Donors Choose Application Parts and Tips 2021

(https://www.donorschoose.org/)

Type of Project:

Who: It is about the students

Age group/grade

Number of students

Describe your students (use more than 80 words)

Demographics

Strengths of the students including social, behavioral, cognitive, academics.

What is the neighborhood like?

What are the characteristics of your school?

What are the students and their families like?

What does community need?

Use a quote from your students about wanting the materials.

Classroom photo of students doing something related to the item you want—maybe doing math, science, etc.

What: Go Shopping

Supplies, Class Trip, Visitors

Why: Project Details

Project Title:

Title: should be short and catchy and exciting (capitalized like a book title)

About your Project: (100 words, minimum)

How the materials will make a difference in students’ learning and improve their school lives.

How will the students use the materials? What will they do with them?

Subject Areas: Choose 2: Math & Science
Add Student Voice (tips from Donors Choose)

Projects that incorporate student voice keep things interesting for the classroom supporter, and help highlight the exact need your project will meet.

Here are tips on how to add student voice to your classroom project:

- **Lead a brainstorm with your students.** Start the brainstorm with a few sentence starters or prompts. For example, “Our classroom would be even better with ____” or “Our classroom community could take our learning to the next level with ____”. When your students have a say in what materials you request, you can know for sure that they will have a huge impact!

- **Let your students choose the resources they want.** You might already have an idea of what your classroom needs are, but your students can still have a say. Does your classroom need library books? Have students choose books from a curated list. Are you writing a project for a classroom rug? Let your students help choose a color or design.

- **Use your student’s interests to conceptualize a project idea.** Maybe your students are loving a new fantasy novel, or voraciously learning about amphibians. Let your student’s interests and curiosities lead your next project idea which can engage them in their learning and catch the interest of a supporter. Capture the spirit of their interest by requesting project materials that support their learning.

- **Explicitly say that your students want these items.** Once your students weigh in on what materials you should request, include the process you went through in your project essay. Something like “My students brainstormed and determined with a class vote that they would like more graphic novels in our classroom library.”

- **Include a quote from a student.** Including a quote from a student can help your supporters understand what the direct impact the classroom materials you are requesting will have. Remember to keep student names confidential by saying something like, “When asked why we needed these materials, one student said these resources will help them feel comfortable while reading.”

**Want support to help prepare your request? email Rusti.Berent@avantorosciences.com**