

Rebecca Maisey
ED 427 Section 6
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Weekly Reflection

Week #9 – Weekly Reflection

What went well?

Thursday's lesson went really well this week. I maintained the class much better and smiled and got more excited about the lesson than I had for previous ones. I could tell my students were more engaged because they got to be detectives and help me find the missing letters in the words. My teacher look was also more effective than it was in the past and by just saying their name and looking at them I got them to quiet down. With a particular boy I only had to say his name and give him a look to get him to stop talking this week.

What did I learn about planning?

This week I learned a lot about planning lessons. It's sometimes easy to just write a lesson plan and then forget about it until it's time to teach. This was especially hard because I wrote the lesson a week before I had to teach it. I learned that writing lesson plans right before I want to teach has been more effective than always doing it early. I also discovered that it's hard to plan too much in advance because you don't know how quickly or slowly students are going to grasp or not grasp concepts.

What did I learn about teaching?

This week I learned that it's hard to notice everything that students do even when I think I'm doing a good job paying attention. I also realized that sometimes I don't look for the good as much as I do the misbehaviors. It's important for me to make sure that when I do have to discipline a specific student or give the class an Oh No that I find ways I can reward them for the good they are doing. Even though I don't necessarily agree with the whole idea of rewarding students by giving them candy or some other incentive, I've learned that sometimes I have to bite the bullet and use them in moderation.

What did my students learn? How do I know they learned?

This week I taught a lesson on the collecting data and then graphing it. I could tell that my students remembered how to take a survey because we did it again on Thursday and they knew exactly what to do and why they needed to do things a certain way. I also taught a lesson on silent consonant vowels. I was able to tell if my students understood the what silent consonants words needed because I had them write their answers on a whiteboard and hold it up. I also had them explain why they had decided on a specific letter that they thought was missing from the word and could tell that they were understanding the silent consonant idea.

How did I teach by the spirit and/or model Christ the master teacher?

This week I focused pondering before the lesson and praying for help when preparing my lessons. This week I spent some extra time listening to my students and letting them ask me a few questions about myself. This helped me build a stronger connection and relationship with them. I also listened and was excited for one of the girls who is getting baptized this weekend. I think that when we let people talk to us, that we are like Heavenly Father because He lets us talk to Him about whatever we need to.

What improvements will I make in an effort to be more effective with this specific group or class of students? (My goal for next week)

This coming week I still want to work on being more assertive and my classroom management skills. I also want to keep working on being more animated and smile more even more than I did this week. I also really want to focus on making sure to call on some students who aren't paying attention and ask them questions to get them back on topic. I'm really going also focus on not calling on the same students especially if I call on students randomly and then use popsicle sticks.

What questions have I pondered this week in regards to teaching?

How do I really feel like I understand what's like to be a teacher and see the big picture when I'm only in the classroom for a few hours every week and don't get to see the results and all the routines?