

Lily Raznick

10/09/2024

MiT, Endorsement Essay

My confidence as a learner has been renewed after two months of extensive study in preparation for NES tests 102/103. I am grateful to have passed with high scores. Utilizing 240 *Tutoring* resources, I regained fluency in math and science which I am inspired to continue strengthening through real-world application. Furthermore, I am committed to developing my understanding of world history and geography.

My understanding of world history and geography will increase as I read more. Before beginning the MiT program I would like to read *Sapiens: A Brief History of Humankind* by Yuval Noah Harari to deepen my understanding of human history, and *Braiding Sweetgrass* by Robin Wall Kimmerer which provides greater context to historical events by providing an Indigenous perspective. Both books will give me a greater historical understanding and insight.

I am well prepared to teach elementary education and ELL endorsements through my experiences working with children and time studying abroad in Bhutan. I have consistently worked with children for over three years, beginning as a summer camp art teacher, a nanny and home manager, and babysitter, and currently as a preschool and kindergarten teaching assistant and lead position for my second year at the Seattle Waldorf School. I have participated in training which includes Child Care Basics through Waldorf's local creditor, the Washington State Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF). Through this I have learned about neurological development, identifying ways to support youth, and reviewing the laws, regulations, and expectations for working with young groups of children. Additionally, I attended this year's NWAIS Fall Conference where I connected with other educators working in independent schools.

While obtaining my Bachelor's Degree at Naropa University, I studied abroad in Paro, Bhutan for almost 6 months. I traveled the country and even spent several nights in a rural family home on my way to a student dorm where I lived in Paro. Throughout my travels, I was immersed in a completely new culture.

I adapted to new situations by observing the tonality and body language of those around me and problem-solved when faced with obstacles. I gained 17 volunteer hours by co-designing

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and painting a mural at a local eatery and even spent a day helping in an early childcare center. My time in Bhutan strengthened my emotional intelligence, expanded my world perspective, and helped me begin to consider a future role in education.

I love working with children and see this work as an act of great service. With my passion, education, and experience, I am well prepared to further my education and expertise through Evergreen State College's Masters in Teaching program with endorsements in Elementary Education and ELL.