

A Day in the Life of a Day Site Instructor

(This instructor is assigned to a math course.)

8:00 After arriving at the site, I went to the office to check my mailbox and signed in. I had a phone message from a parent in my mailbox. I quickly got everything organized for the morning class session so that I could call the parent before the students arrived. It was an informative call that provided helpful information about the student. After the call, I completed the proper form to document the conversation.

8:40 I went over to the drop-off area for several minutes to greet arriving students and then quickly went back to the classroom before students were brought there. I had a few moments for some last-minute prep.

9:00 All students were present and accounted for. Jessica, our PA, joined us in the classroom after completing her carline responsibilities. I observed as Jessica led a warm-up exercise for the class. She did a fantastic job, which I made certain to tell her. During the exercise, I jotted down a few of the students' comments to use in student evaluations. After the warm-up, Jessica left for her PA meeting.

9:15 We worked on estimations today by doing some hands-on exploration. I walked around the room, observing as the students used their journals to record estimations before they weighed samples. As they worked, I noted a few more items to use in student evaluations. We discussed methods used to make accurate estimations. Jessica returned near the end of the lesson and helped facilitate the discussion.

10:15 Break time! Jessica supervised the students; I had ten minutes to go to the restroom and review my plans for the next lesson.

10:25 A student returned from break and showed me his tooth that had just fallen out. Jessica walked him over to the Health Office while the rest of us settled in for our next class session. I did a ten minute "mini lesson" on a new concept, and then walked around while the students worked in pairs on a follow-up graphing assignment.

11:30 At lunchtime, Jessica and I walked over to the cafeteria with our students. Although I don't join the class for lunch every day, I do so fairly often. It gives me the chance to speak casually with the students or maybe continue a discussion about concepts from class.

12:30 The students returned to the classroom from lunch and prepared to present their projects. Jessica left to set up for the recreational activity period that she will be supervising later in the day. As the students gathered their materials, I noticed that Michael looked uneasy. I pulled him aside and after some reassurance that stage fright is normal, he felt just fine and volunteered to go second. The presentations were phenomenal! The students love sharing their ideas.

1:30 Jessica returned and took the class outside for a quick break. I set up materials for our final academic session and had time to make a few copies in the office.

1:40 After finishing our estimations, the class headed outdoors armed with journals, rulers, and tape measures to check our predictions. Back in the classroom, the students reviewed their notes and did a quick write-up in their math journals.

2:30 Time for recreational activities! The students and Jessica headed out for activities. I went to the conference room for our instructor meeting. After the meeting, I had a few minutes to chat with the academic dean about my parent call from that morning. Then, I headed back to the classroom to provide feedback in students' journals and review my notes on students' progress.

3:45 Everyone returned to class for last-minute reminders. I handed out the homework assignment, provided some brief instructions, answered a few quick questions, and off we went to the pick-up area. After the last students were taken to After-Care, I headed back to the classroom for a quick wrap-up meeting with Jessica. We talked about tomorrow's lesson on pie and bar graphs and went over some strategies for challenging the students to think creatively in our problem-solving sessions. Then, we went to the office to sign out and checked our mailboxes one last time. Another exciting CTY day finished!