

James Horwat

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CERTIFICATION

Pennsylvania Instructional I: Elementary Education (PK–4)

EDUCATION

Holy Family University, Philadelphia, PA, May 2015

Masters of Education, Early Childhood Education, GPA: 3.8

Kutztown University, Kutztown, PA, May 1999

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Communication Design, GPA: 3.4

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Building Substitute Teacher, *Walter Miller and Pearl S. Buck Elementary Schools, Neshaminy School District; Oct. 2015–Present*

- Teach K–4 elementary school subjects and maintain all classroom instructional duties for lead teachers at two Neshaminy elementary schools on a full-time basis
- Substitute for specials including: Art, Gym, Library, Music and Computers
- Quickly establish clear expectations for behavior and learning, while administering classroom routines
- Write substitute teaching reports detailing what the class did and how the day went, including observations and comments on outstanding/challenging students
- Keep accurate classroom records, mark student's assignments and adhere to lead teacher's lesson plans
- Incorporate SMART Board technology into reading, math and social studies instruction
- Supervise student dismissal, carrying out bus duties and dismissal procedures in an orderly, organized manner
- Take initiative to solve problems and make decisions based on the best interest of the students and school
- Adapt to changes of schedule easily, even with short notice

Substitute Teacher, *Neshaminy, Centennial and Bensalem School Districts; Sept. 2015–Oct. 2015*

- Assumed all duties of lead classroom teacher promptly and in accordance with school policies
- Carefully followed instructions left by lead teacher and consistently upheld classroom procedures
- Provided lead teacher with a thorough summary of classwork completed and noteworthy events

Student Teacher, *Manor Elementary School, Grade 2, Pennsbury School District, Levittown, PA; Spring 2015*

- Created daily lesson plans for spelling, fluency, reading and social studies—integrating shared reading, cooperative, kinesthetic and social learning activities
- Prepared and taught whole group reading lessons for 9 weeks, addressing skills that include: sequencing, visualizing, questioning, comparing and contrasting, making predictions, connections and summarizing text
- Lead three weekly guided reading groups utilizing leveled text
- Designed supplemental enrichment lessons to reinforce reading strategies for finding main ideas
- Collaborated with cooperating teacher to team-teach a math unit on U.S. currency and touch point money
- Utilized games, class surveys and student interviews to informally assess student learning
- Differentiated projects and assessments for an inclusion social studies class
- Created student-centered cooperative learning activity & assessment for a geography lesson entitled 'How to read a map?'
- Substituted for cooperating teacher—maintaining order in the classroom and efficiently executing lesson plans
- Chaperoned students with behavioral issues on a Grade 2 field trip to a nature conservatory

Practicum, *Snyder-Girotti Elementary School, Grade 2, Bristol Borough School District, Bristol, PA; Fall 2014*

- Gained experience on various teaching methods by observing a veteran second grade teacher
- Independently taught a math lesson on place value, incorporating children's literature and artwork to engage the students in a new way
- Tutored small group of low-level learners in spelling using a cooperative learning game
- Observed Pull-Out Level 1 ESL classes for grades K/1, 3 and 4 to better understand the ESL teacher's methods and communicative approach to promoting language acquisition

TEACHING-RELATED EXPERIENCE

MissionOne Classroom Aide, Neshaminy High School, Aug. 2014–Dec. 2014

- Employed scaffolding methods and coaching to assist an 18-year-old student with multiple disabilities, improving his rate of on-task behaviors and his warehouse work efficiency
- Fostered improved communication with a nonverbal 20-year-old student with autism using Proloquo2Go symbol-supported communication app for the iPad
- Collected, logged and assessed student data for daily consultations with special education teacher
- Chaperoned secondary special education students on weekly Community Based Instruction (CBI) field trips

Extended School Year - Instructional Assistant, Bucks County Intermediate Unit; June 2014–Aug. 2014

- Responded sensitively to the needs of a nonverbal 20-year-old student with autism
- Reduced the daily average of aggressive, destructive and non-compliant behaviors of a student with special needs through consistent and efficient use of behavior modification techniques
- Provided a student with special needs supplemental tutoring, exceeding her math IEP goal for recognizing U.S. currency and bill counting

Instructional Assistant, Emerson Elementary, Bristol Township School District; Sept. 2013–June 2014

- Safely, accurately and efficiently performed paraeducator duties consistent with objectives of the Bucks County Intermediate Unit (BCIU)
- Implemented behavioral management, data collection and instructional delivery procedures of the Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) first-grade special education classroom
- Actively engaged in pairing, manding and reinforcement sessions with students with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Level 3 and students with Emotional Behavioral Disability (EBD)
- Taught nonverbal students using Proloquo2Go, PECS and basic sign language
- Provided support and personal care services for a student with multiple disabilities

Enrichment Camp Counselor, Lower Bucks Family YMCA, Fairless Hills, PA; Summer 2013–2015

- Provided guidance and leadership to youth/teens with special needs under the philosophy of YMCA standards and expectations
- Effectively monitored behavior while using appropriate discipline techniques—emphasizing safety and respect for others
- Communicated with parents, co-workers, TSS workers and supervisor regarding incidents involving children's behaviors and learning issues
- Actively assisted with enrichment and recreational activities, including after-program swimming, gym and recess

WORK EXPERIENCE

Graphic Designer, Teva Pharmaceuticals, Vanguard, Westinghouse, Bank of America; 2006–2013

Visual Communications Instructor, Northampton Community College, Lehigh Valley College; 2002–2006

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tutor, 21st Century Afterschool Program, Emerson Elementary; Fall 2013, Spring 2015

- Tutored at-risk youth—providing students with supplementary math and reading strategies
- Monitored first and second graders' independent reading, '100 Book Challenge'

Assistant Artist, Philadelphia Mural Arts Program, Philadelphia, PA; 2010 – 2011

- Selected by master muralist for apprenticeship into 2010 Mural Arts Training Program
- Painted Philadelphia murals on-site with Philadelphia Mural Arts and Restorative Justice program members

SKILLS AND INTERESTS

- Desire to participate in peer mediation programs, fitness and health awareness programs
- Interested in developing and leading a student mural arts club
- Proficient with graphic design software including Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator and QuarkXPress