

SFT Curriculum Credits

Produced in Partnership with



Jadyn Harris, Lead Writer

Jadyn Harris is Director of Fine Arts at Pebble Creek Montessori in Allen, TX, is in her 10th year of teaching in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, and has a Master's Degree in Music Education from Southern Methodist University. She specializes in student engagement and arts integration. When writing lessons, Jadyn attempts to integrate multiple skills or subject areas, maximizing students' engagement level and potential for synthesizing information. "I am very excited to bring my integration skills to this project. Creating exciting activities for kids to do at the State Fair while inviting them to participate in quality learning is a dream come true!" A native of the San Francisco Bay Area and a true animal lover, Jadyn currently lives with her two dogs and two cats in North Dallas.

Krissi Oden, Assistant Lead Writer

Krissi Oden is the lead Visual Arts teacher at Alvord High School in Alvord, TX. She holds a Master's Degree in Art History and Museum Education from the University of North Texas and a Master's of Teaching in Art Education from Texas Women's University. She has over 10 years of experience in Art Education with a philosophy that focuses on a Constructivist approach to teaching and learning. Krissi's goal as a teacher is to empower students to celebrate their uniqueness and build upon their own experiences and cultures as they learn and grow. She believes that learning goes far beyond the classroom, therefore, she is very excited about the potential of this curriculum to take learning to the next level in a fun and interactive space! Krissi is a native Texan and lives

in Denton, Texas. She loves spending time with her family as well as working on her own art, specializing in painting and photography.

Christina Beck

Christina Beck is an Agriculture Science and English Teacher at Alvord High School where she has been teaching for two years. She holds a Master's Degree in Science Education and Curriculum from the University of Texas at Arlington. Her specialization is using inquiry-based learning to actively engage students in science education. She is passionate about sustainable farming, creating urban farmers, and involving more kids in agriculture. "Getting more kids interested in agriculture has always been a big goal of mine. Working on this project has allowed me to further that goal while also supporting education at an incredible event for family learning and fun." When she is not teaching or writing curriculum, Christina works in her Denton apiary and urban farm with her husband, children, chickens and miniature cows.

Georgiana Howard

Georgiana Howard is a history teacher in the Mesquite Independent School District. A Dallas native, she graduated from Booker T. Washington High School for the Performing and Visual Arts and attended Converse College on a music scholarship, earning a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. After graduation, she returned to Dallas where she gravitated toward the education field, working for Big Thought's afterschool program, Girl Scouts of North Texas and the Irma

L. Rangel Young Women's Leadership School. When writing lessons, Georgiana tries to make the content relatable to children while focusing on higher-level thinking. "It is important to help children to connect culturally to the city they live in while challenging them to absorb and interact with their environment." Georgiana is currently completing her Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from Texas A&M at Commerce. She lives in downtown Dallas with her dog George.

Brea Ratliff

Brea Ratliff is the Secondary Mathematics Research Coordinator for the Research in Mathematics unit and an adjunct lecturer at Southern Methodist University. She has taught and coached elementary, middle and high school teachers in the teaching of mathematics. Brea is on the board of directors for the Benjamin Banneker Association, Inc. and has written mathematics curricula for several organizations, including the Dallas Independent School District and Big Thought. She has also served as the DeSoto Independent School District's K-12 mathematics supervisor, and completed her Master of Education Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington in 2012.



Tenille Shade

Tenille Shade is a 4th grade teacher at Pecan Creek Elementary in Denton, Texas. She has taught in the intermediate grades for 14 years, and as a native Texan she has special place in her heart for our great state history. She has a Masters Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Texas at Arlington, and she has served on the Denton Independent School District Curriculum Writing Team for the last four years. As a district staff developer, she spreads her enthusiasm for reading, writing, and history through book evangelism; her passion for Project Based Learning, Understanding By Design and technology integration is evident throughout the State Fair lesson plans. She has two amazing college-aged bonus kids and a creative, quirky husband who brightens her world.

