

Sara Lyn St. John

K-5 Elementary Education & 6-8 ESL
Michigan State University



"The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it
away from you." -*B.B. King*

Sara Lyn St. John

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Objective

To obtain a teaching position where I will be able to create a safe community of learners. All students will be encouraged to believe that they have their own individual strengths. These strengths can be used to help every student reach his or her own potential with success. Everyone in the classroom, including myself, will be a learner and a teacher.

Education

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSTIY- East Lansing, Michigan 2010-2012

Masters Degree (Currently Pursuing)

- Completed 27 credits towards a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction
- Concentration Areas: Literacy and Special Education
- Completion of Graduate Study will be in Summer 2012

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY- East Lansing, Michigan

MSU Teacher Certification Program

2008-2009

- Completed 9 credits towards a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction
- Certified K-5 in all subject areas by the state of Michigan

Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

2004-2008

- Major: Elementary Education
- Minors: Spanish and TESOL (Teaching English as a Second Language)

Certifications

- K-5 Elementary Education all Subject Areas by the State of Michigan
- 6-8 TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of other Languages) by State of Michigan
- K-5 Elementary Education all Subject Areas by the State of Colorado
- American Heart Association CPR and First Aid- Child & Adult

Teaching Experience

4th Grade Teacher

September 2011-Current

West Village Academy- Dearborn, Michigan

- Actively involved in grade level team collaboration and planning
- Differentiated instruction for students with ranging grade and ability levels within one classroom
- Continuously collected and analyzed student data to determine each individual students needs (Data Cards, Data Walls, Quarterly Data Analysis, Semester Data Analysis, Data Meetings)
- Independently instructed reading, math, writing, science and social studies curriculum aligned to Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations, Common Core Standards, and District Standards
- Evaluated students learning through a variety of assessments; DRA's (Comprehension & Fluency), MEAP, Ed Performance Benchmark Tests (District Tests), pre & post assessments, end of unit/chapter tests, short & long essays, classroom observations, DOL's (Demonstration of Learning) and Exit Slips
- Implemented and consistently used behavior management techniques consistent with all students
- Involved in school wide programs and meetings; staff meetings, Data Meetings, IEP's, Grade Level PLC's (Professional Learning Communities), Vertical PLC's, Professional Development, IST (Instructional Student Team), SIT (School Improvement Team), Ed Yes, parent meetings, mentor meetings, Curriculum Mapping and Curriculum Writing meetings
- Curriculum Writing for grades K-8; Essential Questions, Vocabulary, Instructional Strategies, and Assessments

- Curriculum Mapping for 4th Grade; creation and revisions for reading, math, writing, science, and social studies
- Communicated with parents through; phone calls, notes home, monthly & weekly newsletters, parent-teacher conferences, Friday Folders, weekly progress reports, student planners, and behavior logs for individual students
- Used computerized programs to track student achievement; Ed Performance (Tests and Learning Objectives), Zangle (Grades and Attendance), and Excel (DRA and Data Assessment)
- Actively planned and participated in; Title 1 Night, Open House, March is Reading Month, International Night, Science Fair, Character Education (School Community), Service Learning Project Field Trip, Imagination Station Field Trip, and Henry Ford Museum Field Trip

2nd Grade Teacher

November 2010-June 2011

Potter Elementary School- Flint Community Schools, Michigan

- Actively involved in grade level team collaboration and planning
- Differentiated instruction for students of ranging abilities within one classroom
- Continuously collected and analyzed student data to determine individual student needs
- Independently instructed reading, math, writing, science and social studies curriculum aligned to Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations and District standards
- Evaluated student learning through a variety of assessments; DIBEL's (Fluency), DRA's (Comprehension & Fluency), Progress Monitoring (Oral Reading Fluency), DOLCH Sight Words, Star Reading, Star Math, Accelerated Reader Tests, MEAP, Benchmark Tests (Quarterly District Tests), end of unit/chapter tests
- Implemented and used positive behavior management techniques (PBS) consistent with all students
- Involved in school wide programs & meetings; staff meetings, professional development, SAT (Student Assisting Team), Data Meetings, IEP's, ELA Committee, School Improvement Team (SIT), and ED Yes
- Actively planned and participated in; March is Reading Month, Dr. Seuss Day, Science Fair Night, Friday Morning Meetings (School Community)
- Communicated with parents through; phone calls, emails, notes home, monthly newsletters, parent-teacher conferences, Corrective Action Plans (CAP) and home note behavior contracts for individual students
- Used computerized programs to track student achievement; Collaborative Learning (online grading)

Special Education Aide

August 2010-October 2010

Lake Fenton Community Schools- Fenton, Michigan

- One on one instruction with students with autism spectrum disorders and cognitive development including; class work, phonics skills, sentence structure, reading fluency and comprehension, handwriting, math facts, math computation, and classroom behavior
- Provided individual accommodations and modifications for the student
- Collaborated with general education teachers, special education teachers, and speech teachers
- Attended IEP Meetings and implemented IEP's for individual students
- Exposure and experience with RTI (Response to Intervention), Write Steps, 504 Plans, MEAP Testing, DAZE Testing, Parent Web, Positive Behavior Support (PBS) and Instructional Rounds (observing different teaching styles and methods in classroom management)

Lead Teacher for Early Childhood Programs and Services

Summer 2010 & 2011

Genesee Intermediate School District Special Education- Flint, Michigan

- Responsible for the supervision of students ages 3-5 with autism spectrum disorders, cognitive impairment, visual impairment, hearing impairment and other health impairments
- Coordinated summer enrichment activities relative to the individual needs of participants in fine motor/sensory activities, art, gym, outdoor learning, social centers, and music and books related to core concepts for the age group

5th Grade Teacher

2009-2010

Monterey Elementary School- Colorado Springs, Colorado

- Actively involved in grade level team collaboration and planning
- Differentiated instruction for students that ranged between four grade levels within one classroom
- Continuously collected and analyzed student data to determine each individual students needs

- Independently instructed reading, math, writing, science and social studies curriculum aligned to grade level standards by the state and district
- Evaluated students learning through a variety of assessments; MAZE (timed comprehension test), Progress Monitoring (Oral Reading Fluency), Core Phonics, Dibels Testing, CBM (Content Based Measure Test by the District), CSAP, pre & post assessments, end of unit/chapter tests, Short & Long Essays
- Implemented and consistently used behavior management techniques consistent with all students
- Involved in school wide programs & meetings; staff meetings, staff development, RTI (Response to Intervention), Data Meetings, IEP's/ILP's (Individual Literacy Plans), GT (Gifted & Talented) Meetings, Kid Talks, Professional Learning Communities, Professional Development, and Family Nights (after school program)
- Communicated with parents through; phone calls, notes home, monthly newsletters, parent-teacher conferences, and behavior logs for individual students
- Used computerized programs to track student achievement; Edusoft, Aimsweb, GradeQuick

Student Teaching Internship- 2nd Grade

Sheridan Road Elementary School- Lansing Michigan

2008-2009

- Year long, full time internship
- Actively participated in co-planning and co-teaching
- Independently planned and taught appropriate to grade level based on district curriculum in all subjects
- Performed all responsibilities of a teacher including; discipline management, parent and staff communication, staff meetings, SIT meetings (Student Improvement Team), specialized meetings (IEPC's), Child Studies, professional development, and parent-teacher conferences, created monthly news letters
- Evaluated all students learning and growth through a variety of assessments (Running Records, DRA's, Burt Testing (Word Recognition), pre-assessments, chapter/end of unit tests, classroom observations, and writing samples)
- Assisted with the week-long field trip to Fenner Nature Center for Annie's Big Nature Lesson in Lansing, Mi (Science, math and writing content of learning- plants, animals, deforestation, pollution, graphing data, water cycle, recording observations)
- Planned and implemented Science Field Trip- Impression 5 in Lansing, Mi (Hands on children's science museum)
- Actively planned and participated in March is Reading Month activities and projects, and after school programs (CAFÉ- Literacy Night and Science Night)

Selected Professional Development

"Smart Boards"
West Village Academy

October 2012

"Write Steps"
West Village Academy

October 2012

"Guided Reading"
Flint Community Schools

February 2011

"Win-Win Discipline"
Kagan Training

September 2009

"The Essential 55"
Presented by Ron Clark

August 2008

Other Qualifications

Technology: Proficient working with Microsoft Word, PowerPoint, Excel, Publisher, Smart Boards, Promethean Boards, ELMOs and web based programs, tasks, and research. Proficient working with all common business hardware, including desktop/laptop computers, copy machines, scanners, digital cameras, facsimiles, laminators, and overhead projectors.

Personal: I am a very self-motivated worker, both independently and in team setting groups. I am creative, punctual, and organized. I am structured yet compassionate and understanding to individual needs.

References available upon request.