

# FUTUREKIDS

## CASE STUDY

In March 2000, the fifth grade students from Cynthia Mann Elementary School in Boise, Idaho, put their technology skills to work in the annual States Fair. Similar to a school science fair, the States Fair gives students a chance to show off their projects to parents, community members, and other fellow students while demonstrating technology integration in action.

The theme of the fair was "Job Expo." Students used online resources to gather information on one of the 50 United States and then developed an exhibition geared toward attracting new business, residents, and tourists to that state.

Students used spreadsheets to create charts and graphs that adorned promotional posters. Desktop publishing software helped them produce business cards and brochures. Many employed multimedia programs to generate comprehensive

## Technology Integration in Action! *The 2000 States Fair*



*Students participating in the Cynthia Mann Elementary School States Fair dressed as state representatives and used their technology skills to share information with parents and guests.*

presentations on their state. The presentations were compiled onto a CD-ROM for parents and guests to purchase, turning the event into a fundraiser as well. Students even

dressed up as famous state residents and shared regional food dishes.

As parents and other guests explored the fair, they stopped at each booth

**Cynthia Mann  
Elementary  
School  
Boise, Idaho**

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to gather information on the state’s government, climate, geography, industry, famous attractions, and more. Each state “specialist” shared his or her knowledge as participants took notes for balloting. Prizes were awarded for the Best Display, Best PowerPoint Presentation, Most Knowledgeable, and Best Brochure.

Not only was the States Fair a fun and creative event, it also helped students enhance their skills across virtually all curricular areas, including geography, history, social studies, English, art, math, speech, and technology. Some of them even gained new skills in cooking and sewing!

STATES FAIR BALLOT  
VOTE FOR YOUR FAVORITE

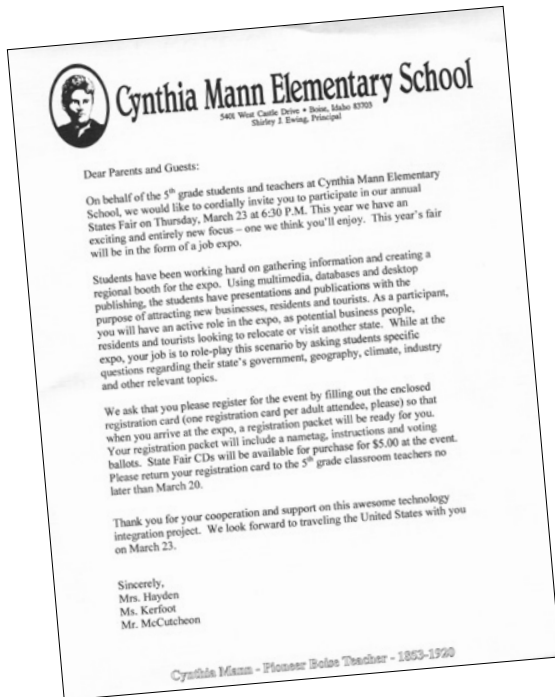
Place the number of your favorite exhibit next to each category. (Example #1's 1-78)  
Please vote for a different state in each category.

DISPLAY \_\_\_\_\_ Comments \_\_\_\_\_

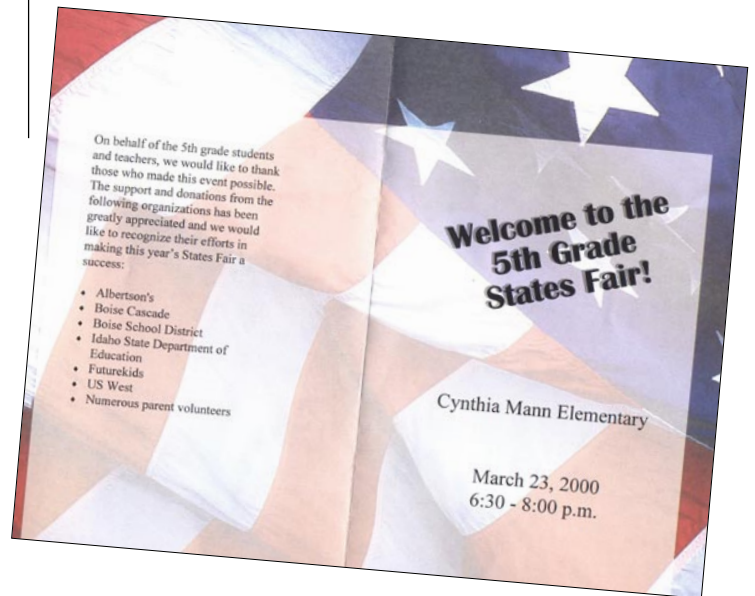
POWERPOINT \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWLEDGE \_\_\_\_\_

BROCHURE \_\_\_\_\_



*A sampling of the information handouts used to promote the Cynthia Mann Elementary School States Fair.*



## Welcome to the 5th Grade States Fair!

You will receive a name tag as part of the registration packet. Please wear your name tag so that each State Specialist is aware of your profession. Be prepared to answer specific questions according to your interests and needs. Continue reading for further instructions.

Each student picked a state and has become a State Information Specialist - all 50 states are represented. In order to entice you to visit and/or relocate to their state, each Specialist has prepared several items to persuade you to "move their way." You may find at their booths the following items:

- A Famous Local Personality or Special State Guest
- A Local Food Dish
- State Brochures
- State Business Cards
- State Multimedia Presentations
- State Posters

**Role play:**  
As a participant in this event, you are encouraged to play an active role in touring the states. While exploring the state booths, the State Specialists will expect you to ask questions to help you decide which state(s) would best suit you, your family and/or business based upon the information you submitted on your registration card. If you missed the opportunity to submit a registration card, you can obtain one at the Registration Table. You will be asked to vote for states in several categories. Please familiarize yourself with the categories before visiting any booth.

**Voting Ballot:**  
There are several categories on the voting ballot. As you explore the state booths, keep the categories in mind. Once you have decided which state best represents each category, simply write the booth number in the appropriate blank. Feel free to make any additional comments on the ballot. Before you leave this evening's event, please drop your ballot in the Ballot Box at the Registration Table. Thank you for your participation.

Thanks for coming and we hope you have fun!

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*Students used spreadsheets, desktop publishing software, and multimedia programs to generate comprehensive presentations.*



*A fifth grader proudly stands by his States Fair booth.*



*Parents, community members, and other guests stopped at each booth to gather information on the state's government, climate, geography, industry, famous attractions, and more.*

