Monday, November 16th

Today I helped a few lower level students study for a test. We did a mini review game and practiced with a flash card game. It was a small group of students, and it was easy to help them one on one when needed. I could tell that they gained a lot of valuable study skills during this time. They were smiling the whole time! I also wrote a cover letter for next week. Each week my master teacher attaches a letter to parents telling with a brief outline of what the class will be working on. I think this is an awesome idea and I plan on adopting it one day. So, I went over next week’s lesson and formatted the letter for the week. I think this was good practice for when I plan my own cover letter one day☺

Tuesday, November 17th

This week is conference week, so I will discuss what conferences entailed. In each conference my master teacher explains benchmarks, how grades are calculated, reading, and how the student is doing in each area. She does this much quicker than I think I would be able to! She says she does it fairly quickly to avoid having parents ask too many questions before she is finished. This makes good sense, because it is integral that she sticks to her time schedule. She is also very organized. In the past few works, she and I have spent hours compiling binders and files full of student test scores and work to show parents if needed. Although this is a lot of work, I can see the benefits of it. When something comes up, she can quickly locate documentation and answer almost any question. I am very grateful that I have been able to experience how to prepare for conferences as well as how to conduct a successful conference.

Wednesday, November 18th

Today I taught my lesson for my supervisor. It was a lesson on common and proper nouns that involved an interactive, kinesthetic game and creating a small booklet. The students were very engaged during the lesson and they learned a lot. I tried to make the introduction game get increasingly harder, and I could tell that changing up the game like this challenged them appropriately. Overall, the lesson was enjoyable as well as productive.

Thursday, November 19th

This afternoon I spent some time with my master teacher making a seat chart for the next time the students change seats. We talked about placing students strategically so there is always a “high” learner to assist struggling students. My master teacher also explained the importance of giving different students a chance to sit closer to the front of the room. It is little things like this that you don’t get taught explicitly in college or a credential program! However, they are important things to consider and I’m glad that my master teacher is taking the time to teach me some of these small things.

Friday, November 20th

It is the last Friday before our break! The students were a bit wriggly today, but we still had business to get done. The morning was filled with tests, which I corrected promptly. Then, later in the day it was time for their “feast”. Some parents came to volunteer and help set up, which was great. Parents seem to bother my master teacher, but I think they’re pretty helpful. The thing I liked most about their feast was that they each went around the table and said two things they were thankful for before they ate. This is a great way to encourage thankfulness and gratitude in the students. I really like this idea and I would like to adopt it one day. I am grateful that I got to experience another holiday in the classroom and see how a teacher manages all of the chaos and excited children☺ Overall, it was a good day and quite fun too.