

## NDIA ACCErator Grant

My grant was for the purchase of solid fuel rocket kits. All of the eighth graders (188) at Pryor benefited from your generosity. The rocket building experience was the culminating activity that concluded our study of Earth in Space and Time. We correlated the building of the rockets to standard SC.8.E.5.10, which states how technology is essential to science for the purpose of accessing outer space and other remote locations, sample collection, measurement, data collection and storage, computation, and communication of information.



We began our study of rockets by viewing a NASA website that illustrated rocket history. The students then created timelines that depicted a discovery from each time segment and illustrated their timelines. The students also learned vocabulary dealing with the construction of the rocket as well as terms associated



with flight. The students worked in groups of 2-3 to construct their rockets. The advanced class was challenged to design rocket fins to increase stability and altitude of the rocket. After the construction of the rockets was complete students decorated their rockets.

Rocket Day was met with enthusiasm and excitement as each class met on the field to test their rockets. Students hypothesized how much the recovery system would reduce the rockets' average descending velocity. The students timed the ascent until apogee (one student measured apogee) and then timed descent velocity. When the groups were finished all the information was shared, then the students calculated the average percent decrease between the ascending and descending velocity. Samples of activity and pictures of student work are included.

Again thank you for the grant and the opportunity for our students to experience this activity.