

Mini-Grant Recipients

Recent Mini-Grant Recipients:

Melissa Morris

I received a mini-grant through INSSWA for \$250. I ordered our items through Amazon and then submitted the reimbursement form to the INSSWA treasurer. I have attached a photo of some of the items the grant helped purchase. Since receiving the grant-funded items, we have utilized them in three ways. First, we have already been able to replace a calming kit in a kindergarten classroom that was well loved by a special needs student. Second, we were able to give additional calming kits to spaces we were not able to at the beginning of the school year. Our building is brand new, so we have found a need in some spaces that we did not anticipate. Finally, we were able to replace some calming kit tools that were not as durable with those purchased by this grant. With INSSWA's help, we are making self-regulation and calming kits within all school settings a common practice in our building. Thank you INSSWA for your mini-grant program.

Melisas Morris, LCSW
Ray Crowe Elementary



Paula Puls

Hello! I am just writing to thank INSSWA again for providing me with a mini-grant last semester, with which I purchased books to do Bibliotherapy with students. The books have been a lifesaver as I have had several students I've been seeing with particular challenges that some of the books address. It's always good to sit with a student, read a book, and then discuss the book and the challenge with the student.

I've also been using the books as supplements to curriculum I've been using with my K-4 students in groups. Many times, the material in the curriculum doesn't quite fit the need the students have or the lesson isn't quite long enough, so I'll add one of the books to the lesson, which helps greatly. It has made my teaching more complete and relevant.

The best thing about these books is that they can be used again and again. They will be helpful for years to come!

Paula Puls, LCSW, LSSW

Avon Community School Corporation

Amber Wetzel

I am the grateful recipient of a INSSWA mini grant this school year. With the grant money I purchased Slumber Kins:Resilience Crew. The crew includes four plush animals and a board book story about each (Narwhal-Growth Mindset, Fox-Family Changes, Alpaca-stress/worry and Sprite-Grief). I used these with individual students and also in my support groups. The students enjoy the stories and have found comfort holding the soft plushies. On behalf of myself and my students we appreciated INSSWA assisting me in adding another resource to help students.

Amber Wetzel, School Social Worker
North Spencer County School Corporation

Amanda Grothouse

Mobile Amygdala Stations were created to help with transition periods throughout the school. They also served as an alternative break station when our reset rooms were occupied.

Some of our staff who are assigned students one on one carry the mobile stations that are catered to the individual student's sensory needs or likes. The student "shopped" for choice items and the staff could help co-regulate with them in the moment and on the go. Each mobile bag had mints, sensory putty, marble fidget, paper, smelly pens, lotion, brushes, water game, ice pack, squish ball, and head massager. Here is an example of what one bag consists of. We were able to make 5 bags with items to replace for next year!

We are thankful for the INSSWA's mini grant that helped solve our need for co-regulation items on the go.

Amanda Grothouse

Greater Jasper Consolidated Schools

