

Realityworks RealCare Program Alignment with Education Technology State Grants

Title II Part D – Enhancing Education Through Technology (EETT)

The primary goal of this program is to improve student achievement through the use of technology in elementary and secondary schools.

	GRANT CRITERIA	REALCARE PROGRAM ALIGNMENT
√	Improve student academic achievement	Curricula focus is on career preparation, life skills training, foundational knowledge and health. Summative assessments and real-time performance indicators are included. Classroom activities incorporate math, science and language arts.
√	Help students become technologically literate	Infant simulators contain on-board computers using wireless technology. Students must understand how this technology works in order to successfully complete a simulation. Emphasize that Realityworks technology is contained within your product and is incorporated into the learning process. You are not teaching technology, but you are using it to help students learn.
√	Support continuing, sustained professional development	Realityworks offers product/curriculum training and professional development classes on how to use and integrate the technology into their classes. Additionally, there is an opportunity to receive 1-3 Continuing Education Units from the University of the Pacific.
√	Meet challenging state academic standards	Basic Infant Care and RealCare curricula meet National Standards including Family & Consumer Sciences 1, 4, 5, 10, 12, 13, 15 and Health Education 1, 3-7.
√	Improve communication with parents and increase parental involvement	RealCare Baby requires around-the-clock participation for maximum effectiveness. This take-home experience stimulates discussions about infant care, values and life choices among family members so lessons extend beyond the classroom. There is direct communication between the school and the family (students and parents) which revolves around using the technology-based Babies.
√	Collect, manage and analyze data to enhance teaching	Detailed electronic reports include longitudinal data about the care and feeding of Baby while in the student's care and at home. Teachers are able to measure student performance, learning and understanding of the parenting process as a direct result of these reports. Software includes a customizable grading rubric that helps to quantify the analysis of the student's parenting skills.
√	Prepare teachers to act as technology experts in their schools	Teachers use software for data entry and programming via drop-down menus, open fields for comment and options for customizing the rubric. Teachers master wireless technology in order to prepare Babies and students for simulation, including recharging batteries, setting up X-Stick, and sending programming information to simulators. Teachers download data from simulators and analyze computer-generated reports.

√	Fill a dramatic instructional need	Meets instructional needs for Early Childhood Development, Parenting, Health Occupations, Life Skills and Health courses, Family Literacy, Head Start Parent Programs, Pregnancy Programs where girls are taught how to care for their newborns or expectant teen parenting classes.
√	Engage students in education	RealCare Baby applies active learning methodology. Students interact with, communicate with and provide real care for the infant simulator. This technology creates an engaged learning experience where users don't necessarily see the hardware/software technology at work. This immerses them in lesson material through a real life experience and personalizes the subject matter for maximum retention.
√	Help prevent drop-outs	Realityworks FACS customers report that students are more interested in enrolling in or participating in courses using RealCare Baby. Curriculum lessons that address life goals, personal decision-making and responsibility prompt discussions about risky behavior and choices that could jeopardize academic achievement. By providing real-life skills, school becomes a more welcome place for teenage parents, parents-to-be and unwed parents.
√	Establish research-based instructional methods that can be widely implemented	At least 20 published research studies conclude that the RealCare Program is effective in school programs. Curriculum and simulation technology is flexible enough to be used in high school and middle school courses including Early Childhood Education, Parenting, Health Occupations, Life Skills and Health. Refer to Realityworks White Paper: <i>The Effectiveness of Infant Simulators in Teen Sexuality and Parenting Programs</i> . Realityworks simulators are in approximately 16,000 U.S. schools and are used in 30 countries worldwide.