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EDU-280: Language/Literacy Experiences

Standard 1: The Ugly Truth about Children's Books and Classroom Strategies

Review 1: The Ugly Truth About Children's Books (0-9)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z1Jbd4-fPOELinks to an external site.>

Review the link on "The Ugly Truth about Children's Books (0-9). Provide a response on your reaction to the content in the video. A substantial response is considered at least a paragraph. Your responses should be at least 2 paragraphs - one that summarizes the resource and another that discusses AHA moments and how you might apply this information in your classroom or with other teachers.

Review 2: Classroom Strategies

<https://www.readingrockets.org/strategiesLinks to an external site.>

Review the link on Classroom Strategies from Reading Rockets. Go to the drop-down menu and explore the content-specifically strategies you are not familiar with. After reviewing the strategies, share how you could incorporate at least 2 of them into the classroom.

A substantial response is considered at least 2 paragraphs that explain your understanding of the resource (paragraph 1) and sharing your thoughts about how you will incorporate these strategies in your classroom, being sure to explain why and how.

Review 1: The Ugly Truth About Children's Books

This video highlights the significant gender bias in children's books, particularly the underrepresentation of independent-minded girls and women. It emphasizes how limited exposure to such portrayals shapes children's perspectives and reinforces outdated gender roles. The video delivers a clear message: we need more books that depict women and girls as strong, resilient, and independent individuals.

Watching this video was an eye-opening experience for me. I realized that I had never noticed how male protagonists dominate children's literature, while female characters are often portrayed as dependent. This was my "AHA" moment—I had unknowingly accepted gender bias in traditional storytelling. Becoming aware of this issue encourages me to seek out and support books that offer diverse and empowering representations of both boys and girls.

Review 2

For my class, I chose two strategies: Choral Reading and Elkonin Sound Boxes. Choral reading is a teaching strategy where a group of students reads a text aloud together, often led by the teacher.

(*YouTube: Choral Reading*: https://youtu.be/o_-z8d0sRUA?si=8zs3c8FbNpeKXe2K&t=137.).

In my 5-year-old daycare classroom, I can implement this strategy by selecting age-appropriate books with simple, short sentences. During circle time, I will guide the children in reading aloud together, helping them build fluency and confidence in their reading skills. Additionally, I can incorporate Elkonin Sound Boxes into our literacy activities. This phonemic awareness tool helps children break words into individual sounds. I would introduce this strategy by giving each child a small box divided into sections, with each section representing a sound in

a word. Using manipulatives such as chips, I would guide them to place a chip in each section as they pronounce the corresponding sound.

For example, for the word "dark," they would place a counter in the /d/ box, the /ar/ box, and the /k/ box.

(*YouTube: Elkonin Boxes Demonstration*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLbWh309S1k>).

This activity strengthens children's phonemic awareness and phonics skills, both of which are crucial for reading success. By incorporating choral reading and Elkonin sound boxes into our daily routine, I can support the development of essential literacy skills in a fun and engaging way.

Works Cited

A “Choral Reading.” YouTube, uploaded by Reading Rockets, 19 Mar. 2012, https://youtu.be/o_-z8d0sRUA?si=8zs3c8FbNpeKXe2K&t=137.

“Elkonin Boxes demonstration.” YouTube, uploaded by UFLI, 28 Oct. 2015, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLbWh309S1k>.