

HS Natural Resources Animals
Materials Interview

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

Teacher: This lesson, it was pretty much a rubric that they used. Students were able to create a brochure, present their brochure on their disease of choice that their been researching. That was that. Another one, they were doing their chores, everybody knows what tools to use for specific chores. You'll see, if they're scraping manure off the ground, they're using Flathead shovels, not round-head shovels. They're using scrubby brushes for the pond. Everybody knows what tool is for what chore.

Interviewer: Why did you consider choosing these materials?

Teacher: Rubric, it's easy for the students on all the guidelines on which they'll be graded. As well as, when they do their presentation, students knew it was a 10 point scale, one being the lowest, 10 being the highest. As long as students were able to get at least two facts from their presentation, they should be okay. The tools that they used, it's the most effective, easy way. I know the animals won't get hurt if they do use these tools, and I know my students will all be safe.

Interviewer: What is it you like about these materials?

Teacher: It's easy to grade. When you have a rubric, all I do is look at the rubric, and I make sure that it follows step by step. Easy for me, easy for the students. It works out.

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

Teacher: To the materials, no. I would change student presentation formats, but other than that, the materials that they were use, they were able to create something following a rubric, and they were able to present following a rubric.

Interviewer: How would you describe the materials as meaningful and relevant to students' lives?

Teacher: To their lives, they're going to have to learn to present. Either where you go, you're going to have to learn to communicate. With that lesson, that was one of my things. This class does not present. They usually don't like to, that's why they do animal systems, because they're kind of hiding in the back, working with animals. Whereas, today, they had to actually come up in front of the class and present. Which, a lot of them were a lot shy but I was very proud of them because my quiet ones actually went up and talked. Even though they was having trouble announcing a lot of the words, they were able to still go through with the task. I also love when they do chores because you see all the kids working together. Even though they're done with the chore, they're helping their partners, helping everybody out to get everything done.

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