

AIMS Mini-Grant Application

Criminal Justice System = Literacy

Team Name: Kelly Place and Kelly Glynn

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I. In no more than 5 paragraphs, please describe the work that will be undertaken.

In the past few years, we have found that students in our reading intervention classes are too familiar with the criminal justice system. Many have family members or friends who are or have been incarcerated. Some students have even been in trouble with the legal system themselves. Our goal is to convince them that literacy plays an important role in avoiding being on the wrong side of the bars.

Our daily lessons will focus on preventing the students from entering the system by showing them that education makes a difference. We will research literacy data concerning the state prison system. Students will work cooperatively to prepare presentations on various historical aspects of the juvenile detention system. Students will also be exposed to "boot camps" through the writings of teens who have been there.

In the course of this interdisciplinary unit, we plan on focusing on the professional side of criminal justice by inviting a local police officer, a juvenile detention security guard, and a criminal prosecutor to come talk to the students. Our culminating activity will be attending a forensic lab at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago.

II. Duration of the project: 20 days See attached unit plan

III. What is the intended benefit of the project and what needs does the project address?

The benefits of this project will be to expose students to another side of the criminal justice system. More importantly, it will reinforce the impact of literacy on their future. It addresses these issues through multiple readings and involvement with professionals in the community.

- Language Arts- 1.A, 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 5A
- Social Studies- 18B
- Science- 11A
- Math- 10A
- Health- 24A
- Social Emotional- 1, 2, 3

IV. Please explain the budget for this project (required).

Museum of Science and Industry lab	2 @ \$90.00	\$180.00
Bus	6 hours @ \$44.57	\$267.42
Guest Teacher		\$ 75.00
	TOTAL	\$522.42

V. How will the project and its outcomes be monitored and evaluated?

Learning and knowledge will be assessed through the historical presentations and an expository paper at the end of the unit. Students will be monitored and evaluated daily through discussions, participation, and engagement with the readings, interviews, and other lessons.

Crime, Punishment.... And Teens Unit Plan

Day 1: Target Words

Day 2: Research for Juvenile Delinquent System Presentation

Day 3: Research for Juvenile Delinquent System Presentation

Day 4: Compose Juvenile Delinquent System Presentation

Day 5: Presentations

Day 6: Reading 1

Too Tough on Teen? Boot camps under criticism for teen abuse.

Day 7: Boot Camp Day

Day 8: Reading 2

Leaving Crime Behind

Day 9: Visit from Mr. Neal, Juvenile Detention Officer

Day 10: Reading 3

Youth Crime...Adult Time

Day 11: Analyze literacy data for State of Illinois

Day 12: Word Challenge

Day 13: Career Exploration

Visit from Officer Murphy

Day 14: Job Applications

Day 15: Expository Paper:

What is the most important lesson you learned in this workshop? Explain.

Day 16: Expository Paper

Day 17: Expository Paper

Day 18: Grammar and Mechanics

Day 19: Workshop Wrap Up

Day 20: Trip to Museum of Science and Industry