

SRU Lesson Observation Report 4

Supervisor: Dr. Geraldine C. Jenny
Student Teacher: Jessica Hynek

Date: March 20, 2015

Framework for Teaching Domains:

- I. Planning, Preparation & Assessment
- II. Classroom Environment
- III. Instruction & Communication
- IV. Professional Responsibility

I. Jessica came back from Campus Day to her second placement and jumped right in! She has effectively transitioned to a First Grade classroom. I was able to observe a brief lesson during this first week. She read an Irish story in conjunction with her Read Aloud. During the story she asked appropriate comprehension, prediction and assessment questions to clarify meaning and assess student understanding. The lesson successfully integrated Language Arts, Art, and even creative movement (i.e. "tremble"). She patiently guided instruction. Her students were on task and Jessica carefully assessed lesson objectives through various means. Jessica demonstrated that she was well prepared to teach her lesson today. She is patient and pleasant in her demeanor with students. She is experiencing different challenges with a variety of learning needs in this classroom which will contribute to her professional growth.

II. The classroom environment is warm and respectful as well as conducive to learning. A calm and welcoming class climate pervaded. She maintained good classroom management while providing guidance and spoke with authority when she talked to her student. Her behavior management skills are increasing and I am confident she will be more assertive with misbehavior. *Do utilize pre-correction prompts to prevent misbehavior before it occurs. I applaud the comprehension questions that you asked and multiple assessment techniques. The lesson was quite interactive. She is earning the respect of the children. Her student was actively engaged in the lesson and they have an excellent rapport. Jessica is being empowered by her cooperating teacher in lesson planning by offering her choices in lesson design that spark creativity.

III. Jessica has a gentle and pleasant demeanor and demonstrates appropriate enthusiasm. Clearly, her heart is in the classroom, both in traditional and in Special Education. Verbal and non-verbal reinforcement was given as positive reinforcement for correct responses. Jessica is encouraged to carefully enunciate sounds for the student to emulate. We discussed the importance of correct grammar and clear articulation (i.e. "ing" words). Continue to aid students as needed during instruction and ask motivating questions in lessons. The key is knowing the material well and having excellent creative expression. Lessons should have logical scope and sequence and continually collaborate with your teacher. If you get lessons in early you will have time to dialogue and make any adjustments that need to be made. Continue to stop in appropriate places to ask higher order thinking questions of the students. Use informal assessment by asking questions such as: "Do you agree?" "Why can't it be this answer?" Affirm

all responses and gently redirect incorrect responses. Students may be asked to make inferences in higher order thinking provocation. Keep vocal tones well-modulated and continue to demonstrate an appropriate level of enthusiasm. You have a warm and natural demeanor with children and keep striving to make personal connections. Continue to work patiently with children and aim to get and maintain their attention by asking frequent comprehension questions as you provide further focus questions to motivate student learning. Continue to ask open-ended questions that prompt critical thinking and piggyback on lower order thinking questions.

IV. We discussed the Job Fair and Action Research in our post-teaching conference. Jessica is communicating well with her cooperating teacher and has accepted her professional responsibilities in a timely manner. We will review her Progress Evaluation Form and self-evaluation on my next visit, April 14. She is to use her first evaluation to denote progress since that time. She is striving to earn top ratings in all categories and deserves to be commended for her hard work and dedication to all students and their learning. She is urged to keep it up! Jessica is thriving in this placement. I am confident that this placement will be beneficial to all involved and an aid to bolster student learning.

* My next visit is April 14th. I will review Jessica's self-assessment (yellow form) which we can use as her Interim Evaluation at that time. Jessica should print two copies from the Student Teacher handbook and self-assess while Mr. Ford writes his Interim Evaluation of her performance independently. The orange form is not required.

Should either of you have any questions or concerns, I am at your service!

Sincerely,

Dr. Gerri Jenny Geraldine.Jenny@sru.edu