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ESS 350 Teaching Reflection #3

I taught on October 30th, and for this semester overall it was my third teaching lesson with the kindergartners. I felt the lesson went very well and everything went accordingly to the lesson plan that I had made for it. I actually thought the overall lesson went better than the lesson plan that I had made for that lesson. Everything in class, seemed to be organized and I didn't have any big problems or conflicts throughout the lesson, other than Jaslynn standing around here and there, but other than that it was very good. I thought the lesson kept the kids busy the whole time and I thought I did a lot better job at this, than my previous lessons with this group of kids. There was never a point in time, when I thought the kids were bored with the lesson, I felt it challenged them more than anything, which is what I was trying for. The lesson called for hopping skills, so I reinforced the fundamental locomotor movement of hopping. I actually felt that a lot of the students were worn out with my lesson, just by the looks of their faces after each section in the lesson.

There was a lot of preparation and time that went into this overall lesson. This lesson probably required the most prep time and getting ready early on Thursday, more so than the other two lesson I had already taught. The lesson plan also took quite a bit of time to write and come up with. I feel each lesson plan is taking me a shorter time period to finish it. The hardest thing for this lesson, was that it required a lot of equipment and with me teaching in the racquetball court, I was a little low on overall space to place my equipment. However, I managed to do things a little bit differently and it all worked out just fine for the lesson. Before the lesson started I already had the equipment set up and ready to go, instead of wasting time throughout the lesson and having to place it in the racquetball court. At the end of the lesson, I had the students pick up and take the equipment off the court to the side, before they went to the bathroom. They did an excellent job with that.

I thought my explanation and demonstration was effective enough for the lesson, I felt I explained and demonstrated as well as I could of. I feel with each lesson, I am getting better and better with my demonstration. My students aren't confused any more with my activities, which is an excellent thing to have. However, I kept the demonstrations short and sweet and to the point, because they are kindergartners and first graders. This lesson, after I explained the exercises for them to do, there were less questions asked about what was going on, which gave me the hint that my explanations and demonstrations were a lot better. I felt I did a very good job with this quality in my lesson.

My movement pattern throughout the class was very effective I felt. I moved all throughout the racquetball court with the students during the lesson. I also made sure not to stand in one place for more than ten seconds, so that the students during the lesson were always attentive and keeping their eyes on me as well. During one of the exercises I hopped around with the students trying to tag another students and have them be it. I felt me hopping around with them, got them more involved and it probably helped them focus and learn more as well. My movement pattern for the class was very effective. I handled the classroom management very well this time. One time during the lesson, I had Tyler keep wanting to go the bathroom and Jaslynn for a little while didn't want to do anything, but once I got that whole thing settled out, everything was fine. I didn't have one single student talk while I was talking, which was awesome. This lesson I felt I was in control the whole time, which was definitely a good feeling.

Yes, I thought I gave excellent feedback throughout the lesson to the students. Each time during an exercise, if they weren't pumping their arms while they were hopping, I would correct them and tell them to use their arms more. I thought I did a very good on giving appropriate feedback during the appropriate time. At their age level, it is hard to give feedback, mainly because they are not attentive enough to pay attention and correct what was wrong. But overall it was very good.

During my lesson I really didn't have any safety concerns for certain activities or exercises that I was planning to do. The only concern I had was that when we were doing our fitness activities I thought many of the kids would accidentally bear crawl into the glass or frog hop into the wall. To help solve this, I emphasized a lot that they needed to hop under control and maintain their own personal space as well. I didn't have any problems with it throughout the lesson at all, which was very positive.

I know that learning took place, because for the assessment many of the students displayed the correct form when hopping around the court area. Many of the students were also able to make five continuous hops throughout the hoops without touching them. Many of the students I felt improved from the first time they hopped when they did the TMGD. Just by looking many of students's forms were better, especially after I gave them feedback as well. I felt that they improved a lot, especially the three girls in my group.

√ If I could re-teach this lesson, I would had decreased the time of the other activities and increased the overall time of the game activity. By doing that, It would had given me more time to explain the game and for the students to work on their hopping also. Overall the whole lesson, went the way I wanted it to go and I was very pleased on how the children responded to it and how well they participated also.