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READ 532 Reading in the Content Fields

Summer 2021

 This class was truly the nuts and bolts of reading and writing instruction. After taking this class it has helped me grow and provide better reading instruction for my students. I want to always be self-reflecting and making sure I’m using the best practices that meet my student’s needs. Through this class, I was able to reflect after every chapter about teaching strategies.

 As the world is changing so are the requirements for what students need to learn and it is more intense. With careers requiring high levels of literacy, it is so important for reading instruction to get students ready for the real world so they can succeed. My ultimate goal when teaching is to help students to be productive adults when they are working. Along with all the changes in the world, technology is a big part. Many of the books students read are all online; this can bring positive and negative changes for students. They need to be taught how to navigate online textbooks and other materials.

 A strategy that I want to bring into my classroom more is whole class discussion. When doing this, I will provide students enough think time and then have them share out loud. I think this gives students great opportunities if they are lost with some parts of the reading to ask questions and hear from others to fully understand what’s going on and listen to other perspectives. When doing this, the class needs to have a positive culture so students can be open with one another.

 I got many strategies from the book when it comes to vocabulary. I utilize context clues including definition, description, and contrast. The more exciting we can make learning new vocabulary, the more positive connections students can make with the new words. After taking this class, I had found the strategy TOAST-test, organize, anchor, say and test; these are more strategies that have been brought to my classroom. Throughout the chapters, there were so many great strategies that it was hard to pick. I get so excited talking about them because they have brought so many new and creative ways for learning in my classroom. My students have responded extremely well to them and have enjoyed the new learning opportunities.

 I am so grateful for taking this class as I have gained so many new resources to use in my classroom. It has made teaching and learning for my students fun. I can’t wait to continue to bring new ideas to the classroom.