



Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Sue Parrish

SCHOOL: Garrison Middle School

GRADE: 7th Grade

SUBJECT: Science

Q. What content areas are your students learning?

A. We've been learning how infectious diseases spread throughout a community. We have been learning there are carriers and vectors and about specific diseases throughout history that have caused a lot of problems.

Q. Explain a strategy you use to help students learn.

A. Rolling review: Students roll dice and then answer the question that matches the number. They work in cooperative groups and have meaningful discussions.

Q. How do you connect with students?

A. You need to try your best to establish a relationship. I'm very welcoming and I get around a lot to meet with each student individually. I give them a lot of positive feedback and try to make learning science fun and as hands-on as possible.

Q. What technology do you use to help students learn?

A. I'm very lucky to have a document camera so I can show them actual examples from their science notebooks for their notebooking skills. I also show them their data sheets and graphs. I can give them more visuals to help them learn.

COMMENTS FROM PRINCIPAL GINA YONTS:

"She loves kids and is always looking for opportunities to make learning pertinent to their world and connections to the outside community.

I think she is a big middle school kid. There are always the big smiles and excitement and elevation of voice. She is the kind of middle school teacher you wish you could Xerox and have 40 around the building. She is just great."

Over →

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM SUE PARRISH'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM SUE PARRISH:

"We have had to become very intentional with our teaching. We have to make sure they understand the scientific investigation process. They make a hypothesis and a prediction. We have to make sure they are doing this often and then gather data throughout the year to see how the kids are doing on reaching the goal."

COMMENTS:

"What I love about middle school students is they are so excitable about content. They have a ton of energy that challenges me to channel it in the correct way."
Sue Parrish



COMMENTS:

Students review for a test using a word match strategy. Student Brady Bruton (R) says he likes being able to work as a team to solve problems.
"It's a lot easier because even if three of us don't know the answer, one might and then we can discuss it."