2014 WINNERS & PLANS

**K-12 LESSON OR UNIT**  
FIRST PLACE  
**Bethany Everidge,**Harrisonburg High School, *Decision Making for the Future: 3 Hots and a Cot,*Grade level: 9-12  
Taught to a diverse group of students with the objective of emphasizing how choices can have long-term unintended consequences, components of the unit included comic strip development, vocabulary connections and journaling.  
[Click here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/3-Hots-and-a-Cot-Unit.pdf) for lesson plan and [here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Three-Hots-and-a-Cot-Appendix.pdf) for appendix.

SECOND PLACE  
**Vickie L. Mills & Larry Collins,**Altavista Combined School, *Tragedy of the Commons and its Socioeconomic Effect on Environment,*Grade Level:  9-12  
The tragedy of the commons, where individuals behave contrary to the groups long-term best interest by overusing or misusing a commonly-owned resource, was demonstrated here. Students joined in a town wide cleanup day and created a public awareness campaign.  
[Click here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Tragedy-of-the-Commons.pdf) for lesson plan.

THIRD PLACE  
**Patrick Costa,**Bethel High School, *Mercantilism: the Atlantic Dash for Cash,*Grade level: 9-12  
Using string to ‘sail’ from Old World to New World, students participated in a relay race to compete with other nations demonstrating mercantilism, an economic system based on the exploitation of colonial resources by the mother country. Skills included identifying political boundaries, analyzing primary and secondary sources, and determining the impact of economic forces.  
[Click here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Mercantilism_The-Atlantic-Dash-for-Cash1.pdf) for lesson plan, [here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Mercantilism-String-Relay-Race1.pdf) for relay race and [handouts](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Mercantilism-Handouts1.pdf).

**VCEE INSTITUTE GRADUATE WINNER  
Christine Pedersen**, Varina High School, *Scroogenomics: Gift-giving at Christmas,*Grade level:  9-12  
Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol explored the concepts of how to maximize our own utility and how to use a gift-giving budget to maximize utility of others.  After listening to the podcast ‘Scroogenomics’ which argues that cash is the gift with the highest utility, students examined why we still give gift cards instead. Is cold hard cash a humbug that goes against the spirit of Christmas?  And how should we live year ’round in order to have a satisfying life?  
[Click here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Scroogenomics_Gift-Giving.pdf) for lesson plan.

**MINI-GRANTS**  
FIRST PLACE AWARD  
**Amy Sanders Diggs**, Oceanair Elementary School  
Using piggy banks provided to each child, 1st grade students saved and counted money earned from classroom activities. Students participated in a weekly spend or save activity requiring them to choose between spending money now or saving it to use in an upcoming holiday workshop.  
[Click here](http://vcee.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Santas-Workshop-Mini-Grant-winner1.pdf) for description of the project.