

2013 VCEE OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

Jeanne B. Willis, Teacher, Liberty High School, Bedford County

As Bedford County embraced the new graduation requirement in Economics and Personal Finance, Ms. Willis participated in the rollout, developing award-winning curriculum, online activities, and instruction to be used county-wide. With a background in the banking industry, she is a valued member of the Advisory Board for the Center for Economic Education at Lynchburg College. Her role as mentor to both new instructional staff and to students embodies 'The Multiplier Effect' of VCEE -- having an increasing positive impact for economic education with each year she teaches.

K-12 LESSON OR UNIT

FIRST PLACE

Roxane Edgerton, Supervisor of Elementary Social Studies; and

Sharon Huber, Supervisor of Elementary Mathematics, Chesapeake Public Schools

"Donuts and More SOL Review!"

*A review of key economic concepts for K-3 SOLs, all activities were created using a donut-themed book, *The Donut Chef* by Bob Staake. Students built on their exposure to economic terms such as money, barter, goods, services, producer, consumer, making choices, and resources. An integrated approach was used to pull in math concepts, such as problem solving, math facts, and multi-step word problems which used economic vocabulary, such as consumer, producer, buying, and selling. Using a read-aloud approach the students were asked to be 'economic detectives' using word sort cards to find the economic terms or concepts throughout the story.*

[Click here](#) to download "Donuts and More SOL Review" materials [here](#) for math activities.

Click [here](#) to download Donut Problem Solving Game and [labels](#) for Donut Match Up.

Blank [Coordinate grid](#) and [our favorite donut](#) grid.

SECOND PLACE

Vickie L. Mills, Altavista Combined School, Campbell County

"Taxes: A Love/Hate Relationship"

This lively lesson reinforces basic tax concepts ranging from progressive tax to marginal tax rate to the distribution of the Federal tax dollar. Students actively participate in three phases of the lesson. First, students use an iPad to take an interactive quiz testing their tax knowledge. Next, students compete in a "Who Wants to be an IRS Agent?" round. Lastly, students move to the gym to work through a series of tasks to collect puzzle pieces to complete a pie chart showing the distribution of the Federal tax dollar.

[Click here](#) to download lesson plans for "Taxes: A Love/Hate Relationship" and [here](#) for "Who Wants to be an IRS Agent?"

THIRD PLACE (TIE)

Teresa Cooper, John Wayland Elementary School, Rockingham County

"Grandpap's Story"

"Grandpap's Story" tells the tale of how one man's decision can have long range implications on the well-being of Virginia's environment. Through the power of remarkable family history, fourth grade science students were able to truly understand the meaning of natural resources, choice, and ethics. [Click here](#) for lesson plan for Grandpap's story.

Amy L. Wheeler, Harrisonburg High School, Harrisonburg

"Health is Wealth: Pedometers Make Cents"

"Pedometers Make Cents" was implemented in a physical education class. This multi-layered unit used pedometer-measured clicks as the basis for earning virtual money. The students were then guided through lessons in making economic choices and budgeting.

[Click here](#) to download the lesson plan for "Health is Wealth: Pedometers Make Cents."

VCEE INSTITUTE GRADUATE

WINNER

Christine Pedersen, Varina High School, Henrico County

"The Economics of George Orwell's Animal Farm"

This lesson uses George Orwell's Animal Farm, an allegory of the 1917 Russian Revolution, to compare the results of command and market economies. The lesson was made even more current by Planet Money's podcast "The Secret Document," which tells the story of a small group of farmers who risked their lives to make one of China's earliest moves toward a market economy. "Start Up" questions measured student knowledge prior to the lesson, with "Wind Down" questions to determine what they had learned.

[Click here](#) to download lesson plan for "The Economics of George Orwell's Animal Farm"

MINI-GRANTS

FIRST PLACE AWARDS

Nancy Bolling, Powell Valley Primary School, Wise County

Grant used to purchase career puppets for the kindergarten class an individual bank for each student, teaching them about career

possibilities and making the connection between earning money from a job, making wise choices, and saving money for the future.

Laura Richardson, Charles City Elementary School, Charles City

Grant used to fund awards ceremony for a third grade Economics Fair, which included student-developed websites based on economic concepts and a guest speaker from the local banking community.

ADDITIONAL MINI-GRANT HONOREES

Leslie Allin, South Elementary School, Prince George County

Rebecca T. Brooks, Lakeview Elementary School, Colonial Heights

Lori C. Goings, Bethel Elementary School, Gloucester

Julianne Miles, Hidenwood Elementary School, Newport News

Rhonda Lowe Taylor, Achilles Elementary School, Gloucester

Ruth Crystal Welsh, Fred Lynn Middle School, Prince William County