and responsibilities will be assigned. In April of 2003, we will do a presentation to third grade students in our building. The culminating activities and presentation of "Looking Back" will May 2003 at the Bicentennial Celebration.

Evaluation: In collaboration with the 5th grade team, building principal, and district teacher leader an evaluation form will be developed. The form will be distributed to those in attendance at the performance. An evaluation form will also be developed for the fifth graders participating in the performance. As a

part of the evaluation, the students will be asked to keep an ongoing reflective journal of their experiences. In addition, our school's media specialist will be in attendance to video tape our performance. A parent volunteer will be asked to take photos which will be developed into a memory book. A copy of the video and photos will be presented to the Worthington Memory Project committee. The originals will be cataloged and placed in State Hill's media center.

Personnel: Teachers, students, principal and parents of the Slate Hill 5th grade students. Representatives from the Ohio Historical Society, Worthington Historical Society, Orange Johnson House, and The Professional Land Surveyor Organization.

Budget: Clothing and props of that era \$150.00. Surveying equipment replicas such as surveying compasses, measuring chains, leveling poles, maps, blacksmith equipment, shop and library equipment, \$150.00. Reference books, non-fiction books, guest presenters, field trips \$150-00. Miscellaneous expenses that might be incurred \$50.00. Teachers will volunteer their time to work on the project.