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Classroom Management

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Professional Development Reflection

During the first few days of school, I was fortunate enough to be able to attend a professional development day at Deer Ridge Elementary, the school where my student teaching placement will take place. All of the teachers in the school and myself listened to a woman speak on the new language arts program that Deer Ridge recently adopted. We were at the workshop for a total of eight hours while learning about appropriate activities we could do with the students, demonstrating the new materials, and working in groups to develop our own activities. I felt that the day was extremely beneficial because I was learning new techniques right along with my future evaluators and I was able to hear their views on the program.

The professional development workshop that I attended impacted my views on classroom management by allowing me to visualize how the language arts instruction will look while I am student teaching. This visualization has helped me to form a couple of new goals pertaining to classroom management. The new program encourages teachers to do a lot of shared reading activities and very little silent reading time. Being able to read to the class, manage their behavior, and maintain involvement will be a challenge. I also will be expected to use all of the supplemental material that came with the new program. I feel fortunate to have been able to go to the day when all of the teachers were learning about the program but I still feel as though I will be behind on

how to use everything. Hopefully I will be able to catch up while observing my teacher this semester. Therefore, my challenge will be knowing exactly what to do with the material while keeping control of the classroom if I do struggle with something.

Maintaining a positive shared reading environment and understanding the new language arts program will be my two main goals while student teaching and implementing the program.