

Pre-K Grant Received



Superintendent's Message
Dr. David Daigneault

The Grenada School District has received a grant from the Mississippi Department of Education to expand and improve our successful Pre-K Program, Learning Blocks. Grenada will receive \$247,250 each year of 2017, 2018, and 2019 to expand the services for our Learning Blocks program. These funds will be spent in professional development, curriculum resources, technology, assessment materials, and teacher salaries.

Grenada School District was one of only four districts from fifteen applicants that were awarded this grant from the Early Learning Collaborative Act of 2013. This State initiative provides funding to local communities to establish, expand, support, and facilitate the successful implementation of quality early childhood education and development services. Funds were competitively awarded based on evidence of existing strong local collaboration, capacity, commitment, need, ability to demonstrate enhanced outcomes for participating children, and availability of funds.

The nurturing environment of our Learning Blocks program is providing a purposeful and playful place for Pre-K students to learn skills and knowledge needed to begin kindergarten. Pre-K experiences allow students to not only keep pace with Kindergarten lessons, but affords children the educational foundation to excel in their achievement. Instruction is guided by a comprehensive curriculum that uses research-based strategies and data-driven decisions. The children in our program receive instruction containing hands-on activities delivering learning opportunities in reading, math skills, computer literacy, music, and art. Learning Blocks is staffed by experienced, certified teachers that routinely pass performance evaluations.

GSD is pleased with the successful implementation of our initial Pre-K classes and is proud of the receipt of our grant in the State's highly competitive grant cycle. Learning Blocks will be expanded, upgraded, and will provide even better prospects for our smallest learners!

GUES Honors Veterans



GUES Principal Carol Tharpe



Photo by Taylor Buchanan

Photo left (front with sign l to r) George Cook, Ethan Hoop, Markita Kinsey, Jaylan Burl, (back l to r) Aiden Harris, Cuvari Davis, Malik Bankston, Teacher DeNon-drea Sims, Keaira Gaston, and Ken-neshia Williams



Caslyn Trost



Mary Clayton Logan



Photo by Taylor Buchanan

(l to r) Daniya Hill, Jonathan Dees, Jacob Evans, Emily Smith, KeShay Baker, and Brooklyn Porter



Photo by Shedrick Flowers

(l to r) Mary Faith Vance, Markiya McNeal, and Shelby Woodall



Photo by Shedrick Flowers

Photo far left Shasta Jones

Photo left (l to r) Case Smith, Mawrese Morris, and James Darren

A Swedish Christmas in the Kidzeum



Photo by Beth Muselwhite

Students at GES are standing around St. Lucia in The Kidzeum's current exhibit titled, "A Swedish Christmas." (sitting, l to r) Adarius Bloodsaw, Savannah Hearn, (standing, l to r) Aubrey Batson and Jatavious Goldman

By Beth Muselwhite
Kidzeum Director

The Kidzeum is sharing Christmas traditions from Sweden with the students at Grenada Elementary School. Each year from the end of October until December, the students at GES visit an exhibit about

how Christmas is celebrated in another country. One year the exhibit might include how children celebrate Christmas in a country that is hot at this time of year. The next year the students learn how children celebrate in a country that is cold at Christmas. The current exhibit in The Kidzeum is titled, "A Swedish Christmas."

Christmas in Sweden is very unique. The traditions are different from other parts of the world. If you are planning a visit to Sweden for Christmas any time soon, you might need to visit this Kidzeum exhibit to find out how to prepare. Or, just ask a student from GES who has visited the exhibit recently!

As the children enter the Kidzeum doors, the eighteen foot tall Christmas tree is decorated to represent the country of Sweden. There are tiny blue lights that accent the big, gold and blue ornaments hanging on many limbs. Large, white snowflakes have been placed around the miniature Swedish flags that adorn the tree. While the children listen to The Christmas Story around the tree, each child is able to hold a particular character or special gift from this special story told around the world.

Around the Bank area of The Kidzeum there is a market place outlined in small, white lights just like the Swedish towns put up for holiday shoppers. One side of the market place has decorations in baskets just like the Swedes might purchase to decorate their homes, shops, and churches. The other side has lots of pastries, sausages, cheeses, and breads like our Swedish friends enjoy. The Swedes begin decorating their homes, churches, and shops around the first of December. This is known as the Advent season, preparing for Christmas. In Sweden, Christmas begins with the Saint Lucia day. This ceremony begins on December 13.

In the Kidzeum's market place, students played a matching game to learn how to count from one to ten in Swedish and how to say color words like the children in Sweden. The Kindergarten and first grade students learned the colors of the flag, while the students in second and third grades learned to weave a traditional red and white, heart-shaped tree ornament.

The students were also participants in the "Countdown to Christmas" game. For this game, the children answered questions about the symbols of Sweden and matched them to the symbols that represent our country of America. This game was created to help the Kindergarten through third grade students better understand how people around the world have some of the same symbols and traditions like we do in America, but might be a little different.

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