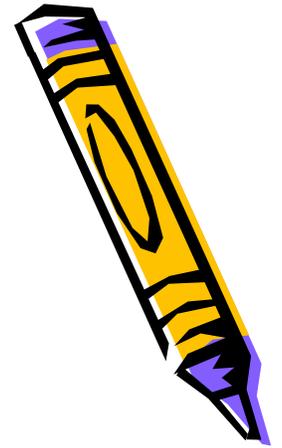# Grants for Great Ideas

Presenter:
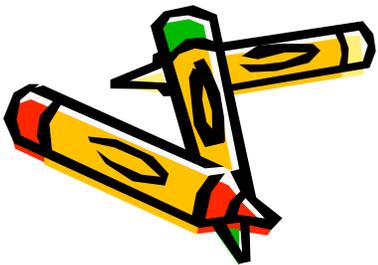**Atlanta Education Foundation**
Chastity Hale

Atlanta ISD Education Foundation

In our 7 years of existence the AEF has awarded:

- 2010-2011 – Awarded $ 5,000
- 2011-2012 - Awarded $ 23,287
- 2012-2013 – Awarded $ 17, 200
- 2013-2014 - Awarded $ 18,500
- 2014-2015 - Awarded $ 12,500
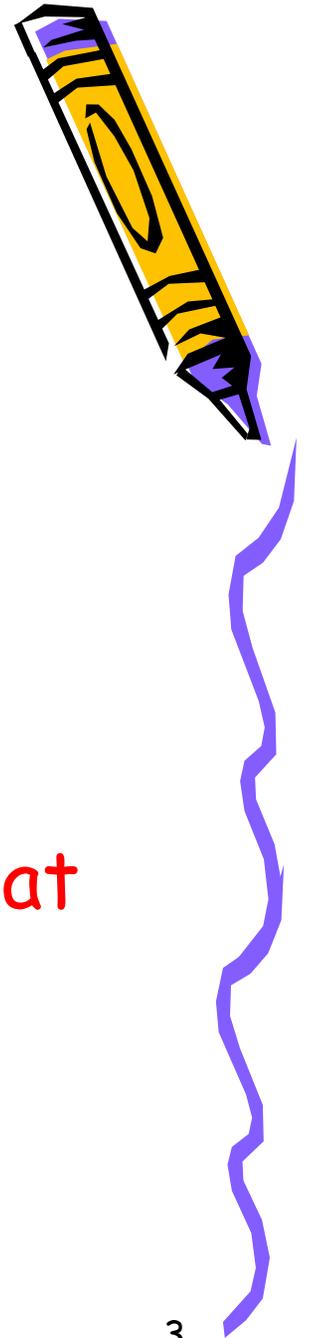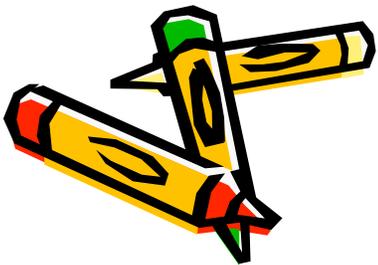- 2015-2016 - Awarded $ 8,515
- 2016-2017- Awarded $ 14,792

Total: $99,794

Innovative Teaching Grants
The Four P's

- *Propose* an Idea
- Develop a *Project*
- *Prepare* an Application
- Secure required *Permissions*
- Innovative Teaching Grants fund innovative, project-based learning that results in increased student achievement.
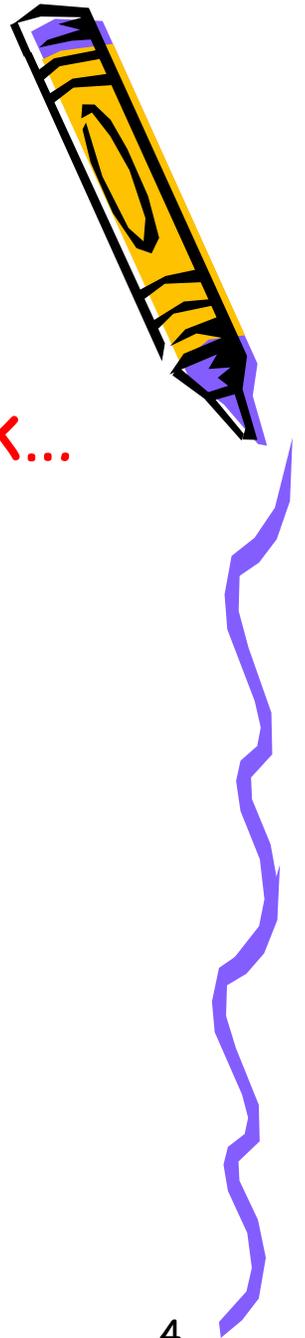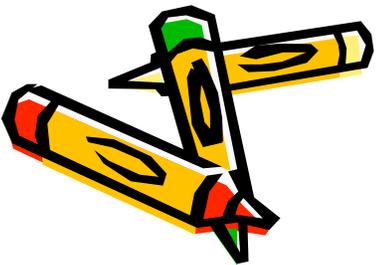
Grant Writing

- Grant development does require work... however, grants can greatly enhance what you do in the classroom.
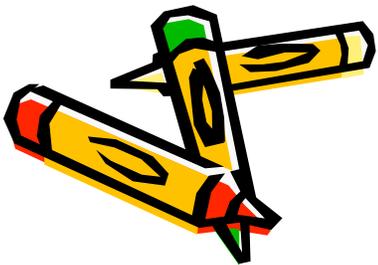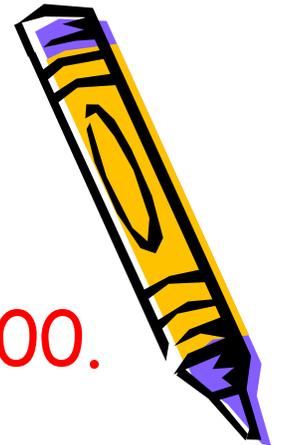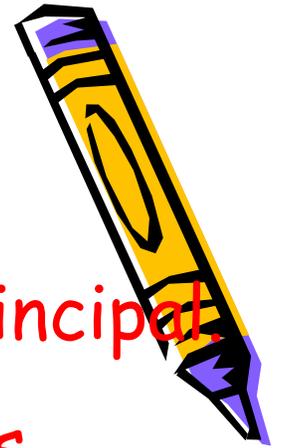
80-20 Rule

- 80% Research
- 20% Writing

4

Just the Facts

- Individual teachers can apply for up to $1,000.

- Teams and/or Campus-wide can apply for up to $5,000.

- Every teacher that is listed on the grant must have full working knowledge of that grant and sign the application.

- The application must be signed by your principal.

- The Foundation doesn't buy textbooks.

- The Foundation doesn't provide food.

- The Foundation doesn't pay salaries.

- The Foundation WILL fund field trips.

Teachers that are awarded a grant must submit a written report/evaluation with photos after grant is awarded.
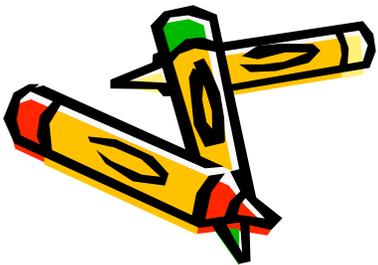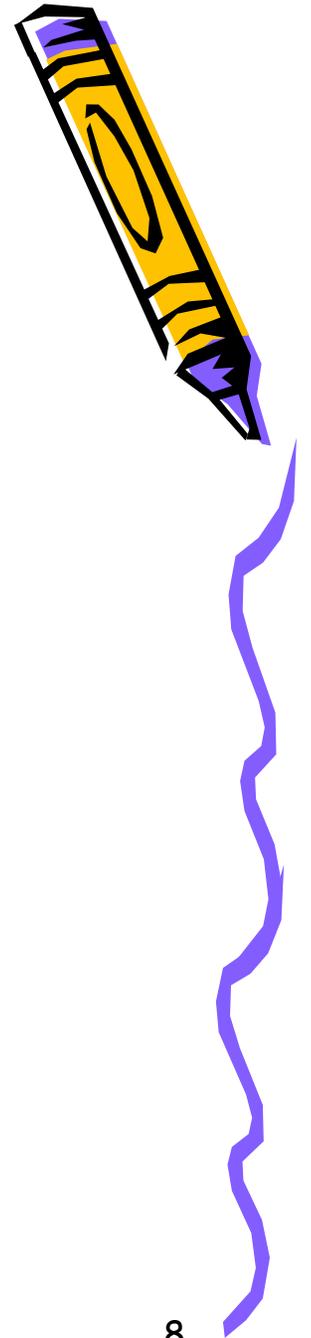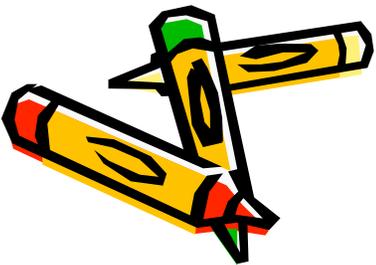
Why grant proposals don't get funded

- No signature from campus principal.

- Budget was not detailed enough.

- You asked for equipment without a creative idea.

- Was not exciting—was not innovative!

- Equipment asked for was not district approved.
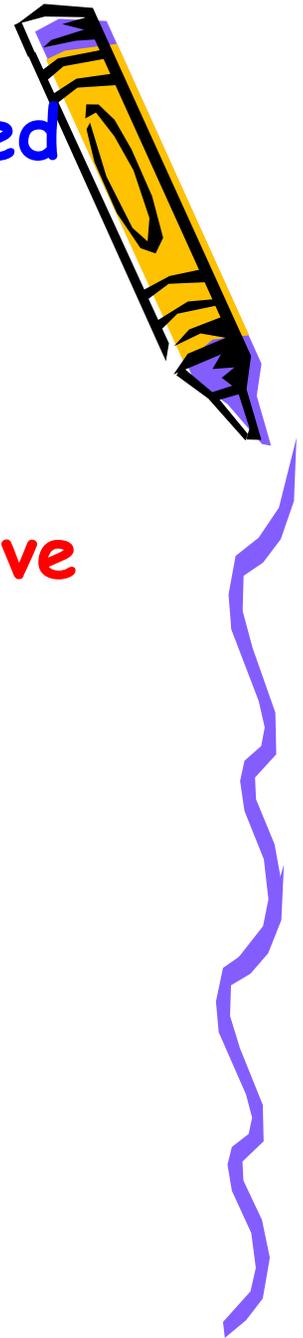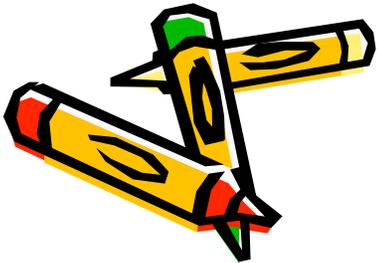
Title

- The title should be creative.
- The title sets the tone.
- The title captures the interest of the reader.

Project Title

- Use the <u>WOW</u> Factor!
- First, capture your audience with a creative title. Examples:
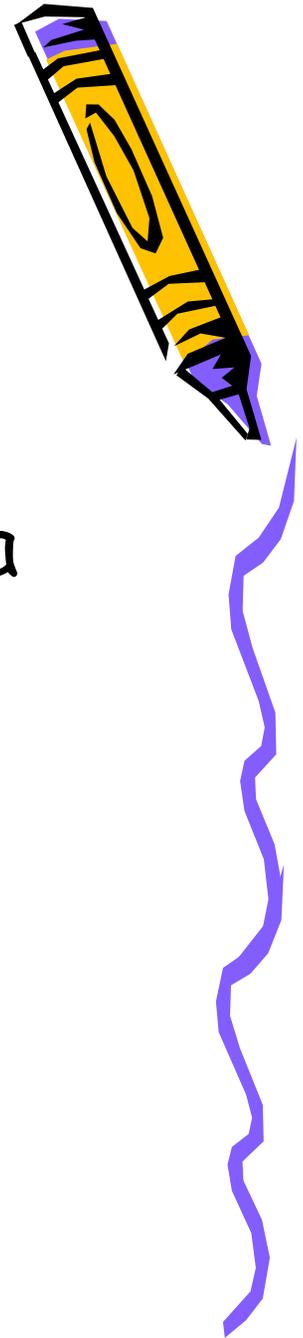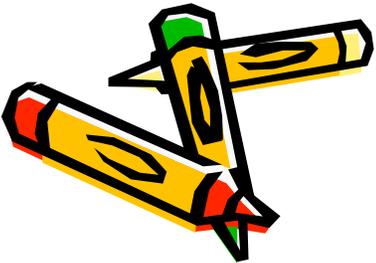
"Math Mattas"
"Let's Give Them Something to Write About!"
"To Read or Not to Read: That's NOT the Question!"
"Quiz Kids Become Whiz Kids!"
"From Bored to Board!"
- "Kindling a Flaming Desire to Read" Grow Green with Us
- Success…A Hand Beat Away
- Stories by the Stream
- Presenting…Mr. & Mrs. Social Studies and Reading
- Dem Bones, Dem Bones, Dem Dried Bones
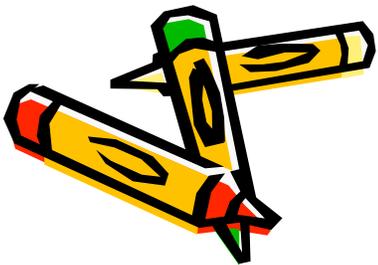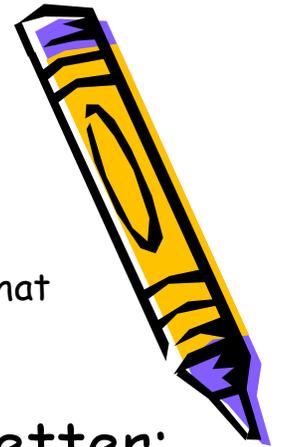- Picasso, My Family and Me!

Purpose: Writing the purpose statement.

The grant committee members are business leaders, (with some educators) so keep that in mind when you are explaining what your purpose of the grant is.

- Use attention getter:
  - Quote
  - Shocking fact/statistic
  - Anecdote
  - Descriptive detail(paint a word picture)
 - Simile, metaphor, analogy
  - Rhetorical question

Purpose

- Write a descriptive summary of the project explaining what you hope to achieve.
- Sell your project!
- Describe why you consider this project to be an innovative and/or creative approach to teaching.
- Provide detail on why your project is worthy of being funded.
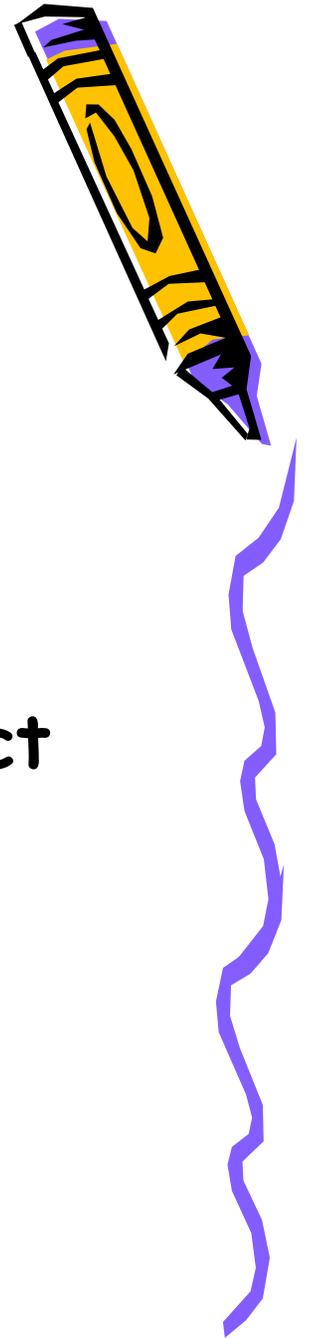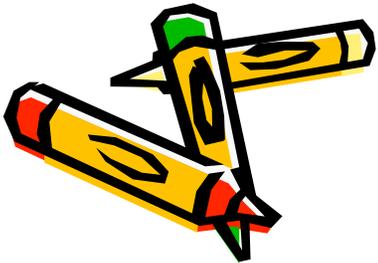
Project Overview/Abstract

- A short, "catchy" summary of your project.
- Keep in mind---innovative and creative!!!!!
- No more than 100 words
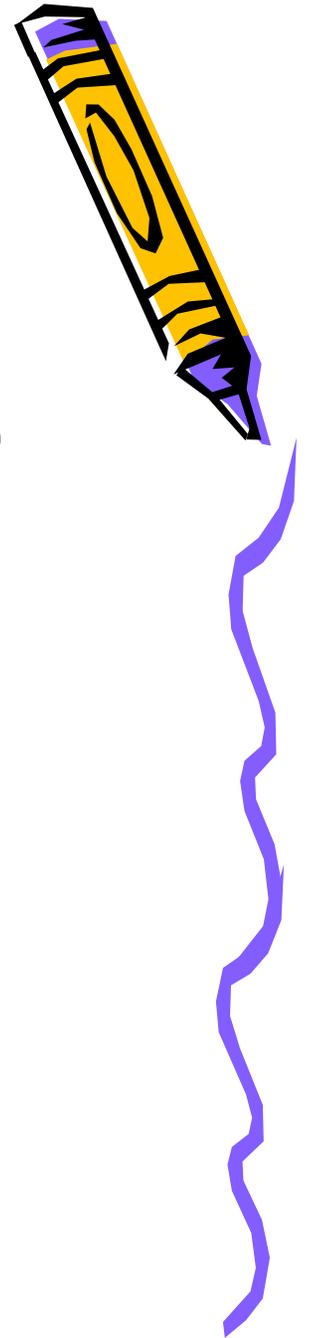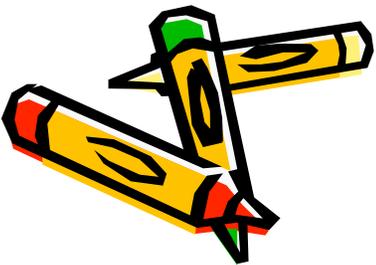
Rationale

Answer these questions:
- – Why is this project important?
- – How does the project relate to your Campus Improvement Plan?
- – How does this project benefit the students?
- – Establish need/cite research
- – Be positive - state outcomes realistically
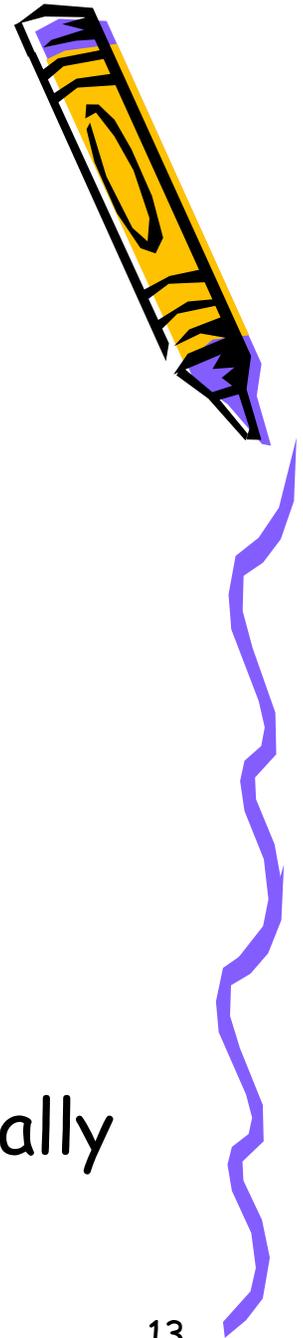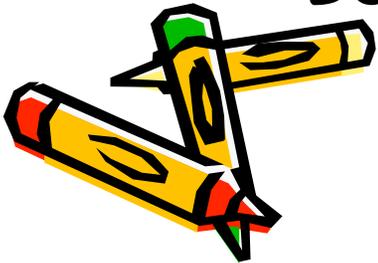
Statement of Rationale

- What's your problem?
- PROVIDE THE COLD, HARD, FACTS HERE!
- Do you have any research that proves your project is effective?
- Do you have evidence to support why you need this program? Show it here!
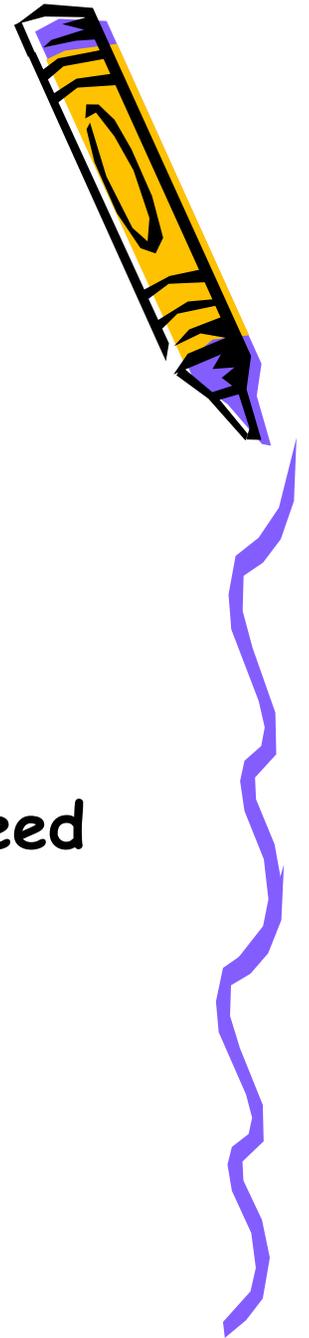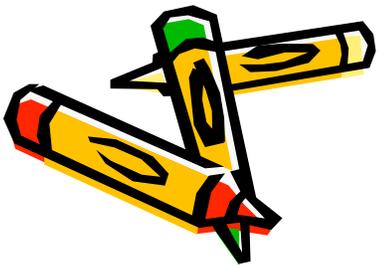
Statement of Rationale

- Benefits: what is the benefit of this project or program?
- Be concrete again (increased scores, reading improvement, increased motivation in school)

Benefits should always relate directly to the need
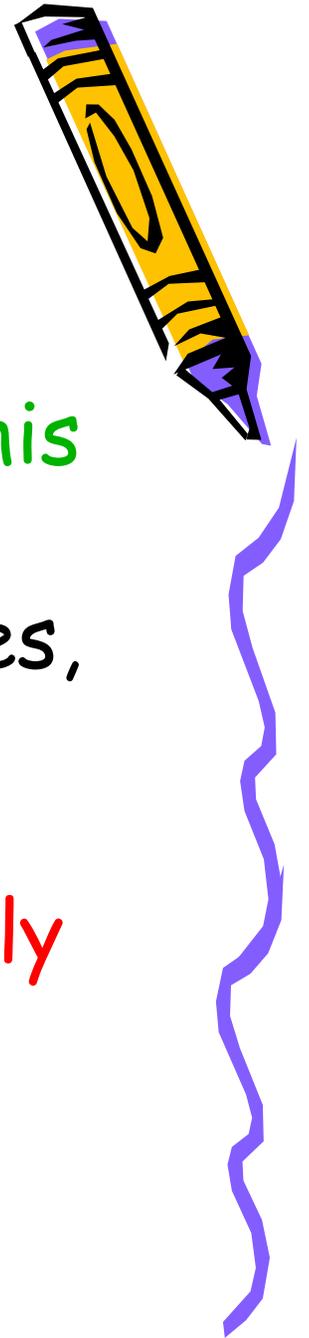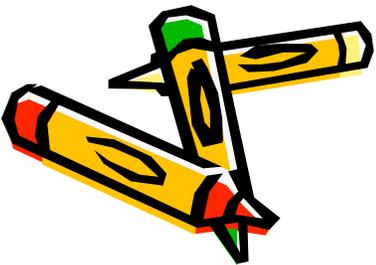
Statement of Rationale

- **Will the project improve student learning?**
- **You are justifying how this project will meet the needs of your classroom, campus or district problem.**
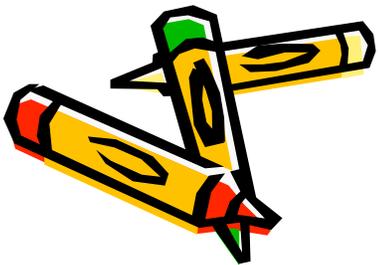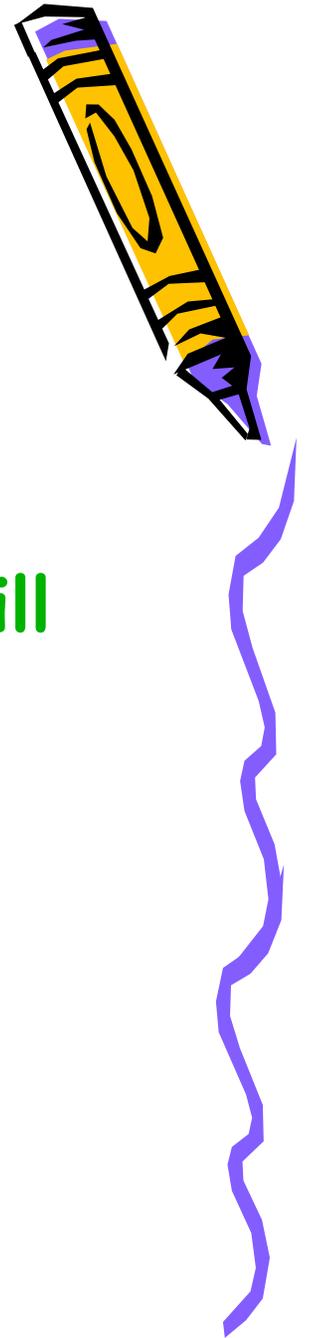
WHO????

- **Target Population**...who is it?

Students? Parents? Teachers?

Numbers, demographics and characteristics of students involved

- Number of teachers involved
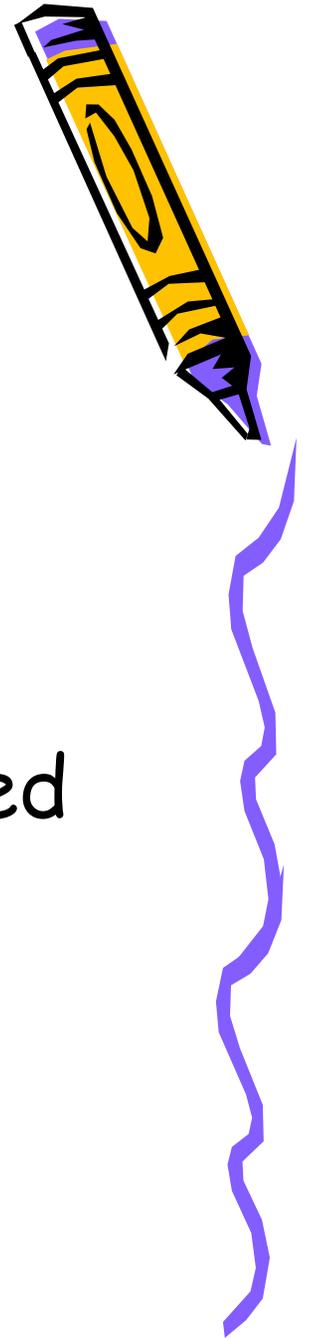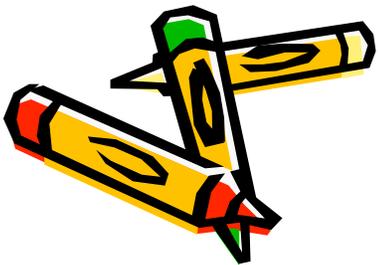
Goals & Objectives
Part 1--Goals

- State the goal(s) you hope to obtain from your project/program, and have at least one objective for each goal.
- Goals must correlate with TEKS!
- Objectives—Are always measurable!

  How will you be able to measure student success?

  How can you show that your goal is being met?
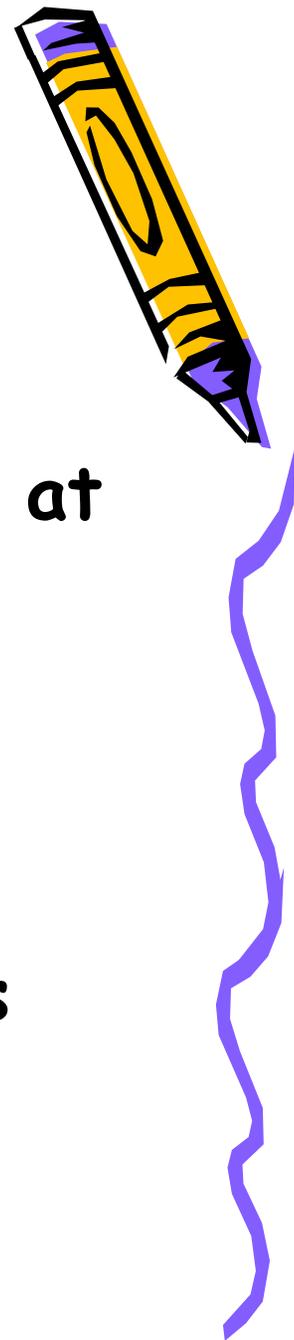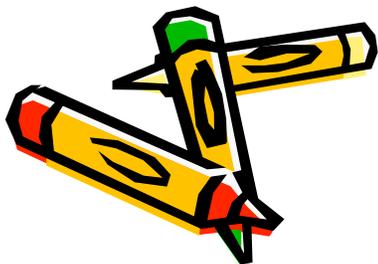
Goals & Objectives
Part 2--Objectives
Examples of Objectives

- Each student will learn proper dissection techniques and practice until they are confident.
  - TEKS: 7.1B; 7.3C; 7.4A, 7.9A,B

- Each Student will become familiar with the major biological systems of the frog and will be able to relate to this knowledge of human anatomy.
 - TEKS: 7.9A,B
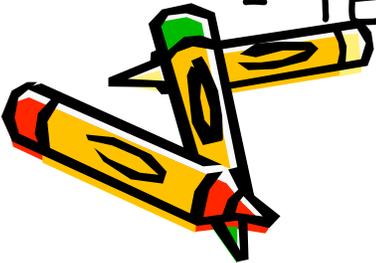
Goals & Objectives

Tell how this grant is innovative and creative!
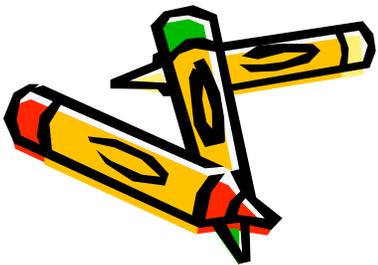
Instructional Practices/ Methodology

- The methodology section provides specific activities & lessons used in your classroom
- Who, What, When, Where and Why?
- Who will do what?
- If you want technology equipment, give a very clear picture of how the equipment will be incorporated into your lessons.
- How are you going to use it in your classroom? What will students be doing?
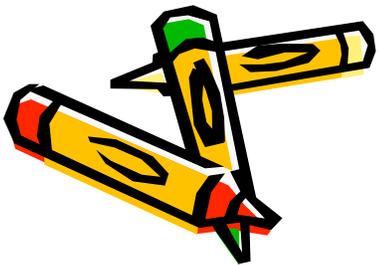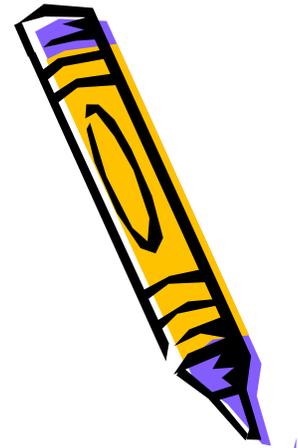
Methodology

- How is the "what" related to the goals and objectives?
- What action (s) will you take to meet your goals and objectives?
- Are activities/procedures specifically stated?
- Are activities/procedures directly related to purpose and objectives?
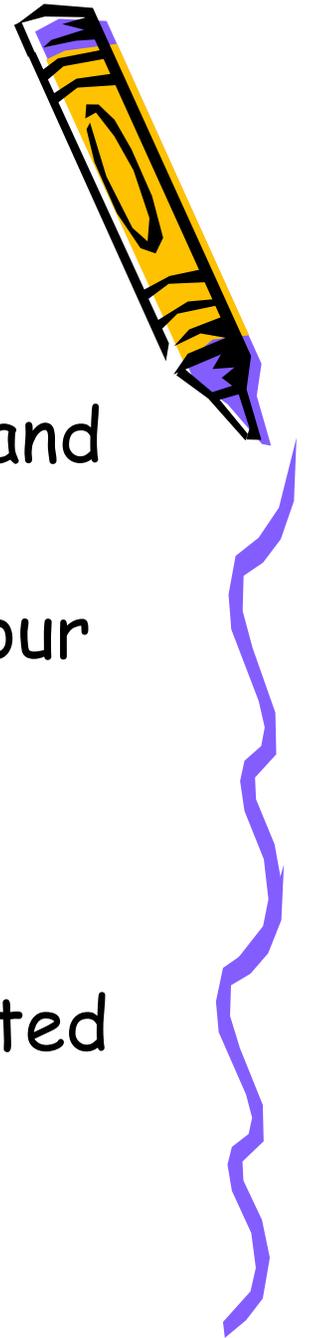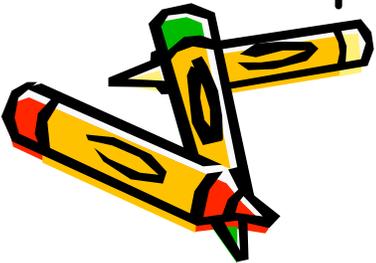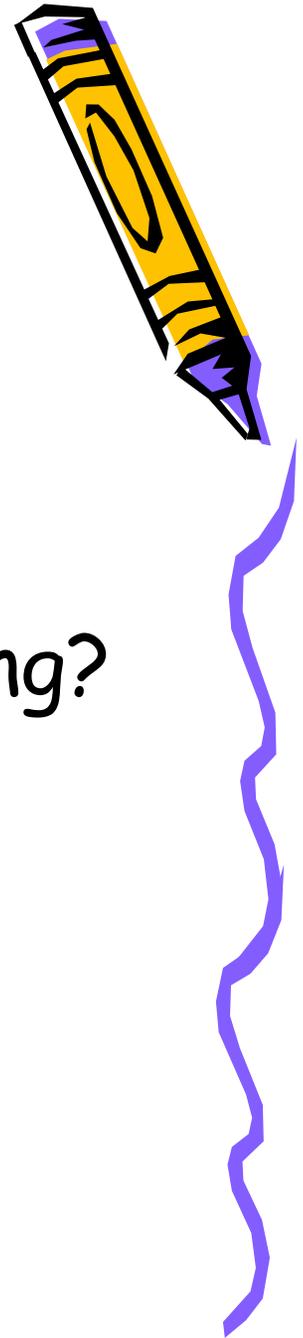
Implementation

- Provide a timeline or schedule of how and when your activities will be carried out and list when you hope your objectives will be achieved.
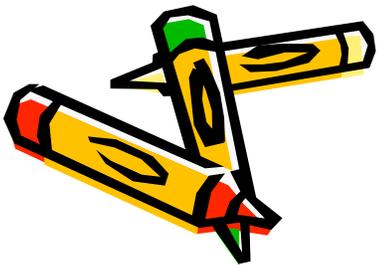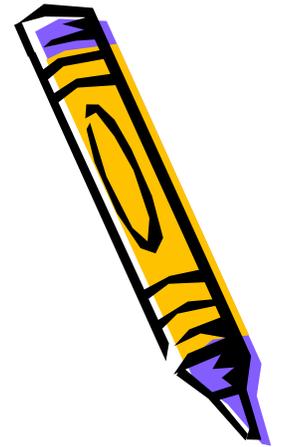
Evaluation

- How will you know students have mastered goals & objectives?
- How will you assess student learning?
- Are measurable criteria used?
- Did the STAAR scores increase?
- Did students gain certifications?
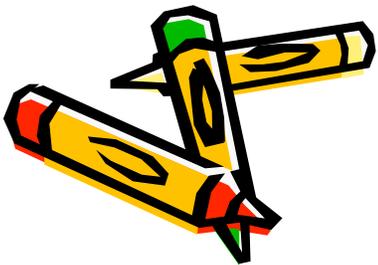
Evaluation

- Rubrics
- Peer/Self/Teacher Report
- Journal/Reflective Writing
- Assessment Products
- Survey
- Data Charts or Graphs
- Use technology
- Increase test scores, participation,...
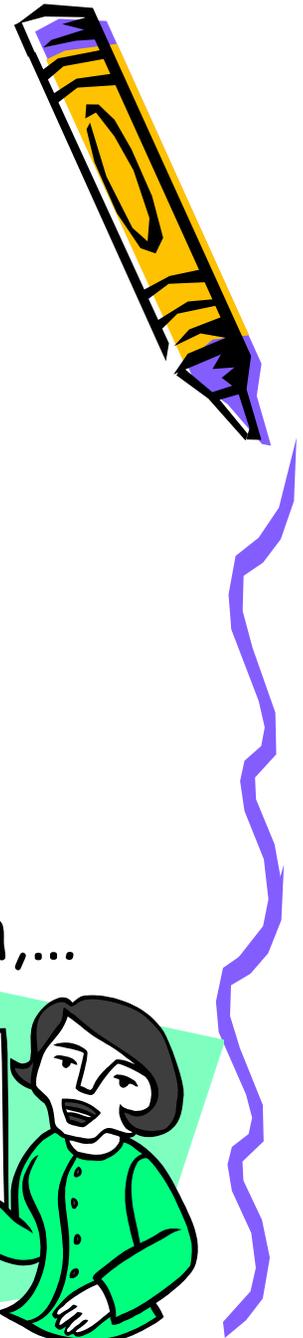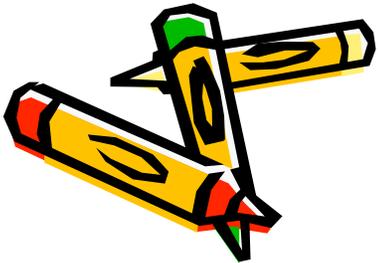
Collaboration with Community

- Does the project include participation by parents, community members and other organizations?

- Clearly identify the school-community partners in the project and their respective roles.
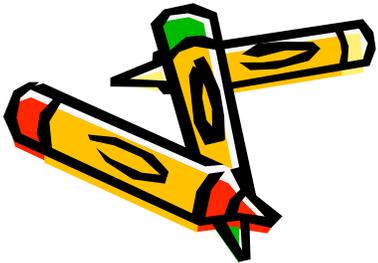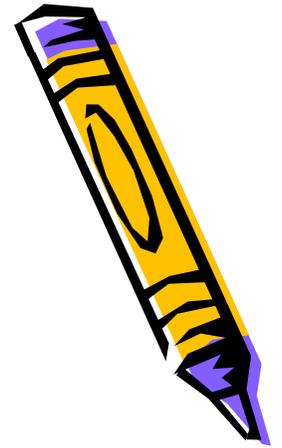
Budget

- *List every item you wish to have funded.*
- Think…what items will I need to purchase to complete every activity? Be realistic!
- Is training involved? Include it in the budget.
- Only items listed in the budget will be funded…so think of everything!
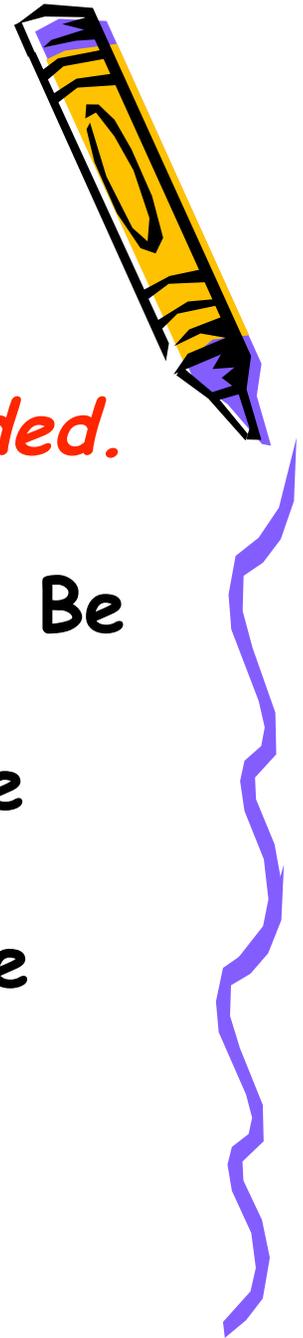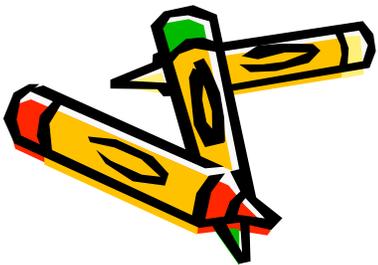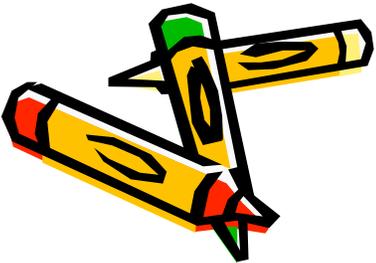
Budget

- Be clear how items requested relate back to the activities and/or instructional techniques you described.

- Be clear that the requested items relate to goals and objectives.
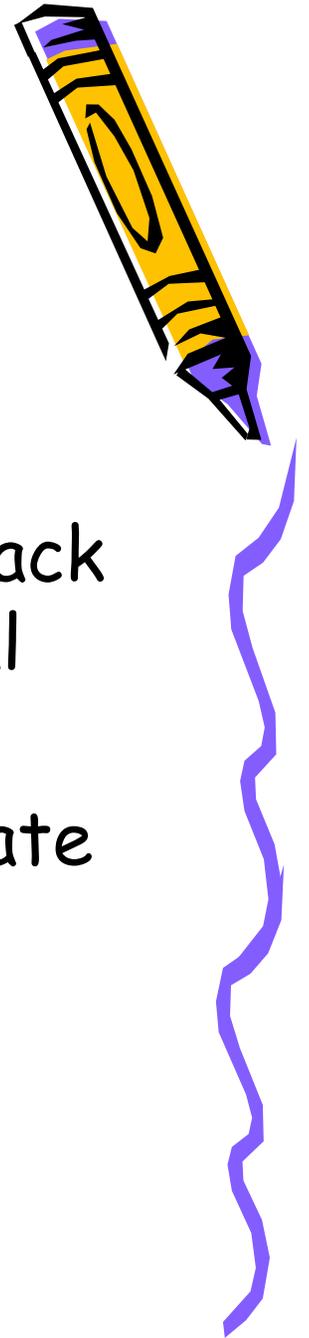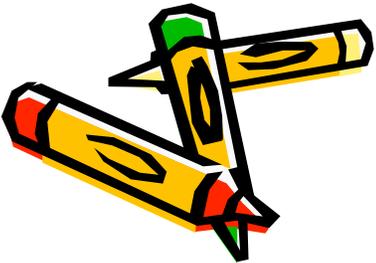
Budget

- Get accurate pricing information
(remember the vendor may have special pricing for educators!)

- Items funded through district $$$ will not be funded with grant funds… i.e., prizes, food, school supplies

Budget

- Does the application include a clear understanding and realistic budget?
- Does the budget appear to be inflated an/or conversely inadequate?
- Are there adequate controls included to prevent inappropriate spending?
- Does the campus or AISD budget pay for some of these items?
- Is this grant INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE?
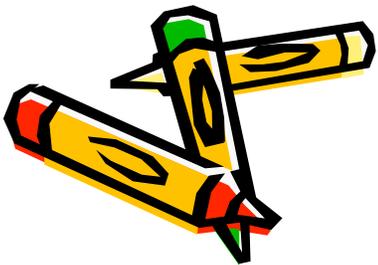
Advice

- Once you have completed your application, get someone else to read it.
- Ask them to describe what you want to do, and why you want to do it. If they can't do that, you need to revise your proposal.
- Be open to feedback on content, clarity, and editorial suggestions.
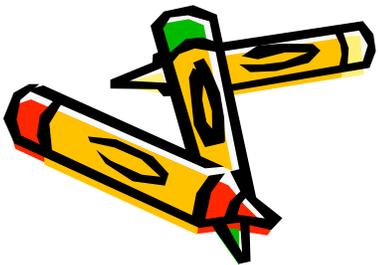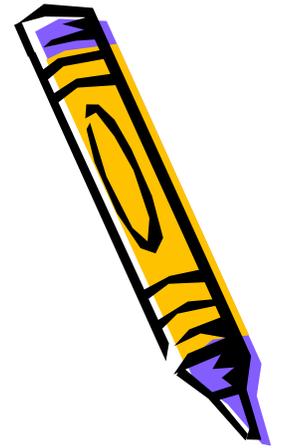
Advice

- Remember as you are writing…that YOU are going to have to implement this.
- Don't promise more than you can deliver.
- SPELL CHECK/CHECK FOR GRAMMAR!!
- Remember, the AEF Grant Committee is composed of non-educators! Don't assume they know what you are asking for!
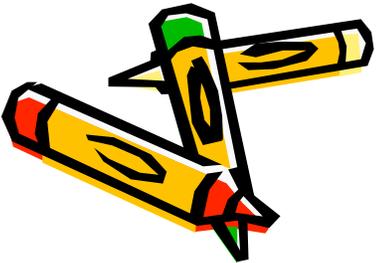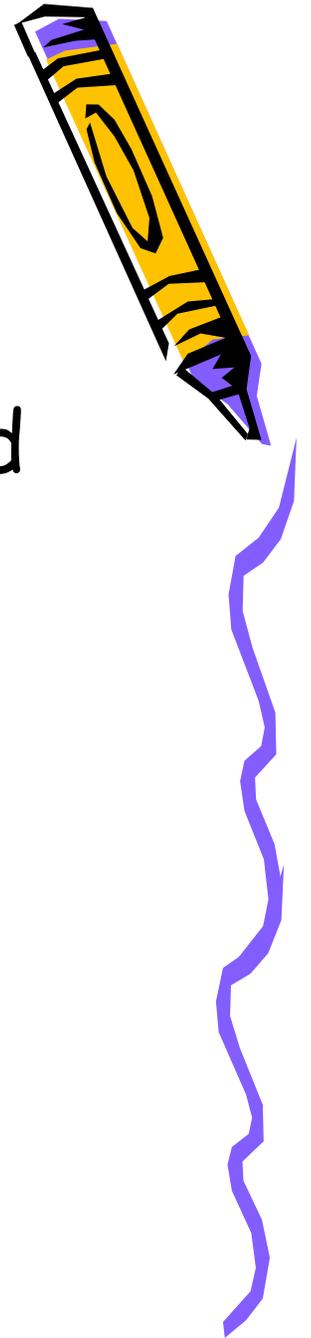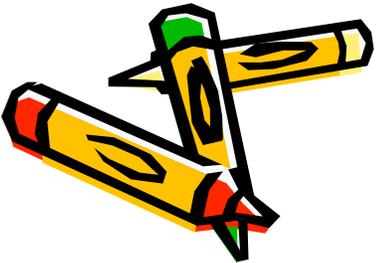
Advice

- If you are awarded a grant send a card to the foundation or a picture of your students thanking them!

- Keep the foundation and the sponsors aware of what you are doing. Photos with kids in them are great!
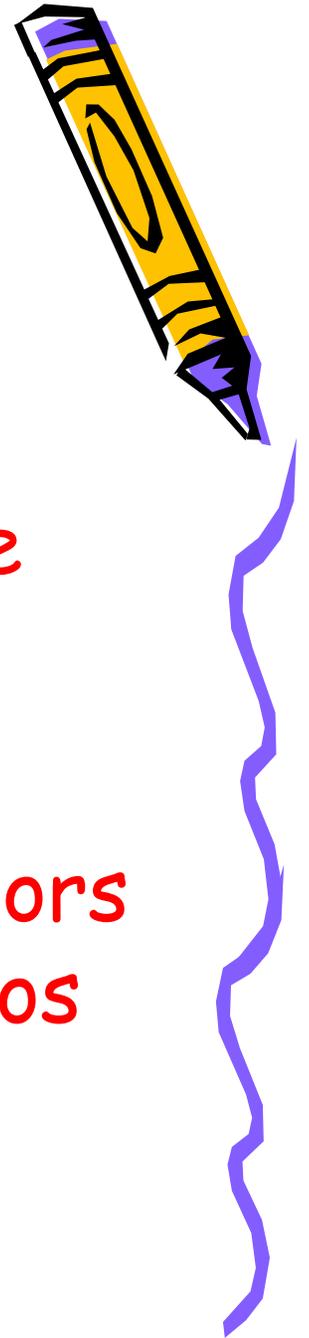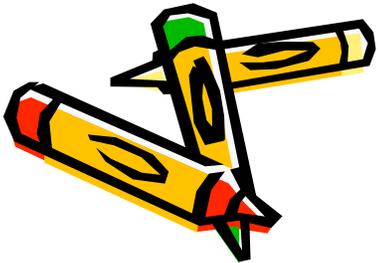
Advice

- Don't be discouraged by a rejected grant.

- Ask for feedback.

- Re-apply

Final Advice

- BE INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE

- Send pictures if you have any!!!

- GO FOR IT!

- *Finish these two sentences:*

- *Wouldn't it be great if the kids could………*

- *I wish my students were able to………….*