



Carrie LaRoy

# Walla Walla Public Schools Classroom Close-Up



TEACHER NAME: Carrie LaRoy

SCHOOL: Edison Elementary School

Position: Library Media Specialist

YEARS IN DISTRICT: 2 years

Q. How does the library class at Edison Elementary School support students?

A. I see all classes at the school once a week for 30 minutes. Currently our 4th and 5th grade students are doing the Battle of the Books program. Each week they read a picture book that has been nominated for the Washington's Choice Children's Picture Book Award. Students write summary pages on these books.

Q. How do you manage to develop relationships with every student?

A. It is hard. I have to keep track of 502 students! But, I love it. I see them in the hallways and all over campus. I love working with all of them.

Q. How do you vary the curriculum for K-5 grades?

A. Kindergarten students are learning to be library citizens. They learn to sit and listen to a story and then talk about it. We do a lot of songs with the kindergartners. I mix up the activities about every 10 minutes due to their age level. The older students have more opportunities for independent reading. They do more writing because I put a lot of emphasis on writing in this class.

Q. How is the library transforming into the electronic age?

A. We are just delving into e-books and digital books. At our staff meeting this month I plan to show teachers a couple of collections of digital books that we recently received for our library. It is still hard for some of our students because they don't have computers in the home. It is still important to have a physical book to take home. There is still something magical about searching a library shelf, especially for our younger students who want to see a picture book and hold it in their hands.

Q. How do you make the library the hub of the school?

A. I try to make it a warm and inviting place. I think the library should be fun and magical and a place where students feel welcome.

Over



MOMENTS & MEMORIES FROM  
CARRIE'S CLASS:



COMMENTS FROM CARRIE.

We use a lot of GLAD strategies and try to be aware of having all of the materials translated, including instructions and work sheets. I have a lot of signs in both Spanish and English. Every section of our library has Spanish books and we teach the students where to find them.

I grew up in Longview, Washington and attended Western Washington University for my undergraduate degree. I received my Master's in Teaching from WSU Tri-Cities.



After college, I worked in the Seattle area in sales. I discovered I wanted to work with children and become a teacher. I have a four-year-old daughter and a 10-month-old son. My husband Matt is in the wine business.