

Insitu: Gordon Terrace

Action Plan

- Next time I would pair student's up with like-interests
- I would implement a buddy system to have students complete this with an older grade
- I would set out expectations of respectful teamwork and computer use prior to students getting their laptops.
- I would also edit the age of the class on the epic website so that the books they find are suitable for their ability
- Lastly, I would send a notice home to parents about the website we discovered with the students today and encourage the use of it at home.

Conclusion

Looking back I could have been more assertive when the students were not sharing well. I also could have done more research into books that I thought would be good so that I would have suggestions ready for the students. I think it would of also been beneficial for me to set out guidelines for using the lap top. This way students would know what is ok to do and not to do.

Analysis

All in all I believe the experience went well because of the high ratio of helpers to students. I also feel that having a class about the epic website before going in to help students set me up for success to be able to help. Because technology is such a privilege for students to use in class I believe this created a space for the students to get so excited that they at times forgot about their voice levels and respect to others.

Epic Books! Gibbs' Reflective Learning Cycle

What Happened?

I am grateful that myself and classmates had the opportunity today to go into a grade 1/2 classroom at Gordon Terrace. Here I was able to help two boys learn how to use the website epic books! I also had a tour of the school, and learned about Makerspaces.

Feelings:

I went into the experience very nervous of what to expect; however, looking back now and it makes me so excited that this will be my future, working with students daily. I am nervous of how quickly technology is changing but of the incredible resources and opportunities that it brings into schools.

Evaluation

PROS: Having a briefing with David Martin really reduced my anxiety with the future hiring process. He was very open to helping us with any questions we might have not only about technology but also about teaching in general. Also touring the school, I learned a lot about different ways to set up a classroom. Another positive part of today was seeing how well the points and quizzes at the end of each book helped motivate the kids to read.

CONS: Noise levels in the classroom, preventing the ability to use the audio book or read to me options. I found it difficult having two students with very different book interests to share one computer. I felt I had to mediate a lot to keep them on task and learning. I also found it difficult to explore the website in such a short amount of time. I would worry if I was one teacher to such a large student ratio, if I would be able to help every student understand epic in such a short period of time. I think doing this with an older class would help immensely with a buddy system.