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May 5, 2011

EDUC 130

Professor Eastman

Field Experience Reflection

When I did my field experience, I did mine at an elementary school in Logansport, Indiana. The name of the school was Landis Elementary school, and it happens to be the elementary school I attended when I was younger so that made my time there that much more special. The teacher that I observed was a graduate from Ball State University and was actually my kindergarten teacher when I was there and I happened to be her first year of teaching when I had her, her name is Mrs. Walker and she is the perfect kindergarten teacher. She was very interactive with all of the students. She was very energetic and always had the kids doing activities so there was not much down time for students to mess around and get in trouble.

Mrs. Walker's room was laid out perfectly for a kindergarten classroom. When u walked in the door the first thing facing you right when you walked in the classroom was the teachers desk, this was so the teacher could observe who was walking in and out of the classroom. Then if you turned to you left there was a walk way back to the student's lockers for their jackets and their cubbies to put finished work in so students could take it home. Then at the end of that walk way on the wall was the daily calendar and the morning board, hear they would count down how many days of school there was, and also what the date was. If you were looking at the calendar then looked to you right that would be the front of the classroom looking a crossed to the other

wall, so you would turn to you right and be facing all of the desk and behind you would be the black board. From here on you right would be the word wall on the back side of the cubbies and lockers. Still facing the students you would look to you left and there where rhyming words, colors and numbers on that wall. Looking straight back to the classroom there was another balk board and in front of the black board was a computer for kids to get on and taking reading comprehension quizzes over books they have read. Their where cabinets under the wall with rhyming words and under the word wall as well. There was plenty of room on the floor as well with bean bags so students could get out of their seat and sit comfortable and do their reading or other activates like that.

When I was at Landis Elementary School I had a lot of interactions with both students and parents I also got to experience ways to handle certain situations. Some of the things that I got to do was give students spelling test and vocabulary test that were absent or sick the days before I was there. I got to read books to students during reading time. I got to take kids in the hall ways to special like gym, art, and music. I got to do calendar with the students one morning. The best thing I got to do by far was I got to teach my own lesson to the whole classroom and it made me feel like I could do anything after I was done teaching it, I thought that I could teach anyone anything they wanted to know I felt that good. I observed her doing some of the things that I described early before I did them just to get the feel for it, but after I saw her do them I was confident I could do them. I got to see her have a conference with a parent before class one time and I learned a lot about how to speak to parents about their children so you don't defend them when you say something that maybe is not the best about their child. I got to see her discipline plan. She did it like the stop lights. You started out on the green light, then if you got in trouble a

little bit you would move down to yellow then if you behavior worsened you would move down to the red light.

I feel like I was really good with working with the children and I loved helping them whenever they needed it. I loved working with my teacher and also meeting the other staff they were very friendly and helped me with anything that I needed. I felt like they welcomed me as an up and coming teacher. Some of my struggles are still punishing students, it going to be hard for me to judge on how hard I should punish them and for what problems I should punish them for. I will also have struggles working with parents when I watched Mrs. Walker talk to that parent in the conference before class one day it seemed very difficult to break the bad news to the parent without them getting upset at you or the child, and I feel like that will be hard for me to do.

There are a lot of things I need to be able to do before become the teacher that I want to be, and to be able to develop the children into the little learners I want them to be. I need to be able to make better lesson plans, I think this will start getting better when I start making more but right now I struggle in making good lesson plans. I am going to work on developing ways to talk to parents without upsetting them. I have with the children all the time just make sure I don't have too much fun to where the children are not learning. I also need to work on my teacher student hand writing so I need to be able to write on a black board and a dry erase board a lot better so the students can read it.

This field experience taught me a lot and I had a lot of fun. The students had fun with me and I got along with my teacher very well. The children where sad to see me go but I have visited them since. I learned so much just from the 12 hours I was there and was very happy that I had the experience that I did with this class I am going to miss them and teaching already.