

Connection Teacher Plan

2002-03

Criteria used in the student selection process include teacher recommendation, achievement testing results in the areas of language arts and math, plus ability testing results.

Goals for Connection learners include the following:

1. Solving problems by recognizing, investigating, and formulating solutions
2. Communicating ideas and interpreting information in a variety of areas
3. Using technology to access information, process ideas, and communicate results
4. Working on teams
5. Making connections in their learning and demonstrating understanding in a variety of ways
6. Developing intellectual confidence so that they can take risks, set goals and accept challenges
7. Demonstrating good learning habits through effort, persistence, plus organizational and reflective thinking habits

Actions	Results	Time	Who	Resources
Math-extending and enriching daily math instruction (pull out instruction).	Students can take their knowledge and apply it in order to complete in-depth projects (in teams or individually) involving creative problem solving, technology skills, risk taking and goal setting.	50 minutes daily	Mrs. Bitner Students	Math magazine materials, textbooks, computers, internet
Reading-extending and enriching daily reading instruction (vocabulary, comprehension, etc.) Pull out instruction.	Students are able to take open-ended questions that pertain to the novels that have been read and reflectively respond to them through oral response or written response (individually or in teams). Students also participate in independent reading and related reading projects.	60 minutes daily	Mrs. Bitner Students	Novels, computers, internet, novel teacher guides.
Team teaching with a third grade teacher-Writer's Workshop	Teach mini lessons, assist students during the writing process, and conference with students.	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday for 30 minutes daily	Mrs. Bitner Mrs. White Students	Planners, modeling resources, various teacher writing resources, computers, and other teachers.

Plan with the third grade teachers.	To enrich and improve instruction through communication and collaboration.	Every Wednesday for 45 minutes.	Third grade teachers Mrs. Bitner	Internet, teacher materials, books and magazines.
Review student progress during each cycle (3 times a year) using various resources from the third grade teachers.	Determine whether new students need to be added to or deleted from the existing Connections classes.	At the end of each cycle	Third grade teachers Mrs. Bitner	Spreadsheet; grades, portfolio work, and comments from third grade teachers
Connection Progress Report (based on the 7 goals listed above) sent home with the report card each grading cycle. Teacher and student complete the report together.	Parents and students are aware of student progress.	At the end of each grading cycle	Mrs. Bitner Students	Report and spreadsheet; grades, portfolio work, and comments from third grade teachers