

# Ex in Ed Grant

## Decodables

### Describe the program or project:

At Truckee Elementary, we are committed to ensuring all students become confident, fluent readers. However, many of our Resource students struggle with reading significantly below grade level. A primary obstacle is the lack of age-appropriate, decodable text. Most traditional phonics books are designed for very young children, which can be stigmatizing and disengaging for older students.

This grant requests a curated selection of Phonic Books Catch-Up series and Dandelion Launchers. The Catch-Up series (Pet Sitters, Dragon Eggs, Island Adventure, and Rescue) are uniquely designed as high-interest chapter books. They provide the sophisticated look and feel of upper-elementary literature while utilizing highly controlled, decodable text. Additionally, the Dandelion Launchers World Stages provide the foundational initial code support necessary for our students who are still mastering basic blending and phonemic awareness.

### Add links:

<https://phonicbooks.com/pages/how-to-use-our-books-beginner-readers>

### Special circumstances regarding this grant or school site:

**# of Students:** This grant will directly support Resource and intervention students at Truckee Elementary who are not currently meeting ELA standards.

- *All 29 of my Resource students are well below grade level in Reading. 20% of my 4th graders are more than 1 grade below grade level.*
- ***District Success:*** *It is important to note that these Phonic Books series are currently being utilized by Resource teachers at Tahoe Lake Elementary with success. By implementing this program at Truckee Elementary, we are not only adopting a proven, research-based intervention but also aligning our instructional practices with other high-achieving programs in our district to ensure consistency for our students.*

### Program Objectives:

Our objective is to provide students with a bridge to grade-level reading through materials that respect their maturity. By using chapter-book style decodables, we remove the little kid book stigma that often leads to task avoidance in older struggling readers.

A critical component of this project is providing 4 copies per series for our Catch-Up readers. This ensures that every student in a small intervention group has their own book to hold, track,

and read. This direct physical engagement is essential for building reading stamina and allowing the teacher to provide immediate, individualized feedback during guided reading sessions.

**Methods of Implementation:**

These materials will be used daily in small-group pull-out sessions and specialized academic instruction. The Catch-Up series will be used for students in 3rd-5th grade needing intensive intervention, while the Dandelion Launchers will support students at the earlier stages of the phonics code. Having multiple copies allows for choral reading and partner reading strategies that are proven to increase fluency.

**Measure of Success or Achievement:**

Success will be measured using DIBELS progress monitoring and phonics sub-tests. We expect to see a measurable increase in students' ability to decode multi-syllabic words and an improvement in overall reading confidence and classroom participation.

**Could this grant tie into your PLC:**

Yes. This initiative supports our PLC goals of implementing evidence-based, Science of Reading aligned interventions. It provides our team with a standardized set of high-interest materials to share across the intervention team, ensuring consistency for students as they move through different support levels.

**Item Description:**

The request includes 4 sets each of four Catch-Up series (Pet Sitters, Dragon Eggs, Island Adventure, and Rescue) to facilitate small group instruction, and 3 sets of Dandelion Launchers World Stages (8-15 and 16-20) for foundational support.

**Financial Table:**

| Item                                 | Unit Price | Quantity | Total Cost |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----------|------------|
| <b>Pet Sitters Series</b> (Catch-Up) | \$79.00    | 4        | \$316.00   |
| <b>Dragon Eggs Series</b> (Catch-Up) | \$69.00    | 4        | \$276.00   |

|                                               |         |   |                   |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------|---|-------------------|
| <b>Island Adventure Series</b> (Catch-Up)     | \$69.00 | 4 | \$276.00          |
| <b>Rescue Series</b> (Catch-Up)               | \$69.00 | 4 | \$276.00          |
| <b>Dandelion Launchers World Stages 8-15</b>  | \$52.00 | 3 | \$156.00          |
| <b>Dandelion Launchers World Stages 16-20</b> | \$40.00 | 3 | \$120.00          |
| <b>Sub Total</b>                              |         |   | <b>\$1,420.00</b> |
| <b>Estimated Shipping (Approx 10%)</b>        |         |   | <b>\$142.00</b>   |
| <b>Estimated Tax (Truckee 8.25%)</b>          |         |   | <b>\$117.15</b>   |
| <b>Grand Total</b>                            |         |   | <b>\$1,679.15</b> |