



Featured Teacher: Kristen Guarino

"I loved seeing their artistic creativity come to life!"

Cast of Characters:

Third-grade students

Background and Setting:

Guarino previously taught third grade for six years, but began teaching Kindergarten.

Memorable Learning:

"Some students were very unsure of how to get started, but once we worked together and helped one another, they were so proud to have finished!"



"We all read our pages aloud to the class and everyone was so supportive of one another."

Sensory Learning

When Guarino decided to write a classbook, she turned her students' love for snacks into a creative writing activity.

"We created a book about our favorite snacks last school year using sensory descriptive writing. We recalled what we saw, heard, felt, tasted and smelled when we eat each snack, giving the reader insight into why it is our favorite."

Snacks Inspire Creativity

Guarino was thrilled to see her students use their creativity. Snacks became a roaring topic in her classroom.

"My students were stoked to write about their favorite snacks! Their creativity truly shined, especially when they started illustrating their writing. I loved seeing their artistic creativity come to life!"

Classbook Project Strengthens Confidence

"Creating a classbook together helped my students so much with their writing confidence! We practiced brainstorming adjectives together, sentence writing and editing, as well as conferencing to strengthen our writing. Using technology to publish our writing made it feel more 'official' and like we were really published!"

Guarino explains that at first her students were hesitant.

"Some students were very unsure of how to get started, but once we worked together and helped one another, they were so proud to have finished!"



Student Overcomes Writing Challenge

Guarino noticed one of her students struggling with writer's block.

"One student struggled with thinking of adjectives to describe their favorite snack. They could only think of things like, 'it tastes good.' After conferring with them and getting their mind to focus on each of their five senses, their creative juices really got flowing and they could tell me many descriptive adjectives for their snack!"

Class Gives Raving Reviews

Guarino's class transformed into expert reviewers after their publishing project.

"They were in shock! They couldn't wait to see their page in the book and to share it with their classmates. We all read our pages aloud to the class and everyone was so supportive of one another. We gave each other raving reviews, along with many compliments and positive comments about our published work!"

Visual Progress Tracker Motivates Students

A visual display helped keep Guarino organized in the classbook writing process.

"Make sure to give yourself enough time to complete the entire process and keep track of which students are at each step of the writing process."

Guarino encourages using resources for this project. "At first, I didn't have this information, but then I made a visual display of which student was at each step and I think it motivated students even more to finish their work! They felt so proud of themselves when they were done!"



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