

### Competency #3 Reflection

The artifact that I have submitted to demonstrate my proficiency regarding the equity, fairness, and diversity competency is a video of a lesson that I taught to my second grade students. The class period lasted about forty minutes, all of which was captured on the video itself. However, it should be dually noted that some debriefing took place following the lesson where students were asked to share their ideas pertaining to the amount of teamwork the lesson entailed, and was documented in their post lesson assessment (this can be seen in artifact and reflection five). Unfortunately, this particular piece was not video taped. Yet, I do believe that the video does capture and encompass the various points of the competency itself.

This particular artifact was created on a Friday afternoon in the month of February. Because I am not **yet** a physical education teacher, I spoke with my school's physical education teacher, and my mentor, about teaching my own class during one of his periods.

It should be said that I work in a school that follows a year-round track schedule. Therefore, I was very appreciative to Jerry, our physical education teacher, for allowing me to do this lesson, as he only gets to see my students one week, out of every four. When my class does receive physical education, they go for an entire school week (this may only be three or four days depending on various workdays and holidays). The class only lasts for forty minutes. So, on a good week my students will enjoy their physical education class for two hundred minutes. That is a total of about eighteen hundred minutes a year.

After speaking with Jerry, we decided that my students would work on throwing and catching. Therefore, I went with a lesson that involved the different throwing and catching cues. At the end of the lesson I incorporated a game (Sink the Ship) that involved the students using these cues in order to be successful in the game itself.

I would say that the lesson was a success overall. However, I believe that the point behind a reflection should be for one to find strengths and weaknesses so that they can improve their skill over time. Therefore, I tried to look back at the video with a critical eye, knowing that it would be seen by others as well.

As far as demonstrating my proficiency with the competency, I believe the video shows that I have high expectations for each and all of my students. I show respect and genuine concern for each of my students, and have prided myself on fostering an environment of engaged risk takers that value themselves, their classmates, and their learning environment. I believe that this particular competency begins and ends with the teacher. If one can successfully model and embrace these values they are much more prone to having students follow their lead.

I began the lesson by dividing my students into groups. I had their groups previously arranged. It was important to me to have the students working with classmates they may not normally associate with. After grouping the students, it was important for each group to find an “identity” that they would feel comfortable with and to find some form of team spirit. While this does take away from some of their active time, I would ensure that each of my students have this same opportunity in the future, as it builds community. I felt that my students did a wonderful job of working together at

this time. The video demonstrates the importance of this particular practice as I have each team share their names and cheers to the rest of the class.

After demonstrating the throwing cues, I gave students the opportunity to work with a partner, or two, of their choice (this did not have to be with someone from their team). I was pleased to see how well my class encouraged each other and worked hard to follow the directions to successfully demonstrate their newfound (for some) knowledge of throwing. This was then repeated during the catching cues as well. I made sure to walk around the gym to give individual groups of students' feedback on their technique. The video also shows my students abilities to listen when transitioning from one activity to another (I used Spanish words to get their attention).

A side note that arose when I was watching the video was when one particular student arrived late to class, and was very upset because she did not know which team she belonged too. She therefore, broke down and began to cry, but after speaking with her and telling her which team she was apart of, the team welcomed her with open arms. This was yet another example of the high expectations that have been set for this class involving equity, fairness, and diversity.

After this time period the students were asked to reconvene with their teams. They then, played the game trying to employ many of the skills that they had learned. I was deeply encouraged as I walked around the room and found my students working cooperatively to fulfill their goals. I did come across a few students who had been accusing some of their classmates of "cheating." I spoke with the groups on an individual basis and explained that they were not working at following the expectations set before them and that cheating was not allowed. I asked them how they could play the

game without employing such tactics and was excited to hear them go over the directions, explain their strategy, and to apologize for not playing the game correctly.

While I know improvements and modifications can and will consistently be made, I do believe that this video shows my understanding of this competency. I have learned to value each of my students as individuals, with their own strengths and weaknesses, and have encouraged, demonstrated, and expected them to do the same. My students understand the behavior needed to support themselves, as well as their classmates, and know that their actions will have a direct consequence over their learning.