

Volunteer and Observation Reflection

My time volunteering as a 4-H camp counselor and subbing at Elma Elementary school have been extremely rewarding experiences. They have been a few of the many experiences I have with kids that have helped me find my passion for teaching. I have always enjoyed children and I love helping and watching them learn whether it was babysitting or working at a daycare.

In the summer months of my high school years, I volunteered at Panhandle Lake Camp where I assisted children in activities as a mentor for a week out of the summer. This was an exciting adventure where I learned how to keep the children engaged in different activities in a safe and fun environment. We each were assigned to different cabins and were responsible for making sure that each camper followed the rules but at the same time we made sure that it was an enjoyable and memorable experience.

My first experience teaching a class was when I subbed for a 5th grade classroom, and I learned a lot, aside from the students being very talkative and trying to help me. I have witnessed that a teacher needs to identify the strengths and weaknesses of each student in order to help them learn. All kids learn differently, no two brains are the same. It is very rewarding when you help a student understand the material they are learning. From watching other teachers teach as well as subbing on my own, I know I want to be a bigger part of that process. I have sat in on many classes watching teachers lead by example and point students in a great direction of learning. This is what I hope to one day do.

I want to be a teacher because I want to inspire young students so they feel they can grow into whatever it is that they want to be. I aspire to be a teacher, allowing me to make a difference in children's lives.