

ABILENE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE

GRANT PROVIDES DIGITAL MICROSCOPES TO AISD'S CENTER OF INNOVATION

Ten brand new digital microscopes will be delivered to Abilene ISD's Center of Innovation on Dec. 19 thanks to a grant from Bayer and Texas Farm Bureau.

The Center of Innovation, a mathematics and science magnet school program for Grade 5 students located at McMurry University, is recipient of the "Scoping Out Ag in the Classroom Grant." The focus of the grant is to encourage classroom projects that teach about food and fiber production and bring the world of agriculture to young minds.

The 10 digital microscopes will be presented by grant officials at 9 a.m. on Dec. 19 at Center of Innovation classrooms in McMurry's Iris Graham Education Building.

Teacher Marsha Hammack became eligible for the grant by attending a Texas Farm Bureau Summer Ag Institute where digital microscopes were used. In her grant application, she wrote, "With the use of the microscopes in the classroom, the students will be able to explore the concept that there are relationships with the environment we live in and these relations occur within cycles and systems."

The hands-on technology will be used in Life Science classwork as well as with the students' involvement with the Open Door Community Garden and the school's hydroponic garden.

