The Walker-Floyd Outdoor Learning Classroom

Introduction to Education/Practicum
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Our Objective:

• We, as a group, wanted to help the students develop a life-long appreciation of our natural surroundings and teach them to become the caretakers of tomorrow’s world.
The Community

- Our group created a curriculum for Berryville Public Schools to educate students on how to create a greener environment for tomorrow.
- The students learned different ways to help take better care of their community.
The children are hard at work on an activity we created for them.
Our Curriculum

- We wanted to be able to reflect on personal experience, examine student beliefs and dispositions about teaching, and evaluate our perceptions of education the desire to choose teaching as a career.
- Also, we wanted to be able to describe the teaching and learning processes based on observation and participation in K-12 schools.
- Third, we wanted to recognize the practical application of learning theories, philosophical concepts, the role and nature of schooling and teaching, expectations and responsibilities of students and teachers, and education in general.
- Lastly, we needed to be able to discuss and examine teaching as a profession including but not limited to professional ethics and professionalism.
Newly Learned Skills

As a small group, here are some skills we learned while working on our EMPACTS project:

- Responsibility
  - Initiative
- Communication
- Cooperation
- Dependability
- Leadership
- Professionalism
- Organization
- Punctuality
Our Plan

- We took the class outside to the outdoor learning classroom. Then we talked a little about habitats to the children, and allowed them to choose an animal or other species that they thought would be able to survive in the outdoor classroom. We gave each group a worksheet that asked questions based on state curriculum.

- Some of the questions were:
  - Would this animal survive here?
  - What would the species use as a food source?
  - What would this species use for a water source?
  - Could the species raise young here?
  - What would it use for shelter?
We followed our learning outcomes that were initially proposed, and we created a few lesson plans that followed state guidelines. Then we presented these plans to a fifth grade class for feedback. The children loved the plan, and were excited to be a part of it.
Our Group Members
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