

NEW ELECTRONIC PUBLICATION - NOW AVAILABLE - *Riding the Elementary T.I.D.E.*

Riding the Elementary T.I.D.E. is a project developed for students in Grades 2 and 3. Each unit focuses on a different facet of the acronym TIDE (Technology, Innovation, Design, and Engineering). The units are each about three hours long and contain background material for the teacher as well as an age-appropriate design challenge for the students. Funding for the units was provided by the National Education Association. Units included are:

The GREEN Mission: Students are introduced to simplified steps that make up the design process. The students are then introduced to a scenario where they are asked to design a solution to a packaging problem for G.R.E.E.N. Incorporated. This environmentally friendly company is hosting an Earth Day contest to seek out ideas for sustainable and cost-effective ways to package products that could be purchased on the Internet.

The Garden Gadget Gala: Students will learn the difference between invention and innovation. They will then be asked to interview an older person to get an idea as to what garden tools they have difficulty using. The interview responses will be used to innovate the garden tools that students will bring to class. After the students have changed the garden tool using play dough and other materials, they will present their ideas to a panel of invited guests.

Technology in a Bag: In this unit students will begin to understand that common materials can be used for more than just their intended purpose. Students will also begin to recognize that particular materials are used to make products in order to fit their intended purpose.

Investigative Minds: Students begin to understand how products work by taking them apart, using simple hand tools, and exploring their inner workings. By doing this they will recognize a variety of different materials, mechanical parts, and uniquely shaped pieces. Through this they will also be introduced to two engineering fields and better understand what work individuals do in these fields.

P233CD - \$15.00; Members \$12.50 (Electronic publication - delivered on CD).

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