

Kindergarten ELA Farms
Materials Interview

Interviewer: Please describe the instructional materials you are using for this lesson.

Teacher: Aside from using the framework of the Wonders English language acquisition program, I am going to be using the Alias. Maybe not so much today that I am going to be using real crops from the farm but tomorrow I am going to be using real crops from the farm. I am also going to be using plastic items that look like the actual fruit. We also look at pictures, whether it be real pictures that I downloaded from the Google Images or even pictures, like on the internet. Just various ways of using different materials.

Likewise, like I said, I am going to be using a lot of pictures. A lot of teacher-made materials are going to be used not only for the lesson but for the labs too. The materials that I know that they will be interested in and it is really something that is of interest to them.

Interviewer: Why did you consider choosing these materials?

Teacher: I chose these developmentally-appropriate materials to support a variety of child development domains; the creative, the emotional personal, the cognitive
[00:02:00] interpersonal, science, physical language literacy. Like I said earlier in the other interview, I like to address learning in various ways because it fits. I am sure you know, there is not enough time during the day. If we can address various disciplines at the same time, then it kills two birds with one stone kind of thing.

Interviewer: What is it that you like about these materials?

Teacher: In the learning labs, the materials and activities provide structure in conjunction with imaginative possibilities. Not only does it promote cognitive development and supports the children's understanding of the thematic unit in different modalities, but it makes learning fun. I really believe in the constructivist approach to learning because learning becomes active as opposed to passive or passive learner.

Interviewer: Are there any changes you would make to these materials?

Teacher: I think I would have to really look at it after they have experienced it because this is the first time I am doing it. I rarely do the same thing every year. I look at the kids and I look at their interests. I look at the time, et cetera. This is the first time I am doing this. I am going to have to really evaluate after the lesson.

Interviewer: How would you describe these materials as meaningful or relevant to their lives?

Teacher: I feel that these materials are meaningful because like I said, I take into account this particular group of students' interests. Therefore, my materials are always changing from year to year. They are not static. Because most of my kids come from economically disadvantaged students and have a very limited English ability, the reality of real objects
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gives them an opportunity or gives me an opportunity to bring the outside world into their limited life experiences.

Interviewer: That is perfect. Thank you very much. I like the word. I am going to bring that word with me.

Teacher: Which word?

Interviewer: The reality.