

GSoD Kolibri Grassroots Stories Project Report

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Overview

My project focused on creating a reach report for the Kolibri Hardware Grant Project. This report uses detailed case stories from participating organizations to give an overview of how the Kolibri software can be used to make quality learning experiences available in low resource communities. The purpose of the report is to show potential new users how the Kolibri ecosystem of products can be implemented in various contexts and by using a variety of hardware types and configurations.

Goals

- Synthesize data collected from grantees of the Kolibri Hardware Grant Program into a comprehensive report that details the outcome of the grant program and the reach of Kolibri through the program
- Highlight the variety of educational contexts in which Kolibri can be used to benefit learners
- Highlight the variety of hardware models that can be used to implement Kolibri
- Introduce Learning Equality and Kolibri to potential new users and/or funders

Modifications to Original Proposal

My [original proposal](#) was to present two different formats: a formal written report for stakeholders and an interactive webpage with condensed information for potential users. After the Community Bonding period, my mentors and I decided to focus solely on a formal written report as Learning Equality and Kolibri were already in the process of redesigning their website. During this time, we also decided to spotlight 10 of the 48 grantee organizations. This was later changed to 8 organization spotlights to accommodate scheduling changes.

Project Deliverables

1. [Organization spotlights](#) (status: completed)

I worked with my mentors to review data collected from the 48 Kolibri Hardware Grant grantee organizations and selected 8 organizations to write detailed case stories about. I incorporated information from these spotlights into the final report, but also kept them as separate documents so that they can be repurposed for future projects. For each organization, I created a Google Doc with the following outline:

- Organization name and location
- Mission statement
- Background
- Grant award date and usage
- Grant impact
- Kolibri implementation details (including hardware)
- Personal stories

2. [Kolibri Hardware Grants Program Reach Report](#) (status: completed)

The final report incorporates the grantee spotlights with media assets provided by each organization. I created the document with the following outline:

- Introduction of Learning Equity, Kolibri, and the Kolibri Hardware Grant Program
- List of participating organizations
- Grantee spotlights
- How readers can get started using Kolibri

Technologies Learned

- **Graphic design tools:** For the final grant report, I used the Canva platform to design a polished product. I had used Canva before, but I used this opportunity to use Canva's pro features to design the report within Learning Equality and Kolibri's brand guidelines. With my mentors' feedback, I improved my skills in document design to create a report with balanced text and images.

Key Takeaways

- **Flexibility in planning**

The scope and needs of my project changed a few times from the beginning of the Season of Docs program to the end. Having a plan early on kept me organized, but by being adaptable, I was able to change direction as needed to develop my project while still meeting overall goals.

- **Communication and time management for remote collaboration**

This was my first time working remotely with a team so it was important to communicate with my mentors regularly. We met bi-weekly as I was writing my project and then weekly towards the end of the program for review and changes. I was also maintaining a day job at the same time so I needed to properly manage my time as well. This relates back to being flexible in planning as I balanced my work and program schedule.

Final Thoughts

Overall, the project was a great learning experience for me as it introduced me to the process of writing a formal report from beginning to end. I also learned more about graphic design and how to present a polished document for my audience. I'm very grateful to my mentors, Laura Danforth and Radina Matic, for their support and feedback and to Learning Equality for giving me this opportunity.