

PowerPoint Reflection Paper

Part I. The process of designing the presentation:

- 1) **Explain why using PowerPoint for the Lesson Development segment of your lesson would enhance student learning.**

PowerPoint would enhance student learning for the Lesson Development segment of my lesson because it will allow them to be able to see the relationship of everyday objects with the geometric shapes we will be covering. Real life objects are not always readily available for teachers to help enhance student learning, so pictures on each slide could substitute for the lack of the actual object. Students will be asked to fill in charts with material reviewed in the PowerPoint presentation. These opportunities to take notes from the PowerPoint may help the students remember and understand the material we are covering.

- 2) **Justify the initial design choices (why you made the initial decisions you did regarding background, color, font, graphics, etc. on your master slide layout sheet).**

My plan for my PowerPoint design was supposed to be simple and neat but not too boring for the students. I did not want them to have too many distractions so I left the background white. The text was also simple. I let the color be black. Since I had so many graphics on each slide I did not think I needed the color text or backgrounds. In order to make the slide a little interesting I changed the style of my font to comic sans ms. I also decided to add pictures of everyday objects next to the actual shape so that they could have examples to remind them of the shape. All the shapes were things that the students could relate to or either pictures that they may find interesting.

- 3) **Describe what steps you did in preparation before beginning your presentation.**

Before constructing my PowerPoint presentation, I chose a grade-level and a subject area that I wanted to teach. I chose fourth-grade mathematics. Next I chose a standard and an indicator pertaining to my grade-level and my subject area from the South Carolina Department of Education Curriculum Standards. Next, I created a concept map using *Inspiration 9* that pertained to my standard. I used this map to create a lesson plan using *Microsoft Word 2007*. My lesson plan included an attention getter, an introduction, lesson development, guided practice, closure/wrap up, and an assessment. The lesson development section of my lesson plan is what my PowerPoint presentation was based on.

Part II. The process of creating the presentation using both *Inspiration* and PowerPoint.

- 1) **Explain in detail your initial design decisions from Part I above as well as your presentation content may have changed to produce the final product.**

My design choices stayed the same throughout the project. I had an idea of the way I wanted my presentation to look before I started working on the actual project and it turned out well so I did not have to make any changes. My final product was my initial idea. The same thing goes for using *Inspiration*. The concept I had to teach was clear-cut and I did not have any changes to make to that.

- 2) **Justify why you have made the changes you did to design and/or content in terms of enhancing student learning.**

As I stated before, I had a plan before I started and I stuck with it for the most part. I felt as though the design and content I chose were appropriate for the age group I would be teaching the content to. Even though my design lacked all the color and designs, the material was still presented clearly and it was also intriguing.

3) Explain what you thought was your biggest challenge you had in developing this presentation.

My biggest challenge with this project was that I did not know how kids would react to the PowerPoint presentation. The entire time I was designing it I kept thinking that maybe I needed to add more color and more shapes but as I continued and got opinions from my peers I made up my mind to keep my design the way it was. The problem is you do not know how a particular group of kids may act towards the PowerPoint. One group of fourth-graders may think it is boring, while the other group may find it fun and interesting.

Part III: A reflection of the experience of creating a PowerPoint presentation to teach content information to students on your prepared grade level.

1) What did you learn about your initial lesson plan?

I learned that there is more to teaching a student than just standing in front of a classroom. You must have a plan in order for the student to understand what they are learning. I also learned that there are many steps and methods to teaching.

2) What did learn about how to teach using a PowerPoint presentation?

I learned that slides do not always have to be flashy and colorful. Too many graphics and color can distract the student and make them forget the objective of the lesson. Another distraction can be too much content on one slide. The minimum should be six lines per slide.