



Collaborative Grant Application

Deadline: March 8, 2021

CONCEPT PAPER: If the Amount Requested is \$8,000 or higher you are required to submit a written concept paper to Elizabeth_ascoli@brooklineeducation.org no later than January 31, 2021. Concept papers for grants under \$8,000 are not required, but recommended. The feedback will be useful in preparing your final grant request.

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Complete this document, answering all questions on pages 1-3.
2. Once complete, save this document in **.pdf** or **.doc format** and include your name in the file name. For example: Joanna Smith Collaborative Grant.pdf
3. Follow this [link](#) to submit an online application and attach this document. If the link doesn't work, cut and paste this URL into your browser: <https://airtable.com/shrgh5xS14W2wJB9G>
4. You will need to fill out a short form duplicating some of the applicant contact information, and then you will need to upload your completed application using the link provided at the bottom of the form.
5. Once your grant is submitted, you will receive a confirmation to acknowledge receipt of the application.
6. The Collaborative Grant Committee will review the grants in Late March/Early April and announcement of successful applications will be made on April 17, 2020.

If you have any questions, or need assistance in uploading your application, please call 617-232-3846 or email Brenda@brooklineeducation.org or Elizabeth_ascoli@brooklineeducation.org.

COLLABORATIVE GRANT APPLICATION

***APPLICATION DEADLINE: Monday, March 8, 2021 at 5:00 pm**

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Collaborative Grant Application for 2021-2022 Academic Year
Cover Page

*****PLEASE NOTE: CONCEPT PAPER REQUIRED FOR GRANTS OVER \$8,000 DUE: Jan 31, 2021*****

APPLICATION MUST BE TYPED

Project Title	Endangered Sea Turtle Research
Who is the Project Leader?	Yasameen Sharif
Leader's School/Assignment	Baker School, Grade 6
Leader's Home Telephone Number	617-216-9543
Leader's Email Address	yasameen_sharif@psbma.org
Years teaching in PSB, total years teaching	26 years, all at Baker School
Project period	June 25-July 2, 2022 (Due to the time constraints of both the school year and the research program, this is the only week which both works for the school calendar and BEF's fiscal year requirement. Registration for the program takes place in mid-December for the following summer and this summer's slots are already full. The week of June 25-July 2 would allow us to go without potentially missing days with our students at the end of the school year and requiring that the school provides for substitute teachers. If we need to go the week prior to meet the fiscal year requirements (June 18-25), and snow days extend the school year, we would need to obtain permission from our principals.)
Amount requested	\$7500 (Note: Estimates might change because of COVID-19) \$975/pp (\$3900 total for 4 people) \$800 (1-2 nights of hotel (2 rooms/night) based on flights/hours of program) (estimate based on typical hotel costs) \$600/pp (\$2400 flight for 4 ppl) (estimate based on typical flight costs) \$400 weekly rental car

I understand that, should the Brookline Education Foundation fund this Collaborative Grant application, as Project Leader, I am obligated to submit photographs documenting the grant, a written evaluation of this project at its completion and to present the results of my grant at a BEF-sponsored event. Evaluations of projects will be due by May 31, 2022. I further understand that only educators employed by the Brookline Public Schools at the time the project is undertaken are eligible to receive funds.

Acknowledgement of Project Leader: Yasameen Sharif

Date: 3/1/21

For online submissions, please acknowledge that you have read and agreed to the above statement. YS

NOTE: As we will not have completed our project prior to May 31, 2022, we would be happy to make our presentation at the following year's BEF event.

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
Collaborative Grant Application for 2021-2022 Academic Year
Project Description Section

1. Project Summary (1-3 sentences)

As part of our Ocean Systems unit, we have incorporated a study of sea turtles and their paths through the ocean. We are focusing on how the living and nonliving parts of the ocean as an ecosystem interact with sea turtles as a case study. This year we have been tracking sea turtles as they migrate in the Atlantic Ocean using a third party database. Through our participation in 'The Caretta Research Project,' we would gain a hands-on knowledge of how to study and protect loggerhead sea turtles on Wassaw National Wildlife Refuge off the coast of Savannah, Georgia.

2. Need: Why is this project needed?

This year we have been studying sea turtle behavior using tracker data and have seen increased student engagement in our oceans unit. We would like to deepen our own understanding and bring even more experiences to our students. However, it is challenging to study sea turtles in Massachusetts because they rarely venture up to our area, and when they do strand here it's because they are struggling to survive. We feel that first-hand experience with healthy and growing turtles will deepen our understanding of these creatures and give us more knowledge and experience about what goes into working with and tracking them. Our experience with the turtles in this program will benefit our students in the classroom as we compile and analyze real data in our classrooms and can share our work in the field with them.

3. Personnel

a. *In addition to the project leader, who are the participants in this grant?*

Please include names, schools, assignments, and email addresses.

Alejandra (Munoz) Traub - Lincoln School, Science (grades 6/7) alejandra_munoz@psbma.org

Eric Hazlinsky - Driscoll School, Science (grades 6/7) eric_hazlinsky@psbma.org

Brandon Chan - Lawrence School, Science (grade 6) brandon_chan@psbma.org

b. *What administrator/principal/headmaster/curriculum coordinator is responsible and accountable for project activities?*

Emily Speck, K-8 Science Curriculum Coordinator, emily_speck@psbma.org

Work: 617.264.6403 / Cell: 617.909.5502

c. *Will the project require additional personnel or reassignment of current staff?*

No

4. Goal Statement

What are the explicit goals for the project?

1. Deepen our own understanding of sea turtle behavior and how they interact with the ocean ecosystem.
2. Learn more about research methods currently being used in the marine biology field.
3. Utilize our new learning to improve the scope and sequence of our sixth grade oceans unit.

5. Context

What are the experiences of the participants (inside and/or outside the classroom) that have led you to apply for this grant?

This school year, we based our Ocean Ecosystem unit on sea turtles as an anchoring natural phenomenon. We sought to have students use live turtle tracking data as well as data from the New England Aquarium to learn and wonder about these creatures, their adaptations, their behaviors, and how they interact with their environment. We implemented a number of turtle-based activities into the unit in order to link this natural phenomenon to their learning of ocean properties including currents, density gradients and food availability. The first was a study of Munchkin, a turtle who stranded herself on Cape Cod, and her rehabilitation at the New England Aquarium Sea Turtle Rescue facility. Using the mini documentary series created by the New England Aquarium, students learned about Munchkin's journey to recovery and analyzed her travels once she was released in the wild. The second was an interactive turtle tracker which students used to track individual turtles throughout the Atlantic Ocean over a 2-month period. Students collected weekly data on currents, sea surface temperature, wind speed, and the distance and path traveled by their turtle over time and used that data to develop deeper understandings about how the abiotic factors in the turtles' environment impacted them and their movement through the ocean. Our experience with the 'Caretta Research Project' would help us understand the biology and behaviors of turtles before they become stranded here in Massachusetts.

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION Collaborative Grant Application for 2021-2022 Academic Year Project Description Section

6. Project Description

a. *Describe the structure of this grant: what is your time frame, when and where will you be working, with whom will you work? You may include copies of supporting material (e.g., conference brochure, tour itinerary). Links to websites may be used for supporting materials and are preferred, if available.*

Registration: mid-December 2021

The trip: End of June 2022 (to early July)

Location: Savannah, GA ([Wassaw National Wildlife Refuge](#))

For more information please see the project website: [Caretta Research Project](#)

b. *Tell us about the collaborative aspect of this grant.*

We have been working collaboratively as sixth grade colleagues across four different schools this year to create a more common and effective curriculum. We developed our current sea turtle study together and have used it with our students, and we would like to continue our cross-school collaboration with this shared experience.

7. Impact and Evaluation

a. Describe as specifically as possible the impact of the work you propose:

- On Yourself - *How do you expect this project will change you as educators? How might this work impact future professional activities?*

Growing our own knowledge base and having the opportunity to observe, wonder, collect and analyze data as a team will give us the opportunity to engage in the way in which we want our students to. Having this experience of continued learning will help us feel more confident in the content we teach and help us readily relate to the experiences we create for our students as learners. Having the ability to better understand research methods and model that for our students will be valuable for years to come.

- On Your Colleagues - *What impact will your project have on your professional community either directly or indirectly?*

This bonding time together through travel and living and working together is valuable as we rarely get to work together in person collaboratively or personally since we are located in four different schools. We have not collaborated in this way prior to this year, and we would like to further develop this connection as we feel it benefits both us professionally and our students academically.

- On Your Students - How will your students benefit from this project in the short or long term?

Students will benefit from our first-hand experience with the sea turtles and by learning more about the research techniques used to study the turtles. This will provide students with a holistic timeline on the journey of turtles (from nesting season to hatching season to migration season), including the strandings happening in Massachusetts (due to climate change, navigation issues, etc.).

- b. How will you **evaluate** the success of this project?

We'll feel this project is successful if we can collaboratively produce common experiences for 6th graders across Brookline to improve their understanding of the interaction between living and nonliving factors of the environment using sea turtles as an anchoring phenomenon.

8. Dissemination

How will you share your learning with others in your school and district community? For example, will you share it departmental or school meetings, in an online format, or design other forms of dissemination of your project?

This year we have begun a more streamlined sharing of our work with our 6th grade colleagues throughout the district. We would like to continue to do this under the leadership of our Science Coordinator following this experience. We would plan to do a presentation at a department meeting in order to present our findings and new learning and also share co-created lessons and activities to add to our sea turtle focus. This would benefit all members of the 6th grade science team across each of the eight buildings.

9. Multi-year projects (N/A)

BROOKLINE EDUCATION FOUNDATION
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Budget and Finances Section

Please provide a **detailed budget**. Be as specific as possible.

Expense	Purpose	Cost
Stipends (\$33 per hour per participant)	N/A	\$0
Consultant (Include name and location)	N/A	\$0
Materials and Supplies	N/A	\$0
Travel and Accommodations* <i>please include applicable taxes</i>	Flights BOS → GA 1-2 nights of hotel (2 rooms/night) based on hours of program Rental Car	\$600 per participant (estimated) = \$2400 total \$800 (estimated) total \$400
Conference Fee	One Week Sea Turtle Research Program	\$975 per participant = \$3900 total
Other	N/A	\$0
Substitutes **(please indicate days/hours needed--\$110/day)	N/A	\$0
TOTAL		\$7500 (Note: Estimates might change because of COVID-19)

* **Single rooms are acceptable if preferred by the applicant.**

****The BEF's ability to pay for subs is limited; requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.**

Finances

a. Will there be additional funding from other sources? Please describe.

No

b. Are resources needed to continue the work of the project after BEF funding ends? If yes, please describe how these resources will be obtained. If no, please describe how the work of the project will be funded or continued after completion of funding by the BEF.

Not imperative for continuing the work of this project, but if we could have some time (perhaps during planned department meetings) to collaborate and work on creating the lessons as a unified 6th grade Brookline team, that would be beneficial.

d. Will you be able to complete the project if only partial funding is available? Yes No
 If only partial funding is available, would you be able to redesign the project? Yes No

Please explain:

While we would be able to fund part of this trip independently, we would need the majority of the cost to be funded by the BEF. If we do not get approved for a majority of the funding, it wouldn't be possible to redesign the project, since this grant is dependent on completing the research in Georgia with the Caretta Research Project.