



Vicki Shafer

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Vicki Shafer

SCHOOL: Homelink (located at Berney)

GRADES: 1-8

CLASS: Art Class

Q. Explain how the Homelink Art Program works.

A. I meet with students in grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 7-8 twice a week for one hour. We have about 12 students per class. (Homelink consists of: Art, Science, PE, Writing)

Q. What type of art do students learn in the Homelink Art Class?

A. We do many different mediums. We work with paint, texture, color and collage. We are now working on a sculpture and do a lot of drawing.

Q. Have you had to change your teaching strategies for Homelink? (Vicki has taught for nearly 20 years in public and private school settings)

A. My approach to teaching is always changing, or being tweaked so I can continually make improvements on engaging students. With Homelink children the behavior management piece isn't as pronounced as in larger classrooms.

Q. How do you manage parent communications in the Homelink program?

A. We have a great deal more communication with parents on a face-to-face basis, and monthly emails to keep in touch with what is going on at home.

COMMENTS FROM HOMELINK PRINCIPAL DAVID TALLEY:

"Vicki has a passion for teaching art and it comes across every day in her classroom. She is very creative and students love the hands on activities that Vicki plans for them.

Art is a favorite of the Homelink students and their families. This year Vicki has also offered after school classes to students outside of Homelink and they have been filled to capacity as well."

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MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
VICKI SHAFER'S CLASS:



COMMENTS: FROM VICKI SHAFER...

Art is essential because it allows the child to use an entirely different part of their being than they use in other classes. They use their imagination and intuition. Art brings another thought process to the work they do and they learn more about their world."

"We are learning about Alberto Giacometti and his approach to sculpture. He really affected the art world after WWII. His sculptures give a sense of aloneness and isolation."



Comments: Rex Owens (L)

"Homelink art class is fun. I like art because it expresses my feelings and I love creating things with my hands. We do weaving and work with clay and do a lot of painting."