

**Provide a 3-6 sentence summary to communicate the substance of your proposal to reviewer, media, and use in FMCCS print materials.**

We have been lucky enough, with the Through The Eyes of Birds grant from the Foundation, to observe and learn about the different types of birds we have living in and visiting our nature center. We now want to go even further and observe and learn about the different types of animals that live and visit our nature center. If awarded, this grant will allow us to purchase trail cameras we can strategically place around the nature center to capture animals in their natural habitat and help us to better understand them.

**# of Students Impacted annually/one time** 300/30

**Who will your project serve? (target population)** Primarily 6th grade with the option of including 4th and 5th grades

**Amount of Funding Requested - Range \$100 to \$500** 500.00

**Detail your project and how funds will be used to impact science and/or environmental education. Include specifics such as school development plans and educational standards achieved through your project.**

With the continued and ongoing improvements to our nature center, we want to be able to expose our student to unique opportunities to learn about the natural environment around them. Indiana state sixth grade science curriculum includes: 6.LS.1 Investigate and describe how homeostasis is maintained as living things seek out their basic needs of food, water, shelter, space, and air. and 6.LS.3 Describe specific relationships (predator/prey, consumer/producer, parasite/host) and symbiotic relationships between organisms. Construct an explanation that predicts why patterns of interactions develop between organisms in an ecosystem. A hands-on approach to these standards would help cement them in the students recollection. It is our hope to be able to capture animals on camera to better understand their daily schedules and activities. We also hope to gain a better understanding of what type of animals live in and visit our nature center. By having photos of animals in their natural habitat and relating it to the student's research of animals, the student will be able to gain a better understanding of what is happening in their nature center.

**Define the expected outcomes/goals of your project and the impact to student learning.**

First and foremost, we want the students to be able to integrate what they have learned from observing animals in their natural environment to direct application on research papers and tests. We expect to see improvement in the Life Science questions on the state exam. Once the students have had the experience of observing the animals, they will naturally store this information as part of their schema. Teachers are extending the learning experience by taking the students to the nature center and having classes outside to observe and discuss ways animals can live by finding the basic needs such as water, food and shelter for the animals. We'd like to encourage our students to love the outdoor experience. We hope to cultivate a love and appreciation of nature and all it has to offer.

**Identify the timeline for accomplishing the stated outcomes. Include project duration and if the project will impact students for more than 1 year.**

If awarded, the students will be able to start to immediately observe the animals that we are able to capture on pictures. They will be able to start researching the various animals they find in the nature center. Once the students observe and identify the animals, they will be able to research how the animal lives, hunts and survives in nature. This project of observing and researching animals will be able to be carried over year after year.

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**Describe specific, measurable results that indicate student improvement or value. Please use quantitative data to report results. Example: 30 students will be engaged in our environment by observing wildlife in its natural habitat. They will learn the names of local birds and write about them in creative stories.**

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We will be able to compare the students state exam results for Life Sciences year after year. We will then be able to learn what is working and what is not and make corrections in the classrooms. Each classroom or student will be challenged with observing and learning 1-3 different animals that live or could live in our nature center and be able to detail their findings in a research paper.

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**Please upload any attachment that may help define your project, specific goals, or objectives.**

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### Grant Budget

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**Upload budget file.**

Who Is Living In Our Nature Center grant.xlsx

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**If your budget is different from amount requested please explain.**

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The requested amount is \$500.00. The budget amount is \$497.02. The difference is only if Amazon adjusts the prices on the items listed on the budget.

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**Have other funding options been explored?**

No

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**List any other sources of funding for this project. Indicate if sources are secure or potential.**

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**To what extent is the project achievable if you were to receive less than the full amount requested?**

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It would be difficult to have this project be successful if the grant is not funded. Animals are very active and we will only be able to capture the animals on still pictures. It is vital to have the trail cameras for this project.

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### Renewable Option

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I would like to apply for option to renew funding of this grant for the following school year. I agree to submit an impact report at the conclusion of this school year and additional information if needed.

Yes I would like to apply for the renewable option.

## Grant Approvals

### Building Representative Approval

<b>Building Representative's First Name First Name</b>	Andrea
<b>Building Representative's Last Name Last Name</b>	McCadden
<b>Building Representative Email Address</b>	amccadde@mccsc.edu
<b>Building Representative Phone Number</b>	812-825-7673

### Principal Approval

<b>Principal's First Name First Name</b>	Cassidy
<b>Principal's Last Name Last Name</b>	Rockhill
<b>Principal's Email Address Email Address</b>	crockhil@mccsc.edu
<b>Principal's Phone Number</b>	812-825-7673

## Submission

### Electronic Signature / Approval

By typing my name, I confirm that I have written this grant and if funded agree to implement in my school or classroom during this school year.

Kathy Kruczek