

# Apple Slices

FLORIDA FUTURE EDUCATORS OF AMERICA

December 2014

## A Message from Florida's Teacher of the Year..

**Christie Bassett, 2015 Florida Department of Education/Macy's Florida Teacher of the Year**

Over the past few months, I have had the opportunity to speak to many different groups about education. I absolutely love talking to pre-service teachers! It's so refreshing to speak with individuals who are preparing to enter the teaching profession. They are enthusiastic, open-minded and ready to make a difference! A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure of visiting my alma mater, Florida Southern College in Lakeland, as a guest speaker. This opportunity to talk to education majors was unique because I not only explained the way I structure my lessons to the future teachers, I was then able to model the lesson for them with 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students from Roberts Academy, an elementary school that is on Florida Southern's campus.



The lesson I modeled for the students incorporates reading, writing, science and art to create Fall trees and cinquain poems..."Cinquain Poetrees!" First, I began by explaining how I use informational text, via a book about the life cycle of a tree, to introduce the concept of the lesson. Then, I proceeded to explain the drawing and painting of the trees. Next, we discussed cinquain poems and how they exercise a student's vocabulary. Last, I showed the college students how we would assess the students' understanding with a "critique sheet." I explained that I use "critique sheets" for a student to recall, reference, analyze and evaluate the project and the process used to create it.

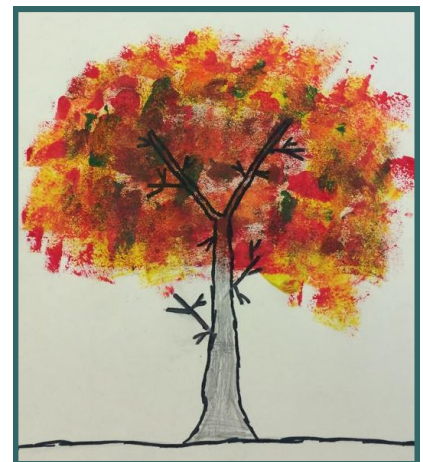
Then, the fun began! The Roberts Academy 3<sup>rd</sup> graders came into our room and we were able to teach the lesson to them. The pre-service teachers were immediately able to implement the strategies and ideas I had presented to them. I've included the process of the lesson for you to use. It is easily adaptable to any grade level.

### Process:

- Day 1:
1. The instructor will introduce the Lesson Essential Question (LEQ) and the lesson vocabulary.
  2. Students will discuss using vertical, diagonal and horizontal lines to draw a tree.
  3. The instructor will read *From Little Acorns...: A First Look at the Life Cycle of a Tree*.
  4. The students will think-pair-share about how a tree grows when the book is over. The instructor will emphasize how studying a subject helps to understand how to draw it.
  5. Students will use inspiration from reading *From Little Acorns...: A First Look at the Life Cycle of a Tree* to draw and paint an oak tree.
- Day 2:
6. The instructor will reintroduce the LEQ and the lesson vocabulary.
  7. The students will be introduced to cinquain poems.
  8. The students will write three cinquain poems while they wait to paint their leaves.
  9. The students will finish their artwork by gluing them to a large sheet of paper and writing their poems at the bottom of that paper.
- Day 3:
10. The instructor will review the LEQ and the lesson vocabulary.
  11. The instructor will read *Life Cycle of an Oak Tree* by Angela Royston.
  12. Students will complete a lesson summary of their artwork using higher order thinking strategies. Students will have the option to read their poems and present their artworks to the class.

### In This Issue:

<i>Outstanding Chapter Winner - Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High Cocoa High School</i>	2
<i>Titusville High School Message from the Officer's Desk</i>	3
<i>Winston Park K-8 Center Broward Virtual School</i>	4
<i>2015 State Conference Contact Information</i>	5



# Congratulations to Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School!

Hialeah Miami Lakes Senior High School is the second Outstanding Chapter Award winner of the 2014-15 school year! As the award recipient, Miami Lakes Senior High School will receive:

- An official engraved award presented to its FFEA Chapter!
- Recognition during a general session at the FFEA state conference!
- One free, extra hotel room provided to the chapter for the state conference!

For your chapter to be considered for the next award period, please submit a self-nomination form to [Abbey.Stewart@fldoe.org](mailto:Abbey.Stewart@fldoe.org) by February 20, 2015.

## Cocoa High School, Brevard County

Doreen Carlo-Coryell, Chapter Advisor

Cocoa High School FFEA is lucky to have a Head Start Program on our campus. We adopted our little Tiger Cubs and had fun reading not-so-scary Halloween stories to them in October. These future educators are naturals when it comes to the fine art of the "read aloud" (an important teaching skill). The children do not want our members to leave. We are planning our next lesson which will include journal writing.

We volunteered at Brevard Education Foundation's teacher store which provides supplies for teachers at Title 1 schools. Our students earn volunteer hours and help support teachers at the same time. We counted and unpacked supplies as well as assisted in checking out teachers.

We doubled the size of our club membership with a successful rush week recruitment. Since our school now includes middle school, we are growing the program by reaching out to them.

Cocoa High School's FFEA has been busy fundraising for the state conference. We earned \$200 on one, four-hour day with a bucket drop at Publix. We also solicited a sponsorship of \$200 from the Junior League of Central and North Brevard. We are preselling ducks for the Great Brevard Duck Race in a six month long fundraiser to support Crosswinds Youth Services, which helps youth in crisis that go to our school. One dollar from every duck sold goes to our club. Thanks to our community's support we will make it to Orlando!



# Titusville High School, Brevard County

Rachel Demetropoulos, Chapter Advisor

Our FFEA club here at Titusville High School is always looking for ways for the community to unite. We want to be involved by teaching and helping others. Our club hosts many community and fundraising events so we can travel to FFEA competitions.

Every home game we host a corn hole tournament, where kids can come hang out before the game. It features music, food and drinks.

Another event we host is the *Movie in the Park*. Kids and families come to the school's football field and watch a movie under the stars. We did have a concession stand that we worked full of yummy food, and face painting was offered at the event.

For our fundraising nights, we host them at our local restaurants. You just go enjoy your dinner and say you're from Titusville High. Also, some of our girls helped with a math night at our local elementary school.

In the future we will be going to local schools and work with the younger kids. We will be teaching and tutoring the kids.



## Messages from the Officers' Desk...

Kelsey Clapham, FFEA Vice President

The Future EduGators over here in the swamp are planning on doing some great things this year! We have already given our teachers mugs filled with goodies inside for their birthdays to show our appreciation. In preparation for the 2015 conference, we are planning to do many spirit nights to raise money, as well as other fundraisers. Plus our chapter is raising money for the Shoebox Scholarship to award to a couple of lucky seniors. We are excited for this promising year and can't wait to help make a difference!

Sabrina Mae Hope, FFEA Secretary

Amazing things are happening at Oakleaf High School's FFEA Chapter in Orange Park, Florida! We have completed and are going to continue to do many exciting things. One of our great projects revolved around Homecoming. This year's theme was "Knights around America" and we, along with our sister club Knighthood Team Leaders, decorated our school's gigantic atrium and created a float themed, "Knights Kentucky Derby." We provided special treats for children of the community during this enormous event. Our most exciting new project is called "OHS Teacher Spotlight" which shows appreciation to five dynamic teachers each month. Beginning this month, we will show our immense appreciation for them through a display, special prizes, certificates and a news promo. We are busy getting ready for the holidays via our community service projects with Ronald McDonald House and Schultzbacher Homeless Shelter. Furthermore, we are extremely excited about preparing for the upcoming state conference. For the first time, we are planning to enter all of the competitions for we do know "Teachers Make the Impossible Possible!"

# Winston Park K-8 Center, Miami-Dade County

Diana Hernandez, Chapter Advisor

The Winston Park Wildcats participated in the school's Club Rush and recruited over 40 members!



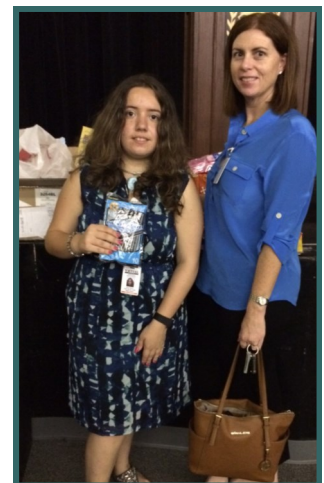
On Halloween night, the Winston Park Wildcats spooked their community with games, rides and prizes. Over 500 ghosts and goblins enjoyed the tricks and treats!



# Broward Virtual School

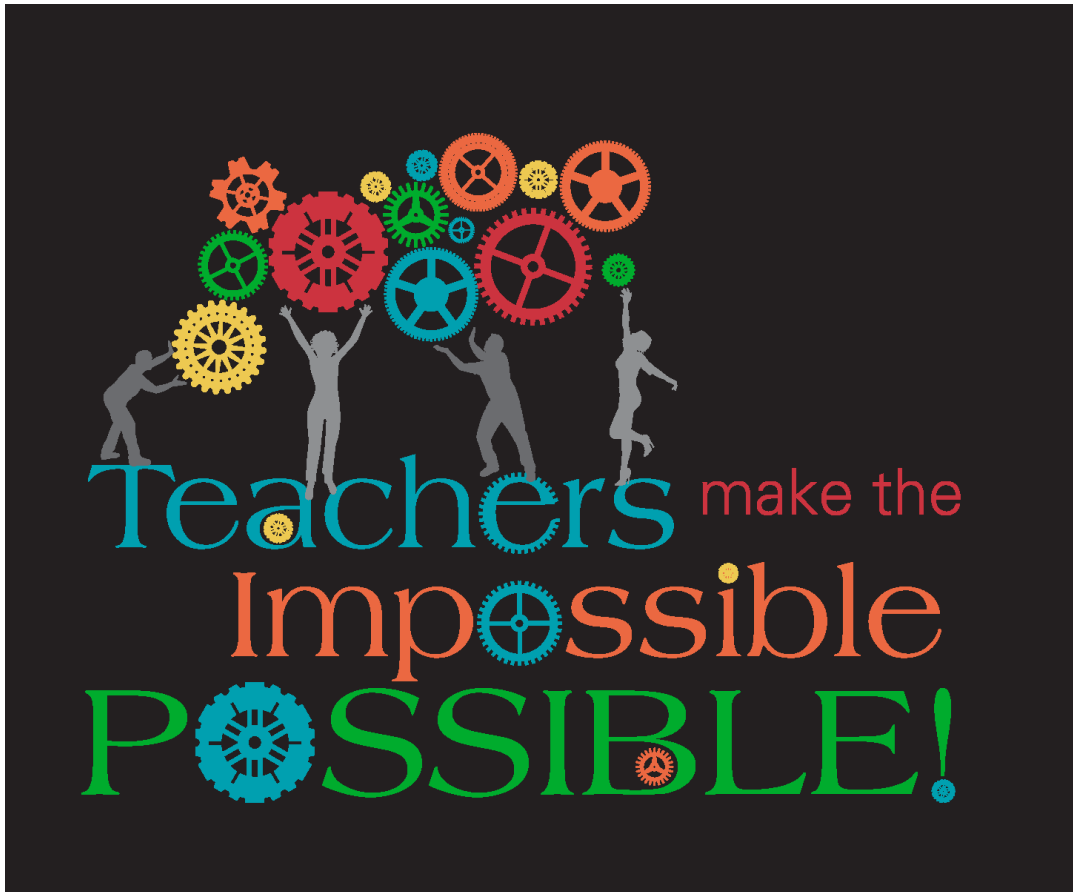
Mary Swenson, Chapter Advisor

On Thursday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, Broward Virtual School took second place out of all Broward County FFEA chapters at the school supply drive for students. Our Broward Virtual School student president, Irene Namer, said it best when she stated, "We are a small school with a BIG heart!" As a virtual school, our FFEA chapter is very small, with just a few members. However, these members work diligently to make sure Broward Virtual School's FFEA chapter is fully engaged in FFEA activities!



# 2015 FFEA State Conference

We look forward to seeing you at the upcoming 2015 Florida Future Educators of America Annual State Conference, themed “Teachers Make the Impossible Possible!” which will be held at the Rosen Centre Hotel on February 6-8, 2015.

**Contact Your Officers:**

John Alvarez, President: [john.alvarez001@mymdc.net](mailto:john.alvarez001@mymdc.net)

Kelsey Clapham, Vice President: [kelseyclapham@gmail.com](mailto:kelseyclapham@gmail.com)

Sabrina Mae Hope, Secretary: [pink.say.say@gmail.com](mailto:pink.say.say@gmail.com)

**Contact FFEA:**

Abbey Stewart, FFEA State Coordinator  
Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 124  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400  
1-800-TEACH-FL