

Edit An School Observation

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Classroom Observations #1

School: Soehl Middle School

Date: 2/10/2014 - 3/17/2014

Grade level: 7, 6

Subject: Science Class

Teacher: Ms.Terwilliger

Class size 20/21

Lessons:

Mirrors, Color, and Light - Secret message - weather and water condensation point

On day 10 (Mirrors, Color, and Light) Mirrors, Color, and Light is an instructional module comprised of 24 classroom investigations. The science content of the module focuses on reflection, refraction, and simple color.

Phenomena:

On day 24 (Discover what colored filters do to light).

The focus of this project is to find out more on the principle of using different colored filters and they effect to light. White light is made up of seven different colors but which are not seen unless they are passed through colored filters.

Colors are formed by the reflection of light through the filters. The black color is created by absorption of light. The best way through which students can learn the relationship

between colors and light is by simple scientific projects. This will require them to set up experiment that will involve light and filters which split light rays.

On day 17 (weather and water power point)

Water condensation is the main concept in this sub topic. In order to explain how this happens, a glass is filled with ice and the students are asked to record what they observe. After some time, tiny water beads are seen to form outside the glass. Due to temperature changes, the ice in the glass will reduce the temperature of the air immediate to the glass and this will be the reason for formation of water beads.

Response of the students:

It was commendable that the students did not misbehave during the activities. They showed a lot of enthusiasm and teamwork in the way they carried out the experiments. The students were motivated and this led to the success of the events that were carried out in classes.

Physical Environment:

The teacher is the first component that makes up the physical environment in a learning setting. A well-organized teacher means that the students will have proper guidance and consequently good performance. The classroom was safe with the walls having posters that were informative to the learners. Past projects conducted by students were also put up on the walls and this made the environment very conducive.

Teacher:

She was sympathetic and helped those learners that had problems comprehending on the activities that they were doing in class. There was a lot of passion in the way that she did her work and this was encouraging to the students. The positive feedback that she gave was a reflection of the relationship she had with her students.

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Classroom Observations #2

School: Soehl Middle School

Date: February 10/2014

Grade level: 6

Subject: Science Class

Teacher: Mrs. Blizniak

Class size 21

Lesson:

Mass measuring - The science content focuses on mass measuring of ice converted into water. For this project the students were able to use a balance to measure the mass volume of the ice followed by a lab journey. In this journey students were supposed to write down the results they get from the experiment. Also, the students were able to use their computer to do their homework based on the project they did and what they learned in class from their peers.

Response of the students:

Students worked in groups and this showed improvement in terms of performance. The students also conducted themselves in an orderly manner by raising hands before they answered any question or ask for clarification. Provided instructions were keenly followed hence the right results obtained at the end of the projects. There was no misbehaving at all throughout the period of study.

Physical environment:

The environment was healthy as the projects were carried out in an orderly manner and the students were not exposed to any unnecessary dangers. The students were well arranged and carried out the activities without much difficulties. There were posters on the walls showing the way the students should carry out the various activities.

Teacher:

The professor was very kind to her students and helped them during the lab project. She elaborated on any concept that the students did not get so that they fully understand what she is teaching.

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### Classroom Observations #3

School: Soehl Middle School

Date: February 10/2014 -17/2014

Grade level: 7,6

Subject: Science Class

Teacher: Mrs. Bongiovi

Class size 20/21

#### Lesson:

First day visit - since students had an exam on that day, their focus was on exams only. The test was about angles, measurements and students managed to obtain good grades.

#### On March 17 (Measurements and Angles)

Working in groups, the students were supposed to collect data on the precision of how heavy objects were measured. The data was being entered in a piece of paper that was made in form of a chart. Use of tools like pencils, rulers and tapes was aimed at having the best

results. The professor played a very important role of explaining on how each tool was supposed to be used.

Response of the students:

The students were very cooperative. After the teacher explained to them how to carry out the activities, they seemed to be informed and with a vast understanding of the subject. The groups were efficient in terms of data collection and overall performance of the learners. A positive attitude was also evident in the students as they never showed any sign of giving up.

Physical environment:

The classroom was well prepared with many posters of past works on the walls. This reminded the students of past activities and their importance. The emergency door was a crucial feature as it ensured safety for the learners. In case of an emergency, the learners could easily find a way out to safety.

Teacher:

The teacher was supportive in most of her teaching but I did not like the way she raised her voice when she was angry. Anger management is an important skill in teaching. There are better ways of managing her anger so that it does not negatively impact the

performance of the students. On the positive side, the teacher was helpful in asking her learners about previous lectures so that they may remind themselves of what they are supposed to do.