



Michelle Carpenter

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Michelle Carpenter

SCHOOL: Green Park Elementary

Position: 5th Grade Teacher

Years in District: 8 years

Q. What skills are your students learning through your state reports project?

A. They have created maps and brochures and will have complete, typed reports on the states when they are finished. They have used encyclopedias, Google and have written to their states to conduct their research.

Students can tell you about the state bird, the flag, the population and the climate. You name it, they know it!

Q. Why is this information important for your students?

A. These students are learning there actually is a world outside of this classroom and Walla Walla. They are learning about different parts of the United States and they are being inspired to visit other places.

Q. How do your students communicate their state reports to other students?

A. They share their brochures and maps with the students. They edit the reports at their table groups so the other students participate in this process. When they are finished with reports, they will do a two minute presentation to the entire class on the highlights of their reports.

Q. How will these skills help in their other subjects.

A. In addition to the research skills they are developing, this project goes hand-in-hand with the Social Studies content my partner teacher is working on in relation to the Revolutionary War. They receive background from a global perspective, as well as detailed information on the particular states.

Q. How has the equipment you received from the Technology grant helped?

A. The interactive board really engages students in the work we are doing. It's exciting to see so much student participation in everything we do.

Over

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
MICHELLE CARPENTER'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM MICHELLE..

My students see me using technology so it makes them not afraid to use it. They see it is a real tool for learning, not just a game they play.

It's important for students to watch me edit their papers. It teaches them how to edit and stresses the importance of proof reading their papers.



Many of our students do not have technology available to them in their homes, so we work hard to make sure they have access to technology so they can develop their skills.