

Kimberley Thoresen

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### Student Teaching Reflection #3

It's hard to believe that the semester is almost over. I am done with my three weeks of full time student teaching, in which I planned and implemented the lessons for the entire school day. The three weeks went by relatively smoothly. My students learned about measurement in mathematics and are now focusing on doubles and addition up to 18. We finished our unit on natural resources and are not onto plants in science. The class continues to focus on specific vowel patterns during their rhyme time and phonics work, and they are developing their ability to find main ideas and cause and effect relationships in reading. My students also continue to write to a prompt and plan their writing using the four square writing method. During guided reading lessons, I incorporated non-fiction texts related to the topics in their weekly reading story and the math and science lessons. The students seemed to really enjoy learning more about dinosaurs and plants.

I have had problems over the past week with students who call out during class discussion. At first I thought the students were just getting back into the routine of school after the week off for Spring Break, but it continued throughout the week. I ask that students raise their hands when they want to speak so that I can allow more wait time between my question and the answers, but some of the students continue to call out their answers despite the rule that they wait. I have also had some students who do not like to take turns. They always want to be called on and make whining noises or try to raise their hand the highest to get my attention. I make a point of letting the students know that I call on students who are sitting quietly on their bottom with their hand raised, not waving. It has also come to the point where some students will just call out their idea or answer after I've moved onto another question, because they had more to share and were not called on more than once. I try to give students a fair chance to participate and I call on different students, but I get put off by the students that just start to call out when I try to move forward with the lesson. I have implemented a rule that if students interrupt me without being called on they will have to move their color for being disrespectful and disruptive during the lesson. I also make a conscious effort to make sure students have a chance to share their thoughts with the class.

One of my students moved away before Spring Break and we did not find out about it until after Spring Break. I am not sure what I should do with the students to let them feel a bit of closure. Some continue to ask me where the child is and why he is not there, even after my cooperating teacher told them he moved away. My cooperating teacher and I do not know why he moved, so we do not have a lot to tell the students. I am thinking of having the class create a big card for the student, to say their good lucks, good byes, and best wishes.

Something that went really well for me this past week was implementing a new review game in the classroom. During a staff development meeting, we learned about a game called Quiz Quiz Trade. This game allows students to work together to review material for a test. Each student receives a card or a strip of paper with a question on it. The student then raising their hand and finds a partner by finding another person with their hand up. They give each other a high five and then quiz each other on their questions. After both questions are answered, the students trade cards, put their hands up, and find a new partner. The game continues until the students have seen all the cards or time is up. I used this game with my class to review measurement before their test. The activity worked really well and the students enjoyed being able to move around during the game. This is definitely an activity that I will use in the future and I'm glad I tried something new with my students. I learned the game on Wednesday and used it on Friday, which involved being a little bit flexible with my scheduling and changing my method of review. I am eager to see what new things I will learn the last few weeks of student teaching and I hope that I can find more games to use with my students.