

Paige Pritts
Sanborn Elementary
Kindergarten
Mrs. DeHart
April 3, 8, 10, 15, 22
22.5 Hours

Reflection Paper:

Participation:

April 3rd: On this day I helped the children at the word building station, they are given buttons with letters on them and they must use a vowel which are all on one color button for the middle letter and the other two letters can be any of the other color button as long as it's a real word and not a nonsense word. I also conducted my reading interest survey this day.

April 8th: This day I worked with a few of the students individually who have been struggling with writing their name correctly inside the lines and also went through numbers with them.

April 10th: This day I gave my first lesson plan with the book Jacob O'Rielly wants a Pet, the students absolutely adored the story and the reader response activity. I think my first lesson was a success.

April 15th: On this day I worked with the students at the skills station, we used play dough to form letters and to make words, the kids really enjoyed this and had a ton of fun!

April 22nd: This was my last day in the classroom; I gave my second lesson plan which ran a little smoother than the first one. Once again the students adored the story and the reader response activity. They were able to be so creative and have fun! I was so sad to leave and the kids were sad as well. I plan on going back on their last day to surprise them and hang out!

Learning:

While in the classroom I try to make connections between what we are learning in class and how it applies in the everyday classroom; while in Mrs. D's classroom I see a lot of reading going on even for just the few hours that I am there. **Motivating the children to read** is a huge part of this classroom. Every morning Mrs. D makes up a note for the children to read, but makes sure there are plenty of mistakes in it. The children all read the note together on the white board and then each student is called up to help fix an error. I think this is a great way to get the students reading, thinking, and involved. Mrs. D has **reading groups** everyday for centers, and she is the mediator if them. She picks a book for the children to read and then has them do activities with the book. This gets the kids really involved and not only just throws them into reading, but has someone there to help them with questions so they are reading right, and not only does Mrs. D have the reading groups, she also has a **classroom library and reading center**. It has so many

different types of books, from chapter books to picture books, and all different levels for each and every one of her individualized students. The **picture books** seem to be the kid's favorite every time they go to pick up one on free time. This classroom is so literature rich and I really love it. I think her kids are very ahead of the game in reading and it's probably because she is very supportive with it. I give props to her.

Commentary:

Being in the classroom is probably one of the best feelings in this whole world for me. I absolutely love seeing those kids every day; they are so loving and wanting to be there. Its incredible when you get to see their faces light up when they finally understand a concept they have been working so hard on to understand. Their eyes get so big and that smile is just so sweet and sincere. I think the hardest thing for me is going to learn how to deal with those trouble makers, the wild ones, the ones you try so hard to tame but nothing works. In Mrs. D class she has one child, John, he is crazy. Always running around, hitting other students, bothering them, and just needing that attention, whether it's good or bad he just wants to be noticed. Mrs. D always stays so calm when handling his situations, but it is still just so much work to always keep an extra eye on him. There is also another student, James, who is mildly autistic. He is calm enough to be in a normal classroom, but still has his meltdowns. When the resource teacher comes to pick him up during centers he will start screaming and crying not wanting to leave, every time. I love how literature rich her classroom is and I'm hoping to be like that one day in mine. Her personal library for the children is so big and organized I absolutely love it! This semester in service learning was defiantly a new experience for me. I have always been in a CTA school, so to attend a classroom not so structured was different but so much fun! I can't wait to have my very own classroom and students. This career is going to be a blast!