

Kindergarten ELA Reading Materials Interview

Interviewer: Please describe the instructional materials you're using for the lesson

Teacher: For today it was mostly Wonders, which is our state mandated curriculum. It was the language art curriculum, I used the online materials, so the story from online, as well as the teacher guide and the planning to come up with the content for the lesson. It was mostly from Wonders and then when I was doing my small group reading, those leveled readers are from Wonders. Those are the individual readers for each unit, and that's provided by Wonders. Then all the little stations, those are just materials I pool and supplement myself, so the play-doh, and the sight words. They're writing in their journals, so those are just little materials that they need to use to do those activities. The book bags where they put their books in, so you have to have books for them to read from our classroom library, and some other supplemental materials as far as the writing and the stretching of the word, and the spelling and the dictation for them, when they're writing.

Interviewer: Why did you consider choosing these materials?

Teacher: I think I wanted a variety of materials, I mean they're learning so many things at one time, it's the phonics, and the word work, and the vocabulary, and the reading comprehension skills, as they rotated they can get so many different skills done in one time period, time frame. I think I chose them because I wanted it to reach those different types of learners, so they're using their technology one time, and they're using their hands the other time, so they're not just sitting and reading or listening the whole time.
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Interviewer: What is it you like about them?

Teacher: The materials?

Interviewer: Yeah.

Teacher: I think I like that they get to use their hands, and that they're different, and that it reaches all the different types of kids. They might not like the technology as much, I mean I don't know what kid doesn't like the technology, but it makes it engaging and exciting, and gives them the opportunity to learn in different ways. I like that it's different. I also like and appreciate the Wonders curriculum because it incorporates the science standards, so one of the things I'm struggling with is time, and having enough time to teach everything. Today, that was our reading time but we were learning about animals and comparing baby animals to their adult animals, which is the kindergarten science standard. I appreciate and really like that Wonders incorporates the science with the language arts time.

Interviewer: Are there any changes you'd make to the materials?

Teacher: Just that the play-doh it's messy. I know that's fine and they love it, and it's engaging and they can get their hands dirty but I would change the play-doh from not getting all over the floor, that's just my personality.

Interviewer: How would you describe the materials as meaningful or relevant to the student's lives.

Teacher: I think the non-fiction text is very meaningful to them, like animals is engaging to them, they like animals, they like to learn about animals, they also like to make connections to where they've seen animals and what they know about animals. I think they enjoyed it and it was relevant because they could relate it, you saw them saying "Well I have a dog, and it was a puppy." They can relate it to their own lives as well as learn from it, or being able to do that kind of complex reading skill of comparing, so that was one of the other things that I didn't talk about in the pre-one. As I was teaching it came out like, "Oh, this is our skill" like we're comparing. Are they able to take 2 different things, in this case animals and compare them, so that's kind of a complex thinking skill for a kindergartner is "Are you able to compare and contrast?" Characters in a story or anything basically.

[00:04:00] Interviewer: Awesome.