

Product Proposal - Elementary Education

Introduction and Statement of Purpose

I plan to create a presentation that illustrates ways to enhance students' overall learning experience by providing a learning environment where they can excel by straying away from the traditional learning conditions. I will conduct research about different strategies that improve learning experiences such as flexible seating, benefits of no homework, shorter school days, ect. I will also talk to my mentor and ask about her observations she has seen using these strategies and compare them to my research. I will take everything that I learned and put it into a presentation to be presented to upper administration. I am hoping by analyzing all this information and sharing it with people, it could open eyes to realize that there are new and better ways to improve learning conditions for students.

Review of Skills and Research

I will need to conduct research on a variety of methods that improve students academic performance and attention span in the classroom. For instance, I plan on focusing on how flexible seating improves a learning environment. I have witnessed how flexible seating can help students who have an attention deficit or anxiety. I am interested in conducting actual research over this topic to see what findings have been concluded from professionals who have implemented this into their classrooms. In addition to flexible seating, I also want to conduct research on the benefits of no homework and shorter school days. Finland has the highest education rate and their school days are only a couple of hours and they're not allowed to assign homework. I might compare and contrast the education system of Finland to the US and see how we could improve our education system to get results like they do. Overall, my research will focus on ways to improve students' overall learning experience in the classroom so that they can excel in their academic performance.

Since I have already witnessed some flexible seating in an elementary school classroom, I will use this knowledge to further expand my research and findings. Also, I know how jumpy students at the elementary level can be, and how having a way to move around helps them focus. However, I will learn what ways best help different kinds of students academically and physically. Whether it's a type of chair, the way a lesson is presented to them, taking small breaks, ect. Finally a skill that I will need to learn is how to gain the trust of an administrator. I want them to take me and my research seriously, so I need to learn how to approach them when presenting my final product.

Methodology

- **Participants:** 4th grade students in my mentorship class (Both Ms. Wood's homeroom and switch class).
- **Materials:** Computer to conduct research, Journal to conduct in person findings, Canva/Google slides to use to create my final presentation.
- **Description of Process and Procedures:** I will first begin by brainstorming with my mentor a variety of ways that could improve a student's learning experience. Once we have gathered a few ideas, I will turn to the internet and conduct research to find even more methods. After I have an overview of the particular methods I want to

focus on, I will begin conducting my research over these techniques/conditions. In addition to researching them and their benefits, I will also conduct real life findings by using my mentorship class. I will use them as a way to compare my research findings to how it actually affects my students. I will be documenting my findings into a journal so that I can refer to them later on. After I have gathered all of this data, I will put it into a presentation that would have upper administrators as the target audience. The presentation would include research, data, examples and more information about what I have learned throughout this project.

Utilization of Higher-Level Thinking Skills

I will use higher level thinking skills throughout my final product because I will be analyzing data and using it to construct a presentation. During my research about different methods that can help a child improve their academic performance, I will then take the information that I collected and put it into trial using my mentorship class. I will be analyzing this data to conclude if the research’s results match with my classroom. After I have collected all my data and analyzed the results, I will then construct a thought out presentation. I want the audience to see how hard I worked on my findings and take it into proper consideration.

Conclusions

I anticipate the outcome of my product to be a success! I hope for it to be able to benefit students all over the area. After concluding my product I will hopefully have a better understanding about how to help benefit students into improving their academic performance by creating an acceptable learning environment. I think the results will conclude that when students are able to have more freedom in their learning, they will be more willing to learn. I think that students often perform better when they are given a more accommodating learning atmosphere, which is what I hope my project will conclude. My product will benefit all students and teachers in the real world. Hopefully teachers will see my presentation and realize that these methods could really benefit their students in the classroom. Thus meaning, the students will benefit from the various methods they will be introduced to that can help them excel.

Product Calendar/Timeline

Week 1 Jan. 18-22	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Discuss Product Proposal with Mentor ● Begin brainstorming method ideas with Mentor
Week 2 Jan. 23-29	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue brainstorming method ideas with Mentor ● Observing ways students in the classroom focus best
Week 3 (Jan. 30- Feb. 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Begin researching other methods of ways that help students academically achieve
Week 4 (Feb. 6-12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue researching ideas ● Begin narrowing which methods I want to focus on

Week 5 (Feb. 13-19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have methods narrowed down ● Begin discussing ways I can implement these methods into the classroom
Week 6 (Feb. 20-26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Start implementing methods (such as flexible seating) in the classroom and comparing it to normal academic performance
Week 7 (Feb. 27-March. 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue implementing methods and observing, gathering data
Week 8 (March 6-12)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continue implementing methods and observing, gathering data
Week 9 (March 13-19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Begin taking the data and making conclusions about which methods work/are the most effective
Week 10 (March 20-26)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Begin putting all of my findings into a presentation
Week 11 (March 27-April 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Continuing to work on my presentation
Week 12 (April 3-9)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Finalizing my presentation ● Having mentor check over everything ● Final touches
Week 13 (April 10-11) DUE 11th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Turn in Final Product by April 11th