



Anecdotal Report Form

Student Teacher: **Sarah Wolfman-Robichaud** School: **Walter Lee**

Grade and Subject: **5/6 Science** Focus of observation: **student understanding**

I will focus in on students understanding the main idea.

- “What is a simple machine?” Students participated in a short discussion on simple machines.
- Students focused in on reading and discussing a short article on simple machines. You assisted the class with comprehension suggestions while a student read the article out loud.
- Class completely engaged in discussion re simple machines. Reading the article, discussion, looking at images of simple machines was brought together in a coherent way. All the simple machines were illustrated on the board and constantly referred to.
- You helped students write definitions in their worksheet. “Do you see how wordy this is?” A picture is so much easier to understand. Student’s comprehension was stimulated and students were encouraged to form their own understandings of simple machines and record their own definitions. Your dramatizations helped students a great deal in forming images of how simple machines function.
- A student commented, “I still don’t get it.” Terrific opportunity for re-enforcement occurred.
- During the twenty-five minutes of talking about simple machines, students were completely immersed in discussion. All students showed interest and good comprehension.
- Each team received a shopping bag of simple machines to identify and categories them. Group discussions focused on recognizing functions of the simple machines by matching the object with a picture of a simple machine and placing object and picture on a worksheet with information on a particular simple machine.

Summary: Your lesson was designed to help students form images of simple machines and their function. You gave pointers on how to deepen their understanding of simple machines using an article on simple machines. Participating in a group discussion encouraged each student to understand the concept of simple machines. Identifying and categorizing examples of simple machines gave students an excellent opportunity to sharpen their understand using real examples of simple machines around the house. The lesson was most successful in encouraging students to understand in depth and breadth the concept of simple machines. Students took this lesson very seriously and were not overwhelmed with its complexity at any point of the lesson. This lesson dealt most successfully with a complex topic.

Completed by _____ Position: **faculty associate**
(signature) (e.g. school advisor, faculty advisor)
Print Name: **Frank Baumann** Date: **April 17, 2009**

Copies to: Student, School Advisor, Teacher Education Office