



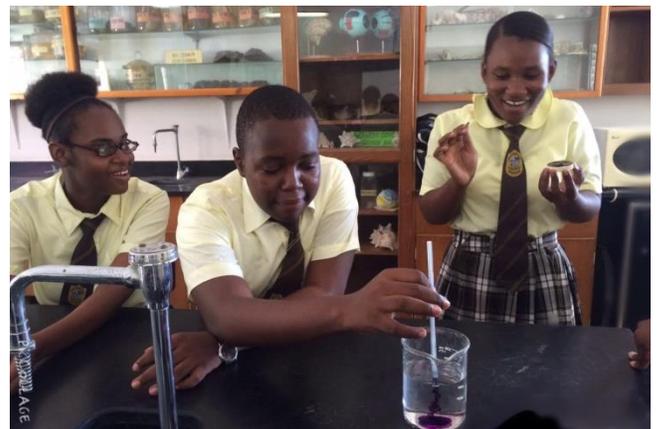
## PINE CAY PROJECT BROADENS EDUCATION HORIZONS IN THE TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS IN 2015

In its fiscal year 2015, Pine Cay Project funded educational improvement initiatives through nine grants to schools, agencies, and civic organizations in the Turks and Caicos Islands. These grants spanned the primary and secondary grades and addressed serious unmet learning needs. Despite differences in focus and methods, the grants shared a common purpose of supporting educators, students, and families in improving opportunities for learning and achievement among TCI students.

Although Pine Cay Project's grants are small, ranging from about \$3,000 to \$16,000 in 2015, the grants build on a local foundation of basic educational services provided through government funding and private (sometimes, church-affiliated) resources, augmented by parent fees and tuition. Pine Cay Project's grants deliver the extra investment that permits educators to make classes engaging, challenging, and fun for students. In 2015, educational enrichment took the form of new scientific microscopes in school labs, new books in school libraries and classrooms, puzzles and learning games for the youngest scholars, and field trips to sites that allowed students to learn about their natural environment and historical heritage. Read about our grantees' accomplishments in the descriptions below.

### Clement Howell High School

\$7,600 for science-lab equipment in this large government high school



This grant follows up on a Pine Cay Project science grant awarded to this school in 2013 and is permitting students to undertake and record more lab-based observation and experimentation in the sciences. According to Principal Kadean Cunningham, students can now conduct a wider range of chemistry and biology experiments and observations, using new chemicals and new, more powerful microscopes. These lab resources permit the high school's science instruction to rely more on inquiry and analysis and less on textbook-based lecture and memorization.

### Hope Foundation for Autism Awareness

\$5,000 for autism-awareness training of TCI teachers



With Pine Cay Project's assistance, the Hope Foundation hosted a five-day interactive training course in February 2015, led by a U.S.-based autism expert. The training helped participating teachers to develop new knowledge, skills, and tools for assisting students with autism to learn and succeed in integrated TCI classrooms, according to Hope's director and committed volunteer Maxcia Rigby.

### Provo Christian School

\$7,125 for instructional materials in science for this church-affiliated school



This grant has allowed the school to introduce science experiments into the third-grade academic curriculum. In an example provided by Principal Sophia McPherson, third-graders used their new learning tools to measure the presence of starch in food samples. They identified and classified foods that contain starch by dropping an iodine solution onto a food sample and observing the change in

color. Students recorded their observations and drew conclusions about the presence of starch in common foods.

### Oseta Jolly Primary School

\$12,658 for instructional materials in literacy and science for this government school



This school used grant funds to upgrade its science program and also to provide personalized instruction to students experiencing severe problems in learning to read. According to Principal Rachel Handfield, the school's new resources have permitted teachers to individualize literacy instruction, as a core strategy for responding to students' specific reading challenges. In the photo above, a student is using a "reading pen" that allows her to hear and understand an unfamiliar word as she reads a book.

### TCI Department of Education

\$16,274 for teacher training and curricular materials in math, provided to government schools throughout the TCI



Pine Cay Project's grant provided funds for the professional development of teachers from classrooms serving grades 1-3 in government schools throughout the TCI, with professional development sessions held in Grand Turk and Providenciales. As described by Education Officer Sarah Kennedy, the sessions provided guidance on teaching mathematical reasoning and problem-solving and also delivered orientation and training on how to use new math curricular materials for grades 1-3, also purchased through the grant.

### Community Christian Academy

\$2,622 for books and materials for low-income students in this church-affiliated private school

Pine Cay Project provided funds to defray the cost of required books and materials for the children of low-income families in this school. The availability of these new books and materials relieved financial pressures on needy families whose children are enrolled in the school. (In the TCI, families are responsible for purchasing instructional materials used by students in the classroom, in both government and private schools.)

### TCI Department of Environment and Maritime Affairs

\$12,113 for the Junior Park Warden Program



The summer 2015 theme of the annual Junior Park Warden Program was *Blue Planet: Wonderful Water*. Students participated in experiences designed to teach them how to protect, conserve, and appreciate water and also how to swim, as seen in the photo. According to DEMA Environment

Outreach Coordinator Amy Avenant, these experiences included direct engagement with the aquatic environment, through field trips, excursions, and classes. Students also learned about sustainable tourism and economic development as well as the TCI's national parks and fishing laws. For the past 15 years, Pine Cay Project has sponsored the Junior Park Warden Program, helping to ensure that the youth of the TCI learn how they can become thoughtful stewards of the TCI's extraordinary natural environment.

### BEST Institute

\$4,840 for instructional materials in reading for this church-affiliated school

This grant provided resources both to improve teachers' instructional skills in reading and also to acquire new textbooks and workbooks for use by students who are learning to read. Principal Leonard Glasgow reported that the teacher training and new instructional materials have led to gains in students' reading skills.

### Enid Capron Primary School

\$6,400 for instructional materials in multiple subjects for this government school

This school requested funds to support the expansion of instructional resources in both reading and math, with a particular focus on improving the skills of the lowest performing students. According to Principal Sophia Garland, the new books and learning materials have allowed teachers to personalize instruction to the students with the greatest learning needs, so that these students are now catching up with others in their grade.

## LOOKING AHEAD

Looking toward 2016, the trustees and friends of Pine Cay Project have ambitious plans for continuing the Project's work in improving the education of students in the Turks and Caicos Islands. **Pine Cay Project needs to raise at least \$125,000** in the next eight months to maintain its

momentum for education reform and improvement throughout the TCI.

We urgently ask for your donation to continue the Project's work in improving instruction and extending educational opportunities to all children

and young adults in the TCI. Pine Cay Project is a qualified nonprofit organization under the tax laws of the United States (Federal ID #341703337). Donations are tax deductible in the U.S. **Please mail your donation to:**

**Pine Cay Project**  
**322 Central Park West #6B**  
**New York, NY 10025**

*Preliminary 2015 Fiscal Statement (October 1, 2014, through September 30, 2015)*

<i>Beginning-of-year Balance</i>		<i>\$47,121</i>
<i>Income, from Donations</i>		<i>\$95,592</i>
<i>Expenses</i>		<i>\$72,681</i>
<i>Grants*</i>	<i>\$71,421</i>	
<i>Administration</i>	<i>\$1,260</i>	
<i>End-of-year Balance</i>		<i>\$70,032</i>

*\*One grant has not been fully drawn down. The amount drawn down is included in the Grants total.*

TRUSTEES OF PINE CAY PROJECT  
Maggie Baczkowski, Marie Yvonne Landel, Carlton Mills,  
Elizabeth Pickman, David Rochat, Jay Saunders, and Terry Smith



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