

2004 Synopsis of Final Reports

Belfield Public School – Funded at \$200. The main objective of the project was to enhance the 4th grade North Dakota Studies Curriculum. The goal was obtained by visiting a grain elevator, by having guest speakers, and learning about the Baker Boy Supply plant. Students collected and learned about various grains in their tour to the Beach elevator. A husband and wife farm team came to explain to the students what happens on their farm. Students milled spring wheat into flour and made bread. They also made lentil soup as a class. The class did not get to tour the Baker Boy Supply plant, but they were able to view a video that showed several aspects of the plant.

Bottineau FFA – Funded at \$170 which provided 1 class with coloring books. High school students will work with students in grades K-1 and use a curriculum concerning food and how the food is grown in ND. The curriculum was written by the National FFA Organization and concerns the ingredients of a pizza and where the ingredients come from in relation to agriculture in the state. This activity is not finished because the advisor had heart problems, but the activity is scheduled before Christmas break.

Community Action Head Start in Mott, Regent, New England, & Hettinger –Funding for books and materials at \$250. On November 5, Community Action Head Start hosted a Family Farm Safety Night where Andrea Bowman from Hettinger Extension Center came and spoke to 50 parents and children about farm safety. They also showed the families their New Farm Center which includes a barn, farm animals, Johnny Tractor books, and John Deere Toys. Most of the materials for the center were purchased with the mini-grant funds except for the John Deere toys, which were donated. Other activities in the head start were helping students plant grain in the shape of their names and sticking Nuudles (made from corn) together to make art. They sang songs about the farm and ate ND grown snacks. The head start also used grant money to purchase farm related books for the children where students got to take two books home, and the rest were added to the head start library for checkout. They also made activity books that related to farm products for 3 weeks.

Jamestown FFA –Funded at \$300 for pumpkin festival. The Jamestown Agriculture Education Program and FFA chapter conducted a Pumpkin Festival the week of October 11th. The grant funds were used to bus over 500 elementary students and other student groups to the school for the festival. The students were treated to a scavenger hunt in the pumpkin patch, a maze of pumpkins in the shop area, and stories and activities in the classroom. Classroom activities included seeing if the pumpkin would float or sink, estimating the number of pumpkin seeds in the jar, weighing the largest and smallest pumpkins, and experiencing a pumpkin through the senses. Students also got to pick out a pumpkin to take home.

Minot FFA – Funded at \$250 for supplies. Twelve high school students worked with community learning center programs in Minot to educate elementary students about animal science, food science, and plant science. These high school students chose agricultural related topics and prepared twenty minute presentations with an activity to get kids involved in learning. They spent five days going to four different elementary schools from 4-6 PM and presented the topics. They worked with over 300 K-6th grade students.

Mott/Regent Public School –Funded at \$400 for horticulture supplies. The 7th and 8th grade horticulture classes (39 students) repaired the greenhouse last year by replacing the glass and repainting. The Ag in the Classroom grant allowed the school to purchase materials for the greenhouse including soil, a soil test kit, a horticulture unit CD, seeds and containers. They also purchased a heater for the greenhouse. Students learned about horticulture using the CD and then were able to plant seeds of their own in the greenhouse. The students took care of the plants and took them home at the end of the semester. This greenhouse and the materials will be used over and over again in the Junior High curriculum.

ND Farmers Union Foundation – Funded at \$250 for supplies. The ND Farmers Union Foundation used the grant funds to purchase a wheat mill, mixer and pasta maker to use for field staff, young producer meetings, and youth classes. They will use these materials to demonstrate the use of ND wheat products in bread and pasta products. They plan to use them for the “Living Ag Classroom” and NDFU youth classes. The foundation is currently working up lesson plans and graphics to go along with the materials. They have used the materials for training for 43 individuals so far and have plans for meetings that will include over 100 adults and students in the near future.

ND FFA Foundation –Funded at \$200. The ND FFA Foundation used the grant funds towards the Food for America Program. The purpose of the Food for America Program is to help introduce first through six-grade students to the fascinating world of agriculture and to make elementary students more aware of the world of agriculture and how it affects their daily lives. There are 77 FFA chapters in the state, and each FFA chapter has an opportunity to be a part of this program. Many schools hold more than one activity with students to educate them about ND agriculture during the year. The funds were used for the sponsorship of awards (\$100) and a \$100 prize to the winning school. There were nine schools who sent in applications for recognition. However, there were many schools who participated in the program but didn't send in an application. The nine schools who sought recognition were Des Lacs/Burlington, Kindred, Larimore, Medina, Minot, Rhame, Turtle Lake/Mercer, and Williston. Des Lacs/Burlington won the traveling trophy and the \$100 prize funds.

Western 4-H Livestock Camp – Funded at \$350. The Western 4-H Livestock Camp used the funds to purchase a Swine Learning Kit to educate students about quality assurance, animal care, retail meat identification, breed identification, animal handling, etc. They had 50 youth participating this summer program. The youth learned about the different breeds of swine, identified different swine equipment and learned about swine nutrition at the camp. The kit will be used over and over at the livestock camp.

ND Stockmen's Association –Funded at \$250. The funds from the mini-grant went towards helping fund the Carcass Merit Program at the Junior Beef Expo field day held in Williston in June. Thirty steers were evaluated using a Carcass Merit computer program to calculate the yield grade and the actual dollar value of each steer based on the Nebraska Weighted Average price for that week in June. Each junior received a copy of the spreadsheets from their grids at the show and also in their premium packets which were mailed out the following field day. The achieved goal was to educate the youth in the beef industry on the importance of producing quality carcass animals, not only for person profit gain, but for the value and pride of a quality product in the industry.

ND Vision Services/School for the Blind –Funded at \$250 for model tractors. The NDVS/SB purchased scale-model agricultural equipment for their students for inspection and discussion. Hands-on experience with these scale models help students with visual impairments learn about the characteristics and functions of farm equipment. So far, eight students have been involved with this experience. The instructors brought students to an implement dealer and then had them feel the scale models. Instructors also obtained various products including spring wheat, corn, barley, varieties of bean, etc. One of the activities had students transfer wheat from a scale model truck via an auger to a bin. The school will continue to develop the curriculum and do field trips to implement dealerships and farm settings.

Park River Elementary (Trisha Cole) –Funded at \$100 for admission to Enger Farm. The kindergarten classes took a field trip to Enger Farm near Hatton in October. They had lessons on health and nutrition as well as a lesson on the stages of a pumpkin's growth. Students also got to participate in other activities at the farm such as milking a cow, seeing the grain table, playing miniature golf that involved seeds, working at the worm farm, etc. The day after the tour, students talked about the farm and compiled pictures of their favorite activities into a booklet.

Park River School (Mary Jo Olson) –Funded at \$100 for admission to Enger Farm. Funds were used towards a field trip to Enger Farm near Hatton in September. The children participated in two formal lessons on nutrition and growing pumpkins. They also had more informal experiences on the farm which included looking at the variety of seeds at the miniature golf course. The instructor will use the lesson on growing pumpkins to act as a springboard to plant study. Students also used their experiences in a writing exercise at school.

Rhame FFA –Funded at \$250 for curriculum. Students from the FFA chapter started working with elementary students in October and plan to go to each elementary class once a month, teaching students about agriculture. Activities will include bees, farm safety, wheat, byproducts, nutrition, pigs, dairy, bread, pasta, and farm facts. Funds from the grant were used to purchase curriculum such as lesson plans, kits, and videos for these activities. Some of the curriculum they are using was donated.

Ward County Public Library –Funded at \$250. The Ward County Library has reported that they have used the grant money to purchase 36 new books and videos for the school children of Ward and Mountrail Counties. All of the material reflected North Dakota agriculture as it is today. All of the titles have been in constant circulation throughout Ward and Mountrail Counties. When they heard about the grant, the local Farm Bureau donated a set of Cris Peterson's agricultural books for children to the library.

Williston FFA – Funded at \$250 for materials. High school students taught 2nd grade students about farm safety, the importance of agriculture, etc. They used the funding to buy a food dehydrator, ice cream maker, and bread maker. They used these items to prepare food for the 2nd graders during the annual Food for America program. The students were shown where the foods came from and how they are prepared. When they made flour, the FFA members would show the 2nd graders the wheat and then show them how to grind it to make flour. When they made ice cream, the FFA members explained what ingredients they would use and what part of agriculture the ingredients came from. They used the dehydrator the same way. The chapter also purchased toy tractors and other items to demonstrate farm and machinery safety. There were 25 chapter members and 250 2nd graders involved in the program.