INTASC Standard 3

**Learning Environments:** The teacher works with others to create environments that support individual and collaborative learning, and that encourage positive social interaction, active engagement in learning, and self-motivation.

**Licensure/Content Standard 1: Promoting Child Development and Learning**

1c. Using developmental knowledge to create healthy, respect, supportive, and challenging learning environments for young children.

**Licensure/Content Standard 2: Building Family and Community Relationships**

2a. Knowing about and understanding diverse family and community characteristic

2b. Supporting and empowering families and communities through respectful, reciprocal relationships.

**Description of evidence and how it demonstrated the standard:** In EDU 348 Classroom Management and Child Guidance creating this first grade garden theme unit involved designing, organizing, and decorating a theoretical classroom. The task included creating the theme unit and incorporating it into an incentive bulletin board and decorations; developing documents for assignments, correspondence, absent students, supply list, introductory activities, and a classroom reward club; and supplementing the theme unit with an expansion.

**Implications for Future Teaching:** This project required knowledge on implementing efficient classroom management and healthy teacher-parent and teacher-student relationships. Students learn best in a nurturing environment where they feel their voices are heard. Communication and cooperation are critical in engaging students to the best of their ability; establishing a respectful environment is imperative in order to allow this level of communication to take place. Students are given the opportunity to thrive when they are provided with a classroom environment that is built from clear expectations, consistency, and an open line of communication between teachers and students and their families.