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Education 348
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December 7, 2011

Interdisciplinary Unit Plan Reflection

My interdisciplinary unit plan was on the topic of teamwork. My group felt that teamwork was an essential skill, especially for middle school students, to learn and understand. Middle school is a hard time for many students, and we felt that if they learned how to work together, they would have an easier time in school. For my unit plan, I focused on building writing skills and having my students go through the process of writing a paper. They had to come up with examples of how teamwork has helped them achieve something in their life and why they felt teamwork was an important concept. During this unit, they learned how to organize their ideas and brainstorming, the importance of outlining a paper, how to have colorful sentences and words in their paper and the importance of editing through peer editing. I think teamwork was a good theme because it can be so versatile and can fit into our many different content areas. Teamwork can fit well into the writing process because students can get help from their peers during the brainstorming stage and the editing stage. I feel that my group worked very well together and that we had a very successful time writing our unit plans.

I think team teaching can be very beneficial, especially in middle school. In middle school, students are making the transition from elementary into a more difficult environment. They are learning how to be responsible for themselves and are having more freedoms during their school day. Even though they are gaining some independence, it is still important that they have guidance because they are going through a strange time in their life. I think teams in middle school are beneficial for students and teachers. Teachers can collaborate together and work to help their students. Teachers are helping their students transition out of the elementary

mindset, and by being in teams, can work together to help make their students successful. I think my team worked very well together. We came up with our theme and helped each other come up with different ideas for our different units. I think an important part of the team process is making sure the lines of communication are always open. It was hard to be able to communicate with each other outside of class, but once we were in class we were always there for each other to give ideas and tips.

I think we all contributed to the team in many different ways. I think that my job in the team was to answer questions that my other team-mates encountered. Many times, my team members would come to me with a question or concern, and I would try to help them as much as possible. We tried to help each other as much as possible and to be motivators for each other. I think we worked very well together in that aspect. We were not afraid to bounce ideas back and forth to each other and to help a team mate find a solution, even if it was not in our content area.

I think this project was very beneficial for this class. Writing lessons for middle school is different from writing high school lesson plans, and I have always had the high school mindset. It was useful to write lesson plans for middle school students. I also find that it was helpful to learn how to collaborate with one another and work in teams to accomplish a unit. I think a unit is much easier to write than separate lessons because it is easier to have a flow and consistency in a unit plan rather than one lesson at a time. Overall, I found this project beneficial for this class and I had a positive experience with it.