

Tanielle Kazmierczak

K-8 S.T.E.M. teacher
Circle Cross Ranch K-8 S.T.E.M.
Academy (public school)
San Tan Valley, AZ

How would you use a \$2,000 grant to purchase technology for your classroom?

I would use the \$2,000 grant to purchase Dot and Dash robots for our K-5 robotics program that I am



trying to create. I would use any left over money to purchase more LEGO We Do 2.0 kits for my 2nd and 3rd graders to use as a part of our robotics program. Eventually, I would like to have 1 robot for every 2-3 students in the classroom. We have 1 robot for every 6-8 students and it makes it difficult for every student to have valuable time learning how to program the robots if I only have about 40 minutes to work with each class every other week.

Why is technology important for you and your students?

Technology is so important because many of today's jobs require some knowledge of how to use technology. Today's students are going to have to be technologically advanced in order to compete in future job markets. I want students to come out of my classroom with an appreciation for technology and how tomorrow's jobs are going to be more technology based.

What is special or unique about your classroom and students?

This is my 2nd year as a S.T.E.M. teacher at my school. We currently have 840 students with approximately 60% of our population qualifying for free or reduced lunch. Since we are a rural school, many of our students don't have the opportunities to travel or experience things that students who live in urban areas do. Most of my students are only able to work with robots in my classroom.

I am currently creating a K-5 robotics program that will complement our middle school robotics elective. I am also working to get enough tablets to use with our robots and creating a check-out system so classroom teachers can borrow the robots and use them for grade-level specific lessons.

Photos from their classroom

