

Abigail Van Buren

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Education

The University of Iowa – Iowa, City, IA May 2013
Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education
Endorsements: Reading (K-6), Language Arts (K-6)
GPA: 3.95/4.0, Magna Cum Laude

Teaching Experience

Student Teaching, Walcott Intermediate School, Davenport, IA March 2013-May 2013
Grade 6

- Created a two-day inquiry lesson on recycling using papier-mâché
- Tested students using the DIBELS assessment on reading fluency and word and sound pronunciation
- Developed a three-week novel unit for a small group of high-achieving students
- Maintained professional relationships with staff and parents by attending professional development in-service days and parent-teacher conferences

Student Teaching, McKinley Elementary School, Davenport, IA January 2013-March 2013
Grade 1

- Planned and executed a Houghton Mifflin language arts unit with original supplements and accommodations
- Utilized teaching methods such as Jolly Phonics and Words Their Way during a lesson on reading strategies
- Participated in improvement seminars to promote positive discipline plans and analyze student accountability
- Organized a school-wide fundraiser with the Parent Teacher Organization to improve playground equipment

Reading Practicum, Hoover Elementary School, Iowa City, IA September 2012-December 2012
Grade 2, *100 volunteer hours completed*

- Facilitated small reading groups at all ability levels
- Wrote original plays and stories for students to practice their drama skills and word pronunciation
- Differentiated lessons for 8 English Language Learners in the classroom

Orientation Practicum, Weber Elementary School, Iowa City, IA September 2011-December 2011
Kindergarten, *30 volunteer hours completed*

- Led whole-class reviews of weekly spelling lists by presenting worksheets that helped students achieve passing grades above 70% on spelling tests
- Implemented reading strategies such as context clues to help improve students' contextual knowledge
- Participated in small-group writing activities that fostered the students' creativity

Related Experience

School Buddy, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Mark Twain Elementary School, Iowa City, IA August 2012-May 2013

- Individually mentored a first grade special education student during weekly lunches
- Read out loud with first grade student to help with reading comprehension and word pronunciation
- Played educational games and activities with my buddy to help improve interpersonal communication skills

Volunteer, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Iowa City, IA June 2010-July 2011

- Read books with patients from the Patients' Library through the Reach Out and Read program
- Served as a mentor for new volunteers by giving tours of the facility and introducing them to patients
- Interacted with patients in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit and their families to help boost morale

Professional Development

Teacher Leader Certificate – College of Education, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA December 2012

Workshops:

- *Google Drive*; Clint Huntrods, College of Education Graduate Assistant
- *Understanding Autism*; Shannon Dyson, College of Education Graduate Assistant
- *iPads/Handheld Interaction*; Clint Huntrods, College of Education Graduate Assistant

Boot Camps:

- *Assessment: Disability and Bullying*; Shannon Dyson, College of Education Graduate Assistant
- *Community: Violent Incident Survival Training*; University of Iowa Police
- *Technology: Alternative Education Models*; Ann Browning, Principal, Tate High School, Iowa City, IA

Service:

- 40 hours completed through Big Brothers Big Sisters program in Iowa City, IA during the 2012-2013 school year

Leadership Experience

Career Leadership Academy, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA August 2011-May 2013

- Participated in a four-semester academic program that focused on developing leadership and employment skills
- Strengthened communication, teamwork, interpersonal, and presentational skills through networking events and service learning projects

Hawkeye Guide, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA January 2012-August 2012

- Introduced small groups of 20 incoming freshman to The University of Iowa by familiarizing them with the campus and helping them create their fall course schedules
- Facilitated discussions with large groups of over 40 parents in order to prepare them emotionally and financially for their student's college experience

Recognition

Dean's List	8 consecutive semesters, 2009-2013
UI Honors Program	August 2009-May 2013
President's List	May 2010, 2011, 2012
National Society of Collegiate Scholars	Inducted April 2011
UI Presidential Scholarship	Awarded August 2009