

I would like to take time to thank you again for the \$500 grant that you awarded me. The children at Bluffview Elementary have had many hours of fun with our new equipment. The new equipment has been able to challenge the children in ways that I cannot. Being able to use this equipment has brought many smiles on the faces of my students and I hope more independence to each of them. I have not yet purchased everything but have plans to soon before the end of the school year. Most of the equipment you see are pieces that I have been dreaming of purchasing for some time. Currently I am watching my students to see what the needs are to improve their developmental and physical growth before I use the remaining money.

Thank you once again.

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While playing with the butterfly element using your feet, a child is also working on motor planning, eye-foot coordination, and visual processing. Motor planning allows a child to work on coordination and visual processing helps process the information from the brain to the foot. In the classroom, this will help students be able to follow multi step directions and to visually process information from the chalkboards.



This child is playing with the butterfly element while standing on a balance board. It is a harder task because a child has to balance him/herself while working on motor planning, eye-hand coordination, and visual motor. Placing the element up on the board encourages crossing midline, which allows the right and left side of the brain to work together. Also, placing the element higher will help with wrist stability needed for writing.



Stepping stones are used to improve a child's balance and coordination. It helps the child's visual perception as they have to estimate distance and height of each of the stones. Children love to play with the stepping stones, it allows their imagination to work while they have fun.



The crazy kar is a fun activity that promotes the development of motor skills, reading and writing skills, physical strength and agility. While playing on the crazy kar, a child is required to use the left and right side of the brain to drive the wheels with his hands and turn corners. When a child reads or writes, a child needs both sides of the brain to work together in order to read from left to right. If a child's brain does not work together, a child will only read or write on half of the page.



The pedal walker challenges coordination and balance. The handrails are able to be removed when the child becomes more coordinated and balance improves. Along with coordination and balance, the pedal walker encourages a child to weight shift and teaches deep pressure to push the pedal.



The gel tic tac toe game is great fun. It is a tactile gel mat of marbles trapped inside a squishy gel. A child is required to slide them along and line them up for social/tactile activity that provides sensory stimulation. It also improves eye/hand coordination and finger strength to improve hand writing and finger dexterity to form correct pencil grip for handwriting.