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MiT
Prompt B response
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Teaching elementary art classes at the after school program Gabriel's Art Kids was my first professional experience creating a lesson plan. Anticipating the needs of my students was fulfilling, enriching, and inspiring. In 2022 I moved to a full time position as an assistant teacher at the Montessori preschool Little Mountain. After one year of teaching I was promoted to lead, taking responsibility for the afternoon program. In the Montessori school system there is a morning lead and an afternoon lead. My role as an afternoon lead is to juxtapose the structured mornings with an art focused work time to end the day. I spend the day working to give students an early art and social-emotional education which I intend to develop further in my art endorsement. By the time of my promotion I had become incredibly comfortable talking and working with kids.

As this new school year begins I am gaining confidence in talking to parents while training my classroom assistant. Better understanding the routine and curriculum of the school has given me confidence I didn't have before. As the teacher present at pickup I develop trust with parents by informing them on the wins and challenges their child faced throughout the day. Communicating with parents has become a learned skill. I maintain attentiveness by checking in with our morning lead, my afternoon assistant, and the director of the school. When I began this job I was nervous to tell parents that their child tripped during the day, or had an argument with another student. I recognize now that reporting incidents shows I am tuned in. Together parents and faculty can develop ways for students to communicate better with their peers or be more careful when moving through the classroom.

During my time as a preschool teacher I gained a deeper understanding of the social/emotional needs of my children. I intend to teach art classes to elementary students at a range of ages. My experiences as a childcare professional and graduate of Western's art program prepared me to pursue a Master's in Teaching at Evergreen.