

**Title of Project:** Puppy Poop Pouch

**Grade Level:** 2<sup>nd</sup> grade

**Number of Students Participating:** 50

**Contributed by:** Gayl Loutzenheiser

**Teacher:** Ms. Jenne & Ms. Hayes

**School:** Highlands Elementary

**District or County:** Boise School District



**Overview/Description of Project:**

Students invented a “puppy poop pouch” for people walking their dogs on foothill trails. Students held a “We Love our Trails” expo.

The students went to the trailhead and educated people walking with their dogs on the use of the poop pouch.

**Goals:**

For children to learn they can make a difference in their community by tackling a community problem.

**Core Content Areas:**

(teacher completes this section)

English/Language Arts: writing

Science: Invention Process

Art: Banners & posters

**PARC MODEL STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE**

***STEP 1: PREPARATION***

The students visited the Foothills Learning Center to learn about suggested needs for the foothills. The students decided to tackle the puppy poop problem and come up with a design for a pouch. Students researched the subject of student inventions, and the class had a parent speak on how to draw your invention and get a patent. Books were checked out of the public library about kid inventors and the students reviewed the most fascinating of the inventions in the books. A commercial poop pouch was brought into the class so the kids could see what was already on the market.

***STEP 2: ACTION***

With donated materials from a fabric store, the students met on the playground during lunch and made 200 pouches based on their own design. They used grommets and duct tape to make the bags in 3 sizes to fit small, medium and large dogs.

The students drew drawings encouraging people to “love their trails” and “clean up after your dog”. These drawings were scanned onto 3 banners that were hung up at the Foothills Learning Center on the pole fences by the trail. They named their invention “Puppy Poop Pouch”.

The students went to the trailhead on a Saturday morning for a Trail Expo, and distributed the pouches to trail walkers with dogs explaining the need to keep the trails clean.

***STEP 3: REFLECTION ( Reflection is not sequential; rather it is encouraged throughout the lesson)***

The director of the Boise Trail Rangers came to the class and helped the students reflect on what they had learned and how it made them feel. The students wrote reflection pieces.

***STEP 4: CELEBRATION***

The Director of the Boise Trail Rangers came and presented certificates of appreciation to the second graders. The Idaho Statesman wrote an article on the event in the “Our Town” section of the paper.