**Grade K Reflection**

October 14, 2011

One of the areas I will focus on this Fall is:

* explicitly teaching this group of students concepts of print and phonemic awareness, because this is a great group of students. They need to be instructed in these areas to be successful.
* more retelling, because I want to include more details in their retellings.
* customizing BTL for higher level students, because I want these students to be challenged and engaged on the computer.
* to strengthen their executive function, because students need to develop independence.
* data collection, because streamlining this is always a challenge. Knowing where students are is essential.
* customization to BTL with each of my students, because this is an area that I can always be improved upon.
* creating an environment that produces oral language/comprehension, because I would like to hear more from the students – piggybacking on each other’s comments/making connections, having control over our thoughts to listen and retell. I would like a system to record observations during discussion.
* connecting core phonics instruction to our BTL Featured books, because this is an area our children are lacking in as they progress into 1st and 2nd grade.
* using the scope and sequence from Breakthrough to Literacy, because it will help align my instruction in small groups working on initial sounds.
* incorporating Making Meaning and retelling in facilitating quality whole group conversations, because it teaches us to maximize and focus on listening to stories and having meaningful discussions that will connect to students.
* BTL customization and comprehension in reading, because I want to meet the needs of all and ensure the students are being challenged as well.
* encouraging my students to focus on peer oral responses and responding in complete sentences during small group reading instruction, because it will help students become better readers and writers.
* working on focus with my students, because it’s important to build stamina for staying on task at the very beginning. This skill will help children throughout their schooling.
* Iowa Core, because what we need to do is to integrate and assess what we already do.
* continue learning about the Iowa Core, because I need to know what areas I need to know/teach more about.
* customizing the ISI component of BTL, because it is such a powerful tool to meet the students’ individual needs every day.
* continuing to learn about the Iowa Core, because I need to determine how to integrate and assess what we do into the Core.
* BTL – computer – because I need to get students in areas that are challenging for them. I feel that sometimes it’s too easy for them.
* retelling and executive function, because of the importance. It is a powerful tool for comprehension and understanding of what was read.
* working on more BTL customization, because I want each student to be working exactly at the level they need to be – being challenged and meeting needs of struggling learners.
* retelling, because it is a more powerful post reading activity than teacher questioning. When children talk about the reading you can truly see how they are thinking and what they understand.
* continuing to improve my BTL customizations, because it’s one way I can differentiate for everyone regardless of ability/level.
* working on differentiation for all my students, because I want to make sure I am meeting all of my students’ needs in all curriculum areas.
* more individualized instruction, because I want my lower achieving students to receive additional support. Much of my instruction has been whole group, however, small group will be my next focus.