**Lara R Africk**

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**OBJECTIVE**

Obtain a position as a special education teacher, using my dual certifications that will enable me to utilize my skills in heterogeneous groups, direct instruction, common core standards and the use of technology to improve instruction.

**EDUCATION**

* Bachelor of Science, Elementary Education

Endorsement in ESOL

University of South Florida, 2008

* Masters of Science, Special Education

Queens College, 2013

**CERTIFICATION**

* Initial Childhood Education 1-6, NY
* Professional Elementary Education K-6, FL
* Students with Disabilities Childhood 1-6, NY (Pending)
* Students with Disabilities Early Childhood, B-2, NY (Pending)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Special Education Teacher,** Mid Island Y JCC Plainview, NY November 2010- Present

Teen PALS Program

* Created and implemented lesson plans and field trips focused on social skills and daily living skills for teenagers with moderate disabilities

Saturday Respite Program

* Provided respite care to children whose families were affected by Hurricane Sandy
* Implemented activities for children with moderate to severe disabilities

Assistant Teacher

* Assisted teachers with lessons and activities for children and teenagers with moderate to severe disabilities.

**Graduate Student Teacher,** P.S. 177 Queens, NY Summer 2011

* Assisted teacher and paraprofessionals with lessons and field trips for students with autism and other severe disabilities
* Planned and taught whole group lessons using the Smartboard
* Used PECS and visual schedules throughout daily instruction

**Lead Teacher,** Congregation Schaarai Zedek Preschool Tampa, FL April 2009- May 2010

* Designed and taught developmentally appropriate lessons for three year olds based on High Scope Curriculum
* Helped design and teach developmentally appropriate lessons for Pre Kindergarten classes
* Organized and supervised class of eighteen children with emphasis on portfolio development
* Incorporated Jewish education into lessons and daily tasks.

**Undergraduate Student Teacher**

Final Internship (Grade 1) Claywell Elementary School Tampa, FL Fall 2008

* Taught twenty diverse children, with the assistance of the classroom teacher, using a variety of instructional methods including cooperative learning groups, manipulatives, and Smartboard
* Planned daily and weekly lessons, as well as constructed and administered weekly tests
* Attended team and staff meetings on a monthly basis

Level II internship (Grade 3) Lewis Elementary School Tampa, FL Spring 2007

* Assisted the classroom teacher with various lessons including the use of an ELMO.
* Created and taught lessons in Science, Social Studies and Math

Level I internship (Grade 3) Bell Witter Elementary School (Title 1) Tampa, FL Fall 2006

* Observed the classroom and instructed one lesson each week
* Assisted in teaching vital test taking skills for the FCAT

**ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Camp Teacher,** Beth Sholom Day Camp Roslyn, NY Summer 2012 & 2010

* Supervised a group of ten, three year old campers
* Followed the Nursery/ Kindergarten schedule of activities provided
* Instructed sports activities
* Responsible for communication with parents on student progress

**Instructor,** Kidz Club Tampa, FL April 2007- May 2010

* Instructed circle time sessions, art classes, kids cooking classes
* Hosted birthday parties
* Responsible for maintaining and organizing all client files

Advanced Learning Centers Tampa/ St Petersburg, FL Spring 2006- Spring 2007

SES Afterschool Program

**Site Leader** Shaw Elementary (Title 1)

* Organized and distributed vital paperwork, testing materials, and activities to and from tutors and the main tutoring office

**Assistant Tutor** Crestwood Elementary (Title 1)

* Assisted teachers in tutoring elementary students in various subject areas K-5 through an NCLB afterschool program. Students were of low socioeconomic background, and bilingual.

(References upon request)