

**AdoptAClassroom.org STEM Teacher Finalists
for PCMG
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How would you use a \$2,000 grant to purchase technology for your classroom?

If rewarded with the grant, I would purchase as many tablets or iPads as possible to allow for students to participate in digital lessons and virtual science lab experiments. Students really enjoy the digital lessons and labs, but currently are only able to watch me complete the lessons and labs. Having the tablets would allow students to complete the lessons along with me. I believe this would make it more enjoyable and allow students to use technology they are not normally exposed to.



Why is technology important for you and your students?

Technology is important to me and my students because many of the experiments and activities that would enhance our learning are often impossible due to time constraints and funding. Virtual labs and lessons allow us to manipulate time and environment to complete those normally impossible situations. One such example is when we are learning about weather and clouds. Living in Florida we don't experience snow, but virtual labs allow us to manipulate the temperature and atmospheric conditions to allow snow to happen.

What is special or unique about your classroom and students?

Teaching in a school with a 97.3% free or reduced lunch population has challenges because students come not having many experiences or much exposure to things that can build background knowledge and help with learning. Last year, using virtual labs and digital lessons allowed me the chance to improve our school score of 21% students at or above proficiency level to 41% of the students at proficiency level or above. I have no doubt that giving students a chance to interact and use technology they normally have no access to can only improve our levels and give students an even better chance at success.

Photos from their classroom

