



Amy Hartford

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Amy Hartford

SCHOOL: Blue Ridge Elementary

GRADE: 5th Grade

Q. What were your students learning during this classroom visit?

A. We are working on a Guided Language Acquisition Development (GLAD) history unit starting from early civilization up to the Revolutionary War. We were discovering the difference between the Continental and British soldiers' uniforms to see if one style gave them an advantage.

Q. What is the GLAD instructional model you are using in your classroom?

A. GLAD is a model of professional development in the area of language acquisition and literacy. The strategies promote English language acquisition.

Q. Why have GLAD strategies been successful?

A. It's an approach to keep language alive with visuals and hands-on activities.

Q. Explain what chants are and why they help children learn?

A. Chants, which are also referred to as poetry frames, are a opportunity to use and learn new vocabulary on any given topic in a non-threatening way. Students enjoy singing chants so it helps makes learning fun.

Q. Why do you place students in small group seating arrangements?

A. It contributes to oral language. I can go around and listen and monitor where the children are with learning the objective. If someone is struggling they can learn from one another.

COMMENTS FROM BLUE RIDGE PRINCIPAL CONNIE TAYLOR-RANDALL:

"Amy has been a district and building leader in writing. She also has a deep commitment to her students and has been trained in Guided Language Acquisition and Development to assist her students in making good connections to their learning."

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MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM AMY HARTFORD'S CLASS:



COMMENTS: FROM AMY HARTFORD

"Most of the Blue Ridge staff have been through the GLAD training. This model sets high expectations for vocabulary, written work and integrated units throughout the school. If you ask the students they will tell you it's making a positive difference."

Reflecting on working in groups:

"It's more fun doing work together and it's easier. You can learn faster and remember more things."

Itzeli Rodriguez (R)



COMMENTS FROM AMY:

"We talk a lot about what good behavior looks like and sounds like. We have rules and standards in our building that rewards students for following them."