



# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Lucy Gregoire

SCHOOL: Green Park Elementary

Position: 2nd Grade Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 15 years

Q. What projects are your students working on in their science unit?

A. We are studying soils. I ask my students why we are taking valuable class time to learn about soils. Then we do investigations to discover why it's important to learn more about soils.

Q. What are some of the investigations your students do to make these discoveries?

A. We take three different types of soil and study their characteristics. We're looking at them and touching them to make this a hands-on learning project. We use water to see how the different types of soil react to water. We also have made compost bins, complete with worms, to see how soils break down.

Q. Why do you place students in pairs to complete their investigations?

A. When you hear a question someone else has, it gets you thinking about the answer too. The buddy system also helps with following directions and sequencing.

I have strengths my partners might not have and they have strengths that I might need, so it's a coordinated effort. They figure out how to make it work so both students feel good about it.

Q. What did your years working in preschool teach you about working with children?

A. Relationships are completely vital to teaching. It's so important for our students to feel comfortable.

I try to have a lot of hands on experiences for my students so they are in control of their own learning and know what is expected of them. They need to have goals and the necessary support along the way to help them reach their goals. It's the same no matter what the ages of the students.

Over

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
LUCY GREGOIRE'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM LUCY...

We look closely where each child is at when they come to us. We study their individual needs. It's a matter of building on their strengths. There is not an opportunity to over look someone because we look at everyone.

We make sure the students know what we are working on and why we are working on it. This helps with parent communications as well.



We provide parents with questions for discussions with their children at home. This allows the students to explain to their parents the work they are doing at school.