

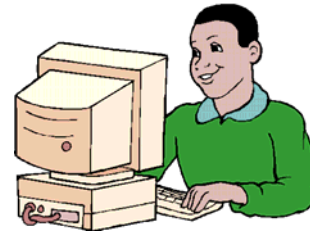


Projects - these are some of our most popular projects



The "**Dictionary Project**" is to assist all third grade students in completing the school year as good writers, active readers and creative thinkers by providing students with their own personal dictionaries. The dictionaries are a gift to each student to use at school and at home for years to come. The dictionaries are personalized for the Pioneers, with both the Pioneer logo and the Verizon logo on the cover, with a tag line reading "Partnering To Build Stronger Communities". The back of the book gives a brief description of who the Pioneers are and what we do. It also includes the website addresses of both the Pioneers and Verizon Foundation.

Project:Connect features a series of interactive games that span the curriculum in grades 4-7. Each features free classroom-ready internet access, Windows and Mac compatibility, and availability in English and Canadian French. With each, we provide; A student-friendly user guide with built-in instructions on how to play the game; A facilitator guide featuring detailed step-by-step instructional procedures keyed to content learning objectives and national education standards; A technical glossary and integrated instruction and game simulation approach; On-screen "gurus" that feature the pioneers of telecommunications technology, providing help students can understand.



Our **Smart Bear** program has increased reading among youngsters who may not be exposed to reading in their home. Similar to the regular TelecomPioneers Hug-A-Bear, the TelecomPioneers Smart Bear is a great comfort to children in traumatic situations with the added feature of providing a book along with a friend. TelecomPioneers Smart Bears are ideal for any child from kindergarten through third grade. Many of the recipients of TelecomPioneers Smart Bears are from disadvantaged homes and the bear is a nice way to introduce both the child and the parent/parents to the joys of reading. The child finds a new cuddly friend and reading companion.

TelecomPioneers **Hug-A-Bears** gives comfort to youngsters who are in traumatic or unfamiliar situations. The TelecomPioneers Hug-A-Bears are donated to public safety, fire, rescue and emergency medical personnel. The bears are carried in the cars and trucks of these agencies so that they are readily available to be given to a child in need. Many police agencies have found that a small child will tell the bear what occurred when they are not comfortable talking directly to an adult. TelecomPioneers Hug-A-Bears have even been given to the troops of Operation Desert Storm. TelecomPioneers Hug-A-Bears are ideal for any child in a traumatic situation from age one year through age ten.



TelecomPioneers "**Heart Pillows**" are distributed to local hospitals and are designed to aid patients recovering from heart surgery. Patients are encouraged to cough to release congestion in their lungs. Prior to the Pioneers "Heart Pillow", hospitals would give patients rolled up blankets to hold against their chests to ease the pain associated with coughing. The rolled up blankets are cumbersome for the patients to handle. The Pioneers "Heart Pillow" is a convenient, attractive and easy to handle remedy for heart patients with congestion.