

Reflections on the Activity: Dog Man Story

| Six Essential Elements | How is the essential included in the planned activity? |
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| 1. Builds on student's strengths and interest, opportunity for choice-making | Aside from the writing, there are several things that interest Gabby and she was the leader in choosing these: time travel, the 1980's, characters from the Dog Man story. To a certain extent, I think she is interested in relationships with other teenagers. I see it in the story. There are just a lot of factors that keep her to herself in real life, including that the school day wipes her out and she wants to be by herself when she has down time. |
| 2. Includes peers in the interaction | n/a |
| 3. Creates an atmosphere of play (social and/or symbolic) with modeling and encouragement | Yes, it is playful activity for both of us. I tried to make her laugh by having the cat character in the story climb on her head, which she did like. |
| 4. Provides a context for activity through predictable routines, consistent and accessible locations, adequate space for enactment and story creation | Please see planning sheet. |
| 5. Includes the use of props and actions and physical enactment | No props today. Please see planning sheet for discussion of computer as a talking stick. |
| 6. Adult is flexible and supportive (acknowledging, accepting, expanding on participant input) and provides scaffolding between highly directive and participatory role and non-directive encourager and scribe. | Generally, I try to balance pointing things out to Gabby in the area of grammatical forms with letting some of them go. I think I did do that today. I had a "target" identified: negotiating with peers. Other concepts that came up were picking up a phone vs. hanging it up, two social context items: a. we generally don't answer other people's phones and b. asking someone you just met "wanna be best friends." I couldn't think fast enough to address this, though I have seen something like it come up in real life with her. I don't know how obvious it was from the captured real-time document but there was a discussion about how Word had redlined her having a character say "Wanna" and she thought she had to change it. Her intervener and I spent a couple of minutes trying to explain why it was okay and that Microsoft Word is not always right. |