

Frequently Asked Grant Questions - Bilingual

Below are sample grant questions and answers tailored to AWE Learning's Bilingual Early Literacy Station™ (BLS).

- **Tell us why you're doing this. How will this project impact the community?**
 - The Early Literacy Station is for all children. In such a diverse world, the culturally disadvantaged child poses the single greatest challenge to any system of education and culture. The reason for this is fairly straight-forward: an individual who lacks intellectual stimulation as a child will invariably struggle in school with the arts of language. Without a sufficient foundation in speaking, reading and writing skills, a child simply does not have the tools for a successful education in any of the disciplines. Furthermore, without early experiences of success at learning, a child will become increasingly frustrated with academic difficulty and failure, and will develop low self-esteem. As we have seen, the label "culturally disadvantaged" includes many demographic groups, constituting an impressive array of potentially challenged.
 - This project intends to assist children with the AWE Learning Early Literacy Station, a digital learning tool for ages 2 to 8. These workstations will provide early literacy and school readiness skills with 70+ preloaded, gold standard software programs offering over 4,000 learning activities. Having programs in Bilingual Spanish and English helps the English Language Learners and the child that needs to understand Spanish. Parents and guardians can sit with a child as they learn these skills or children and can work collaboratively with the touch screen and Bilingual programs.
 - These workstations provide software that covers seven curriculum areas, including reading, writing, phonics, math, problem solving, social studies and science. Living in an innovative world, it is important for learners to have the opportunity to explore all subject areas. The content is aligned with STEM/STREAM and is correlated to both state and academic standards. STREAM aligned content provides student's engagement in authentic learning, or applying their learning and skills to real world situations, as well as view learning as a holistic approach. In addition, the programs stimulate the early learner's level of creativity and help them to think outside the box beginning at a young age. These skills fit in with the learning environment of today's world.
 - These workstations offer the children in our community access to a unique and innovative computer technology that can help bridge the early literacy disparity gap. The Early Literacy Station will make learning fun and will help establish a life-time love of learning.

- **What are the intended long-term results?**
 - We intend for this project to help children ages 2 to 8 attain both early literacy and school readiness skills. We believe these skills are fundamental to a child's success in school and life. Many studies have shown that individuals that are not reading on grade level by 3rd grade are likely to fall behind and not meet their grade level peers. Therefore, our goal is to set young learners on the right path beginning at an early age.
 - We will introduce children to early literacy skills through the use of fun, interactive technology in a low-stress environment.
 - The AWE Learning workstations offer a safe, non-web-based learning environment that allows children to focus on their individual needs, not their grade level. Unlike one-dimensional Web-based resources, AWE Learning's workstations regroup learning materials across inter-related disciplines such as Literacy, Reading, Writing, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Art, and Music. By using prescriptive, collaborative, and explorative learning methods, the workstations deliver measurable gains, engagement, autonomy, focus, and confidence.

- **Who will this product benefit? Why?**

- Library staff, parents and children. The library staff and parents will benefit because they will know that the children are learning critical literacy skills on a safe and non-web-based workstation. Additionally, the child will benefit because the engaging, fun and interactive educational content offered provides essential skills necessary to succeed in school and in life.
- **Why, should this product be located in the library?**
 - A library is a low-stress atmosphere where children can learn and enjoy the Early Literacy Station. It will help build the love of learning through a fun and engaging environment.
- **How will results be measured and tracked?**
 - The Early Literacy Stations come equipped with a great deal of statistical reporting capacity. We will use these capabilities to understand how often the machines are being used as well as aggregate information about the skills attained by the users. The library will also be able to use this information to plan other activities and events around what the children have learned.
 - The Early Literacy workstations are used in over 47% of public libraries in the U.S. and Canada. The workstations track student's activities to provide consistent reports to librarians. The combination of engagement and genuine learning creates a unique learning opportunity for our children and supports the work of our staff. The safety of a closed system where all learning material is preloaded on the workstations offers a trusted learning environment for both patrons and librarians. The workstations are available on an All-In-One ASUS 20" touch-screen computer, tablet device or tower and monitor. All of these hardware options are ideal for both individual and collaborative learning opportunities with minimal space requirements.
- **How does the Early Literacy Station help kids learn who have special needs?**
 - The Early Literacy Station comes in various models: 20 inch All-in-One touchscreen desktop, mobile tablet, or tower and monitor desktop. Each option provides ideal opportunities for individual and/or collaboration on the activities.
 - If a child has an issue with maneuvering either the keyboard or mouse he/she can simply touch the screen. Knowing that all individuals learn differently, these workstations are intended for all learning styles: visual, kinesthetic, tactile, and auditory learners.
 - Programs can be customized within the admin panel, on the workstation, in order to deliver a prescriptive learning environment that's specific to a patron's needs.
 - The colors and animations provided in the programs keep the child engaged with learning.
- **How does this benefit the library?**
 - AWE Learning computers are a turnkey solution. They come ready to go out of the box and do not require staff or IT time to set up and/or maintain. There are no security issues as the workstations do not require an internet connection.
 - The workstations are ideal for special programming; i.e. Math Mondays, Music Wednesdays, and Science Fridays.
 - Automatic Utilization reports are available via the AWE Learning Customer Portal. AWE Learning has statistical data showing that millions of children have learned with the Early Literacy Stations with more than 255 million hours of usage. Each library can track what programs are used, and the amount of time spent on the workstation by their patrons.
 - These educational tools bring more children and parents into the library where there is a safe learning environment, and increase circulation.