



Jennifer Holbrook

Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Jennifer Holbrook

SCHOOL: Berney Elementary

Position: 2nd Grade Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 10 years

Q. What are you working on early in the school year with your students?

A. Routine, routine, routine. It's important early in the school year to re-establish routines and refresh the students on what they learned in first grade. We also do a lot of review to find out where their skill levels are at as they begin the year.

Q. How does your grade level team support you?

A. We have an outstanding 2nd grade team at Berney. We are constantly collaborating and striving to find ways to improve. We look at student data and instructional practices. We team on lesson development and activities.

Q. Why do you have the students paint their self portraits?

A. I love the self portrait activity. I learned this from Gail Callahan when I was doing my student teaching at Blue Ridge. The students get a sense of who they are as a student. When we are all finished we hang them on the wall and we are a complete class.

The students get to see their self portraits every day and see that they are a part of the class. The parents also like to see their child's portrait on the wall when they come in to visit.

Q. What are your goals for the students this year?

A. Ultimately we want all students to meet all of the second grade standards by the end of the year. We have worked really hard on aligning our math standards with our curriculum and instruction. We have also put a lot of focus on reading and writing. The growth we will see during the school year is phenomenal. We want to make sure all the students are ready to move on to the third grade standards.

Over

MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM
JENNIFER HOLBROOK'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM JENNIFER...

If kids feel successful in their younger years it sets a precedent for all their years in school. If they don't like school or don't feel successful, it's hard for them. We try to take a positive approach with a lot of affirmations to build their confidence and self esteem.

Parent involvement is very important. I have parents sign up to volunteer in the classroom. I also have an activity calendar so they can plan for events.



We have a great school culture at Berney. My grade level team works together for what is best for children. We all want to do whatever we can for our students to be successful.