



Darlene Greenwood

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Darlene Greenwood

SCHOOL: Prospect Point Elementary

Position: Kindergarten Teacher

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 25 years

Q. What are your focus areas to start the year?

A. It is really important to develop routines and help students learn to get along with each other. The biggest aspect of kindergarten is the socialization. I use visuals to establish routines and we have a token program at Prospect Point to provide incentives for students to get along.

Q. What are some of the benefits of teaching in an all day Kindergarten program?

A. All day kindergarten allow us to address all of the common standards. The standards are extensive. There are many requirements to meet and this extra time affords us the ability to do our job. It allows students to have time for other activities such as music, PE and Math Wiz.

Q. How do you connect with families?

A. We always have a few parents who cry at the beginning of the year, but we do everything we can to reassure them that it will be okay and to trust us with their children. When they pick up their children and see they have had a great day, parents begin to realize their children are in good hands. The staggered start also helps by allowing us to meet one-on-one with the parent and child. We are able to assess, obtain medical history, learn how they will get home and other important information of which we should be aware.

Q. Why is it critical to collaborate with your fellow educators?

A. The kindergarten team meets with our LAP coordinator, Brenda Prins, to help us identify and test students. We put our information in to the OASIS system which provides us data and other information about the student. We are then able to "ability group" the students which enable us to teach students together at their appropriate level.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
DARLENE'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM DARLENE...

My husband Richard is the Walla Walla County Coroner. We have three children. Riley is an Engineer for Nelson Irrigation, Jared is at Central Washington University to be a teacher and Kendra is in Spokane studying to be a nurse.

I grew up in Everett and attended Everett High School. I went to Western Washington University to become a special education teacher.



After 20 years working in Special Education, I decided it was time to be in a general education classroom. I love teaching kindergarten and watching my students develop skills and confidence.