

- What did students learn (really take away from your lesson)?

The take away from my lesson was that collaboration is essential in our everyday lives. Students went through various scenarios throughout the lesson to talk about and discuss things that we could do that could qualify as collaboration and things that are nonexamples of collaboration. It was an over really fun lesson.

The students got really engaged in it because they started talking about what they do or have done in certain situations that were tricky or frustrating. We talked about feelings too. We talk about how it makes us feel when we have an idea that we are excited about, but no one listens to it or shuts it down. The students talked with each other about that if someone shuts our ideas down and it makes us feel bad, then we don't ever want to make someone else feel that way.

Another portion of my lesson consisted of vocabulary. This is a part that the kids love because every lesson that I was able to teach with vocabulary (every Tuesday) I would make up a fun game or way to go about it. During this lesson we would talk about the word that we were on. And then we would go around the circle and then would each answer a question with the vocabulary word in it that I had made up prior to the lesson. For example, the word imagination. We would talk about the word and use it in a sentence. Then I said, what is in your crazy imagination. Answers varied with unicorns, food, pizza, etc. I think the students were about to really take these vocabulary words with them after the lesson because we went over them multiple times and they had to use their own minds to come up with an answer to specific questions. It was really engaging for them!

- What would you change or do differently if/when you do the lesson again?

If I could do the lesson over again I think I would have the students work to make up their own stories of collaboration. All of the LA lessons and Math lessons were in small groups of 6-7 students. My mentor has stations for students to work in for these two subjects. The classroom is structured with me teaching the Wonders lesson, the teacher taking a writing portion pulling from the information that the students had just learned in my lesson, a para or volunteer at another station doing a craft or working on vocabulary of the week, and then the last station the students work on the ALEXIA on the computers. So overall, ideally I would do a whole class instruction of this lesson. I would have them have their own grammar and vocabulary journals. As a class, we would be writing the words from the wonders book in our journals with a sample sentence.

We would then read the story. We would about what we all thought about it. I would still ask those engaging questions as to what would our world look like without collaboration or working together. The students would then be partnered up and have to COLLABORATE on their own to make up a story like “Soccer Work” of two people that can be themselves or others working together to achieve a certain goal. We could make this a journal entry or a bigger project by doing a rough and final draft and publishing it up in the classroom. Overall, I think that it was a fun lesson with the limitations that I had!