

## **Horse Helpers Lessons**

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 Mon, Jul 16, 2018 at 1:30 PM

I am so thankful for the well thought out and informative lessons written for the Horse Helpers program. The lesson objectives matched well with our state curriculum, with students brainstorming, thinking out of the box, inferencing, collaborating, writing and speaking orally. Students were not only exposed to the text, but also invited to engage with it. I felt that best practices were modeled in a variety of ways, but my favorite was the development of knowledge through the text when they were asked to research a piece of the information about horses. Students were then asked to reinforce their comprehension of what they had read by sharing it first in small group, then with the whole group. This stair step method of sharing allows confidence to grow and makes students more comfortable using their own voice. In addition, analysis of one of the characters allowed students a window into the feeling of the text while also supporting strong vocabulary. I really was impressed with the variety of text made available to the students to meet their specific reading levels. This supports both academic and social growth in so many ways. I feel like the curriculum shared today will not only engage students but help them grow into stronger readers. Thanks so much for sharing with us!

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