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DOL Class Observation and Critical Analysis

European International University

EDUC530: Dimensions of Learning: Application in the Classroom

DOL Class Observation and Critical Analysis

Anecdotal Observation and Recording

Anecdotal	Class 1	Class 2
Observation Purpose	<p>The class that I witnessed during my observation was for Grade 2, and the topic was plants, examining their traits, life cycle, and ecological significance. In line with the grade 2 science curriculum, the learning target was to improve students' comprehension of plant biology and ecological relevance. In addition, the lesson attempted to encourage students' environmental stewardship and pique their curiosity about the natural world. Students' understanding of basic biological principles was reinforced in this lesson, which also gets them ready for more cultured material in later grades, like ecosystems and biodiversity conservation.</p> <p>Pupils actively participated in practical exercises that helped them understand more deeply and reinforced important ideas. Furthermore, the teacher incorporated cross-disciplinary links by talking about how plants produce food and oxygen, connecting science</p>	<p>During the first-grade adjective lesson, students participated in exercises designed to strengthen their comprehension of descriptive words. The emphasis of the learning objective was on correctly identifying and using adjectives to describe nouns. This lesson builds the groundwork for successful communication and the development of literacy while also reinforcing language skills. As students advance in language proficiency and take on increasingly challenging writing assignments in later grades, it is imperative that they comprehend adjectives.</p> <p>Students were encouraged to develop their language skills and vocabulary by practicing using adjectives to describe people, places, and objects through interactive projects and peer participation.</p> <p>Students' capacity to communicate clearly both orally and in writing is improved when they are proficient with adjectives. This ability can be used in narrative</p>

	<p>to practical uses and environmental consciousness.</p> <p>Understanding plant biology is essential for students to appreciate the interconnectedness of living organisms and their environment. By learning about plants' role in ecosystems, students develop a sense of environmental responsibility and become informed global citizens capable of making informed decisions about conservation and sustainability. Additionally, knowledge of plant anatomy and physiology has practical applications in various fields, including agriculture, medicine, and environmental science.</p> <p>The teacher effectively communicated the learning targets through visual aids, such as posters depicting plant life cycles and diagrams illustrating plant anatomy. Additionally, verbal explanations and discussions helped clarify the purpose of the lesson and the expected outcomes for students. The teacher scaffolded instructions to accommodate diverse learning styles and ensured that all students understood the objectives of the lesson.</p>	<p>writing, descriptive writing, and oral presentations, among other situations. Learning adjectives also prepares kids for more complex language abilities like superlative and comparative forms, which expand their vocabulary and encourage expressive creativity.</p> <p>The teacher made clear what an adjective's role is in enhancing language and giving vivid descriptions. To enhance their comprehension of the learning objectives, students were urged to actively engage in conversations and pose questions.</p>
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<p>Student Engagement</p>	<p>Students actively participated in hands-on activities, such as plant identification games and planting activities (<i>in school they have specific area, an initiative called as Discovery Forest, where students get to work hands-on and explore all in detail</i>). They eagerly explored different plant specimens, observed their characteristics, and engaged in discussions about plant anatomy and functions.</p> <p>They asked questions, shared their observations, and contributed their insights, indicating a genuine interest in learning about plants.</p> <p>Students exhibited curiosity and a desire to learn more about plants and their role in the environment. They asked probing questions, such as how plants produce oxygen or why certain plants specific adaptations have, showcasing their critical thinking skills and eagerness to deepen their understanding.</p> <p>Students applied their knowledge of plant biology to real-world scenarios, discussing the importance of plants for oxygen production, food production, and ecosystem stability. They made connections between classroom learning</p>	<p>Students actively participated in interactive activities designed to reinforce their understanding of adjectives. They engaged in adjective sorting games, descriptive writing exercises, and adjective-noun matching tasks, which encouraged active involvement and peer interaction.</p> <p>They demonstrated creativity in using adjectives to describe people, places, and objects. They expressed themselves confidently through written responses, oral presentations, and storytelling activities (was able to observe this because it was double period), showcasing their language skills and imaginative thinking.</p> <p>Collaboration within the team was evident during group activities, sharing ideas, and offering feedback to each other. They worked cooperatively to complete tasks, fostering a supportive learning environment where everyone felt valued and included.</p> <p>Students showed enthusiasm for exploring descriptive language and experimenting with different adjectives. They eagerly participated in discussions, asked questions, and demonstrated a genuine interest in expanding their vocabulary and language proficiency.</p>
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	<p>and practical applications, demonstrating a deeper understanding of the subject matter.</p>	<p>Students applied their understanding of adjectives in various contexts, such as describing characters in stories, depicting scenes in artwork, and composing descriptive sentences. They made connections between adjectives and their impact on communication, recognizing the importance of descriptive language in effective expression.</p>
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<p>Curriculum & Pedagogy</p>	<p>I was impressed by the teacher’s adeptness in aligning the curriculum with the grade-level science standards. The lesson effectively engaged students in hands-on activities, such as plant identification games and planting exercises (discovery forest), which fostered experiential learning and deepened their understanding of plant biology and ecology. The teacher skillfully integrated cross-curricular connections, highlighting the interdisciplinary nature of science education and encouraging students to make connections between different subject areas. Furthermore, her use of inquiry-based instruction promoted critical thinking skills and encouraged students to actively explore scientific concepts through observation and experimentation.</p> <p>Additionally, her implementation of differentiated instruction strategies ensured that all students had equitable access to learning opportunities and could progress at their own pace.</p>	<p>The teacher demonstrated a strong understanding of language development objectives for Grade 1. The lesson effectively integrated literacy development by emphasizing the role of adjectives in enhancing descriptive writing and oral communication skills. Her use of interactive instructional strategies, such as games, activities, and collaborative tasks, actively engaged students in learning about adjectives and promoted meaningful learning experiences; also incorporated visual aids and kinesthetic learning activities to support students with diverse learning styles, ensuring that all students could effectively grasp and apply adjective concepts. Furthermore, the teacher’s scaffolded instruction provided students with the necessary guidance and support to build their vocabulary and language skills progressively.</p>
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<p>Assessment for Student Learning</p>	<p>The teacher employed a worksheet containing a series of practice exercises aligned with the instructional content covered during the lesson. While worksheets may seem traditional, they offer a tangible and straightforward means of assessing student understanding, particularly in large class settings. The worksheet provided a structured format for students to apply the key findings discussed in class and engage in both mathematical calculations and problem-solving tasks (cross curriculum). This alignment between instruction and assessment allowed for a seamless transition from learning to application, enabling students to demonstrate their understanding independently and successfully.</p> <p>In terms of assessment techniques, oral assessment predominated, supplemented by evaluations of writing abilities for more advanced students. Notably, the teacher demonstrated flexibility in accommodating individual student needs, as evidenced by allowing a capable student to utilize technology to reinforce scientific skills. This personalized approach to assessment ensured that each student's learning needs were addressed effectively.</p>	<p>The lesson showcased a rich variety of resources and approaches to evaluate student comprehension. Stations equipped with hands-on materials, such as wooden tiles, letter cards, and alphabet blocks, provided students with engaging opportunities to practice and demonstrate their understanding of adjective concepts. The use of homemade and store-bought resources reflected the teacher's resourcefulness and commitment to providing a stimulating learning environment.</p>
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<p>Classroom Environment and Culture</p>	<p>I was immediately struck by the atmosphere of orderliness and mutual respect among students and between students and the teacher. Students adhered to established classroom norms, such as raising their hands before speaking and attentively listening to the teacher. This created a conducive environment for learning, where students felt valued and supported in their academic endeavors.</p> <p>The physical environment of the classroom was thoughtfully designed to facilitate learning and engagement. Walls adorned with student work and educational resources created a visually stimulating backdrop for instruction. Different disciplinary areas, such as the math corner, word wall, performance chart, reading corner and science zone, provided students with opportunities to explore and interact with subject-specific materials, fostering a sense of curiosity and inquiry.</p>	<p>The environment was bright, modern, and inviting, with ample resources displayed prominently. Student work showcased not only academic achievements but also personal growth and development.</p> <p>The inclusion of word tags and photographs that was projected on the smart board further personalized the learning environment, allowing students to see their progress and celebrate their accomplishments. They moved between different areas, engaging with various learning stations and materials independently.</p> <p>Similarly, the teacher was actively involved in facilitating learning experiences, circulating among students, and providing support and guidance where needed. The dynamic interaction between students and the teacher fostered a sense of collaboration and shared responsibility for learning outcomes.</p>
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Critiquing Lesson Delivery against the Principles of DOL/DOT

Critical Analysis	Class 1	Class 2
Purpose	<p>While there was evident engagement through hands-on activities like plant identification games, the delivery leaned heavily towards a traditional, teacher-centered approach. Although the teacher introduced cross-curricular connections and encouraged student participation, the lesson lacked significant differentiation to address diverse learning needs effectively. The purpose of understanding plant biology and ecology was partially achieved through observable means, such as discussions and activities, but the assessment primarily relied on a worksheet, which may not have fully captured deeper conceptual understanding. Furthermore, while the lesson was well-managed and structured, there was limited evidence of formative assessment practices to monitor student progress effectively. To enhance lesson delivery, integrating more varied instructional strategies and formative assessment techniques tailored to</p>	<p>The teacher effectively engaged students through interactive activities and collaborative tasks, demonstrating a commitment to addressing diverse learning needs. The lesson incorporated a variety of instructional strategies, such as games and visual aids, to cater to different learning styles, although there was room for further differentiation. While there were observable opportunities for students to engage with adjective concepts, the assessment primarily relied on oral evaluation and hands-on activities, which may not have fully captured students' mastery of the content. The lesson was well-structured and implemented, with clear learning objectives and instructional activities, but there was a need for more explicit alignment between objectives and assessment methods to ensure accurate measurement of student learning outcomes. Integrating more varied assessment techniques and providing targeted feedback could enhance the effectiveness of the lesson delivery in achieving the principles of Differentiated Instruction, Observable Learning, and Demonstrated Outcome of Teaching.</p>

	individual learning styles and abilities could better align with the principles of Differentiated Instruction, Observable Learning, and Demonstrated Outcome of Teaching.	
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<p>Student Engagement</p>	<p>Student engagement manifested through their active involvement in hands-on activities like plant identification games and planting exercises. Their enthusiasm and curiosity were palpable as they eagerly posed questions and shared observations. Nevertheless, there was notable variability in the level of engagement among students, with some displaying greater attentiveness and participation compared to others. While the teacher actively encouraged student involvement and facilitated opportunities for exploration, there remains an opportunity to foster more consistent engagement across the entire student cohort.</p> <p>To address this, integrating additional interactive elements and introducing collaborative learning opportunities could serve to enhance student engagement and cultivate a more inclusive learning environment. By incorporating group activities, peer discussions, and cooperative projects, students may be further motivated to actively participate and interact with the subject matter. Furthermore, diversifying instructional strategies to accommodate different learning preferences and abilities could also contribute to increased engagement</p>	<p>student engagement was apparent through enthusiastic participation in interactive activities and collaborative tasks. Students demonstrated creativity and initiative in using adjectives to describe people, places, and objects, actively contributing to discussions and sharing their ideas.</p> <p>The teacher fostered a supportive learning environment where students felt comfortable experimenting with language and expressing themselves confidently.</p> <p>However, while the majority of students appeared engaged and motivated, there were instances where student attention waned, particularly during independent practice tasks. Providing additional support and reinforcement for students who may struggle with attention or motivation could help sustain engagement throughout the lesson. Overall, the teacher effectively promoted student engagement through varied instructional strategies and a positive classroom climate, but there is potential for further enhancement to ensure sustained engagement among all students.</p>
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	<p>levels. Through these efforts, the classroom experience can be enriched, ensuring that all students are actively involved and invested in their learning journey.</p>	
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<p>Curriculum & Pedagogy</p>	<p>The lesson aligns seamlessly with the grade-level science curriculum, addressing fundamental concepts in plant biology and ecology. Students delve into the details of plant structures, functions, and life cycles, meeting specific learning objectives stipulated in the curriculum standards. Through cross-curricular connections, the lesson highlights the interconnectedness of plants within ecosystems and their relevance to human existence. By fostering hands-on learning experiences, the curriculum caters to diverse learning styles, ensuring that all students engage meaningfully with the subject matter.</p> <p>Overall, the lesson effectively equips students with a comprehensive understanding of plant science while preparing them to apply their knowledge in real-world contexts.</p>	<p>The pedagogical approach prioritizes interactive and collaborative learning experiences to bolster students' language development and literacy skills. Through a rich tapestry of instructional strategies including games, activities, and visual aids, the teacher actively engages students in exploring the nuances of adjectives. Scaffolded instruction supports students in progressively building their vocabulary and language proficiency, fostering an environment where all students can confidently grasp and apply adjective concepts. By encouraging hands-on activities and peer collaboration, the pedagogy cultivates a supportive learning milieu where students feel empowered to express themselves creatively.</p> <p>Overall, the pedagogical approach effectively facilitates student learning and contributes to the attainment of curriculum objectives in language arts.</p>
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<p>Assessment for Student Learning</p>	<p>A worksheet was assigned to assess students' comprehension of plant biology concepts. While worksheets offer tangible documentation of student progress, they may limit flexibility in modifying assessments after printing. However, the worksheet in question was well-aligned with the instruction, offering a scaffolded approach to practice exercises that mirrored the lesson's content progression.</p> <p>By incorporating a mix of mathematical calculations and problem-solving tasks, students had the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding in multiple contexts. Additionally, the teacher's observance of students working independently and successfully indicates a well-executed lesson. The teacher also had tracking sheets in-hand, that kept her in track with the students performance and their level of understanding and how students meet the objectives.</p>	<p>The lesson illustrated a multifaceted approach to assessment, transcending traditional worksheets to offer students a diverse range of evaluation methods. Through the use of various stations equipped with hands-on materials and oral assessments, students were provided with numerous avenues to showcase their comprehension of adjective concepts. This interactive and tactile approach not only engaged students but also allowed them to demonstrate their understanding in ways that catered to their individual learning styles and preferences.</p> <p>Moreover, the integration of technology showcased innovative assessment practices, such as allowing students to type CVCs on online activity tasksheets (live worksheets). This creative use of technology not only demonstrated the teacher's adaptability but also provided students with a novel and engaging way to engage with the material.</p> <p>Furthermore, the inclusion of both oral and written evaluations ensured comprehensive assessment coverage, accommodating the varied learning needs and abilities of all students. By incorporating multiple modes of</p>
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		assessment, the lesson promoted inclusivity and equity, allowing every student the opportunity to demonstrate their understanding and skills.
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<p>Classroom Environment and Culture</p>	<p>The classroom environment is characterized by a sense of exploration and inquiry, with students actively participating in hands-on activities and discussions about plant biology and ecology. The teacher creates a supportive atmosphere where students feel encouraged to ask questions, share their observations, and engage in critical thinking.</p> <p>By incorporating cross-curricular connections and real-world applications, the classroom culture emphasizes the relevance of plant science to students' lives, fostering a deeper appreciation for the subject matter. Additionally, the teacher's management of the classroom ensures a safe and inclusive learning environment where all students feel valued and respected.</p>	<p>The classroom environment promotes creativity and expression, with students actively participating in interactive activities and collaborative tasks related to language development. The teacher cultivates a supportive atmosphere where students feel empowered to experiment with language and express themselves confidently. By providing opportunities for peer collaboration and hands-on learning experiences, the classroom culture fosters a sense of community and mutual respect among students. Additionally, the teacher's management of the classroom ensures a positive and inclusive learning environment where all students feel welcomed and supported.</p>
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<p>Areas for Improvement</p>	<p>Improving the utilization of formative assessment techniques, including peer assessments, think-pair-share activities, and rapid checks for understanding, offers a pathway to deliver timely feedback, enabling instructors to refine their teaching methods and monitor student advancement with precision.</p> <p>Exploring the integration of technology, such as virtual plant simulations, online research tools, and multimedia presentations, presents an avenue to heighten student involvement and facilitate interactive learning experiences that seamlessly align with the curriculum objectives.</p> <p>Shifting towards a more student-centered instructional model, characterized by inquiry-based projects, hands-on experiments, and collaborative discussions, nurtures a deeper comprehension and engagement with the subject matter. By empowering students to take on a more active role in their learning journey, educators can cultivate critical thinking skills and a heightened sense of involvement among learners.</p>	<p>Providing a wider range of instructional strategies, such as differentiated reading materials, leveled activities, and flexible grouping arrangements, can better accommodate the diverse learning needs and abilities of students in the classroom.</p> <p>Exploring ways to integrate technology into the lesson, such as interactive language learning apps, multimedia presentations, or digital storytelling tools, can enhance student engagement and provide opportunities for interactive and creative expression of adjective concepts.</p> <p>Incorporating culturally diverse examples, stories, and linguistic variations of adjectives can promote cultural relevance and sensitivity in the lesson content, ensuring that all students feel included and valued in their language learning experiences.</p>
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References

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