

AURORA P. SMITH

123 Buckworth Lane ~ Hollywood, CA 90066 ~ aurorasmith8799@hotmail.com
Home: (341) 555-1492 ~ Cell: (341) 555-7009

SPECIAL EDUCATION TEACHER

~ Supportive ~ Creative ~ Compassionate ~ Accommodating ~

Versatile and dedicated child advocate with a solid focus on the individual needs of identified and Special Education students. Kindhearted and empathetic professional who is flexible and accommodating in the design and implementation of inspiring hands-on lessons, employing wide-ranging manipulatives and IEPs to enhance student achievement. Skilled in addressing student needs, ensuring children will thrive and develop in an adaptable educational atmosphere. Firm behavioral management techniques, possessing excellent interpersonal and communication skills to develop an excellent rapport with all members of the school community.

Areas of proficiency include:

- Multidisciplinary Education Plans
- Student Motivation
- Team Teaching Approach
- Technology Integration
- Learning Centers
- Curriculum Development
- Use of Manipulatives
- Student-centered Learning Environment
- Individualized Education Plans
- Thematic Units
- Multi-sensory Lessons
- Parent & Teacher Conferences

EDUCATION & CREDENTIALS

Master of Education (2005): Major: Special Education
University of Phoenix, Gardena, CA; GPA: 4.0

Bachelor of Arts (2000): Major: Behavioral Science
Loyola Marymount University, Westchester, CA

California Teaching Certification - Special Education Credential

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Mount Forrest Elementary School - Hollywood, CA

2004 - Present

Special Education Teacher

Develop and implement individualized education program for each special education student. Identify and implement goals tailored to the student's individual needs and abilities. Coordinate with parents, teachers, teacher assistants, and various service providers that include speech, occupational, and physical therapists for students having High Functioning Autism, Asperger's Syndrome, developmental delays, speech impairment, or learning disability in resource and general education classrooms.

- Modeled, trained, and consulted teachers on modifications and accommodations to instruction and materials ensuring the diverse needs of every student are successfully realized.
- Actively supported teaching professionals on effective work strategies with Special Needs students, maintaining a strong focus on learners with Asperger's syndrome and Autism. Facilitated presentations and recommended readings while providing interventions and methods on successful behaviour management.
- Employed diverse techniques to promote active learning including individualized instruction, problem-solving assignments, and small-group work. Exercised flexibility within the classroom addressing students needs through special accommodations.

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Teaching Experience Continued...

- Actively involved in students' behavioural, social, and academic development, aiding students in developing emotionally, feeling comfortable in social situations, and awareness of socially acceptable behavior.

Peter Strossberg Elementary School - Marina Del Rey, CA

2001 - 2004

Instructor (ESL - Middle School Students)

Provided instruction to ESL students within this international educational consulting and publishing company dedicated to giving children and adults access to a world-class education by creating and providing innovative, high-quality programs and services.

- Upheld a solid classroom management plan in which students were provided with clear and consistent direction and follow-through; fostered a work-oriented and stress-free learning environment.
- Employed positive interaction with students to develop a rapport, gain respect, and trust to ensure a productive learning environment.
- Stimulated discussion and focus of student's attention on lesson content through clear direction and examples, which kept students engaged in classroom activities and encouraged self-expression.
- Immersed learners in American culture through field trips, exploratory essays, and oral presentations.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

Practical Tools for Implementing A Conflict Resolution Program - 2004

Differentiating Instruction in Social Studies and Language Arts - 2006

Cooperative Discipline - 2005

Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and Present Levels of Performance - 2003

Crisis Prevention Training, Behavior Modification, Prevention and Intervention Training (CPI) - 2001 - 2005

Internet and Instruction - 2002

Core Curriculum Standards - 2002

IEPs and State Standards - 2002

ADHD and Behavior Modification - 2001

TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION & SKILLS

Microsoft Works ~ Microsoft Office Suite ~ PowerPoint ~ Word

Excel ~ QuickBooks Pro ~ Internet Navigation ~ WordPerfect

References Available Upon Request