Nov 21st, 11:10 AM - 12:00 PM

“It’s Nice to Meet You. Let’s Do Some Inclusion.”

Martha Compton
Richmond Drive Elementary, mcompton@rhmail.org

Celeste Prange

Kaleena Gibson

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/inclusionconference

Part of the Curriculum and Instruction Commons, Educational Methods Commons, Elementary Education and Teaching Commons, and the Special Education and Teaching Commons

Compton, Martha; Prange, Celeste; and Gibson, Kaleena, ""It’s Nice to Meet You. Let’s Do Some Inclusion."" (2015). Inclusion Across the Lifespan Conference. 13.
https://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/inclusionconference/2015/schedule/13

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by the Conferences and Events at Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Inclusion Across the Lifespan Conference by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ Winthrop University. For more information, please contact bramed@winthrop.edu.
It’s Nice to Meet You...Let’s Do Some Inclusion

Inclusion Across the Lifespan Conference
11/17/15

Martha Compton, Celeste Prange, Kaleena Gibson
Our Classes

• 2 3rd grade classes with 24 students

• 1 self-contained class for students with “mild-moderate” disabilities
  • Mild/moderate intellectual disabilities
  • Autism
  • Specific Learning Disabilities
  • OHI
• 13 students
• 3rd and 4th grade students
• Only 3rd graders currently participate in this program
A History

- Moved the special education class to a new school
- All SPED students to attend related arts, lunch, recess
- 2 students to attend science/social studies
- Then we had a meeting...
Current 3rd Grade Inclusion Program

- All 3rd grade students attend related arts, recess, lunch, science* and social studies* with 3rd grade
- Accompanied by paraprofessionals from the SPED classroom
- 3 students attend for Math

*due to Science and Social Studies being at the end of the day there are times that we have to leave early due to behavior*
Building a Classroom Community

- Role of the general education teacher
  - View SPED students as part of the class
  - Include them in all things: celebrations, Scholastic, etc
  - Make an effort to get to know the students
  - Avoid pre-conceived notions of students’ abilities
  - Content “expert”
  - Choose “buddies” and strategically seat students

- Role of the special education teacher
  - Do awareness activities
  - Help with buddy training (“buddy vs. mommy”)
  - Adaptation “expert”
The power of a positive attitude...

A NEGATIVE THINKER SEES A DIFFICULTY IN EVERY OPPORTUNITY.
A POSITIVE THINKER SEES AN OPPORTUNITY IN EVERY DIFFICULTY.
Combined ownership

- “Our kids” not yours or mine

- Co-planning
  - We meet once a week (I have a volunteer come in to work with my class while I meet with 3rd grade)
Benefits we have seen

- Both
  - Friendships

- SPED students
  - Content exposure vs mastery
  - Social skills
  - Classroom skills (note-taking, etc)

- 3rd grade students
  - Leadership
  - Awareness
  - Character building
Teaching Adaptations

- Print out notes for students to copy rather than from the board
- Allow students to use iPad to take pictures of notes to copy
- Highlight important information
- Adjust our expectations for mastery of content
All students have a space
Assessment Adaptations/Modifications

- Limit questions
- Limit multiple choice response options
- Reduce language in questions
- Reduce number of assessment questions
- Assessments administered verbally
- Assessments administered in small group/individual
- Allow use of notes as reference for some students
- Examples: Explorers, Fossils, Minerals
Our plans for the future

• Select one or two essential concepts for some students to determine mastery

• Based on these essential concepts, pre-teaching and additional instructional support within the self-contained classroom

• Our shared students added to 3rd grade teachers’ Canvas (online district portal) to which all presentations will be added for students to access at home and in SPED class

• Begin working with 4th grade teachers to begin a similar program for 4th grade SPED students and to prepare them for the students they will be getting next year