

2012 VCEE Economic Educator Award Winners

2012 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Kaye Marie Pennock, Stafford High School, Stafford County

K-12 LESSON OR UNIT

FIRST PLACE

Steven Zanetti, Douglas Freeman High School, Henrico County

"The Price is Right"

This student data collection and application project features how prices are determined in a market economy. Following ten actions on eBay the students were assigned the task of tracking the price of a self-chosen product. This choice defined the student learning as they parlayed their research into a strong understanding of supply and demand graphs, equilibrium, consumer and producer surplus, and price and ceiling floors.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Price-Is-Right.pdf>

SECOND PLACE

Robert Wedge, Collegiate School, Independent School, Henrico County

"Fix the Structure, Fix the Future"

Beginning with a simple slogan from a classroom discussion, and ending with a competition that displayed the students' understanding of complex economic concepts, this project promotes teamwork, problem solving and creativity. Using award money to fund the website "Fix the Structure-Fix the Future" this teacher challenged his students to use their understanding of contemporary social and political situations.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Fix-Structure.pdf>

THIRD PLACE

Dawn Flora and Ann Komara, Ottobine Elementary School, Rockingham County

"Hitting a Grand Slam with Eagle Bucks!"

In this project, a classroom currency called "Eagle Bucks" and the game of softball motivated first graders to learn about basic economic concepts. Beginning with interactive note-taking and ending with a trip to Bridgewater College to play T-Ball with the college softball team, these young students learned first-hand the meaning of consumer, producer, money, saving and opportunity cost. Students were challenged to become critical economic decision makers, a skill that should serve them well in their future.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Grand-Slam.pdf>

FOURTH PLACE

Barbara Palmer, Montevideo Middle School, Rockingham County

“Green Island: Living Well for the Good of the Earth and Your Pocketbook.”

This year-long environmental economics unit centered on sixth grade science students producing a marketable product from recycled materials while learning about environmental choices and costs. Students experienced the financial benefits and importance of conserving while considering the advantages of long term planning. Profits from the unit’s culminating activity, Green Island Market Day, were used to purchase recycling bins for the school.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Green-Island.pdf>

VCEE INSTITUTE GRADUATE

FIRST PLACE

Allison Anthony, Hermitage High School, Henrico County

“Economically Developing or Developed Countries: Factors that Make a Difference”

Students examine economic and demographic data, study current events, and use critical thinking skills to formulate theories concerning a specific county’s standard of living and development. Applying their knowledge of the concepts of productivity, gross national product, resources, capital, and technology, students correlate their research to Rostow’s Model of Economic Growth to determine the current level that applies to their researched country. They then summarize their findings, compare their results to the research of others, and offer solutions in an interactive “roundtable” class discussion.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Econ-Development.pdf>

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Econ-Development-Chart.pdf>

TECHNOLOGY

FIRST PLACE

Wanda N. Wallin, Christchurch School, Private School, Diocese of Virginia

“Outback, Inc.”

“Outback, Inc.”, a real-world application task, is a unit taught in a high school mathematics class. It applies linear functions to business models and uses Microsoft Excel software to aide in financial/economic decision-making. Students learn about revenue, cost and profit functions, cost allocation to various product lines, plus the effect of price on the quantity consumers demand and the quantity suppliers bring to market. Students also learn how to manipulate numbers using an Excel spreadsheet and then use the calculated information in graphic presentations.

<http://www.vcee.org.php53-24.ord1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/EconEd-Award-2012-Outback.pdf>