L E R A C

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LATERAL ENTRY RESOURCE AND ADVISING CENTER
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES

336.378.8823
712 N. EUGENE STREET, GREENSBORO, NC 27401

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Lateral Entry Website Now Available!

http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/index.htm

Lateral Entry ESL Teacher Lande Brady Links Learning and Language

Page High ESL biology and earth science teacher, Lande Brady, finds teaching to be the most challenging yet also the most rewarding experience of her life. Like all teachers, Brady must teach the curriculum; however, her students also are learning the English language. Fortunately, her students bring with them a great appreciation for learning in America and a great work ethic.

Brady uses lots of hands-on projects in her classroom. For example, to teach the concept of erosion, she gave them pizza boxes (thanks to a kind donation), sand, paper, and other supplies along with directions for constructing a landscape on the left side of the open box. As she taught new terms, the students created, on the right side of the open box, the same landscape 1,000 years from now. By creating and sharing their dioramas with classmates, students could see and really understand the concept of erosion.

"My students at first were very shy and did not like to speak aloud," Brady explains. To help facilitate discussion, Brady moved them out of the traditional setting to a circle seating arrangement on the floor and to an outdoor learning area. They quickly began to open up and now participate in lively classroom discussions on a variety of science topics, including a discussion on the food chain as they dissected owl pellets (see photo below).

Another way Brady teaches new words and new concepts is through edible assignments. While learning about DNA, Brady's students made DNA using gummy bears and Twizzlers. Through this project, students learned that DNA comes in base pairs represented by the four colors of the gummy bears. At the end of lesson, students understood the structure of DNA and were rewarded with a snack---their DNA model.

Teresa McNeill, Program Director of Page's Intensive English Language School, describes Brady's teaching as "hands-on, experiential learning with the language acquisition element mixed into the final product. " *(Continued on page 3)*

Would you like to help?

You can help by donating the following items for Lande Brady's ESL students:

- Notebooks, paper, pens, and pencils
- Markers, colored pencils, colored sidewalk chalk, modeling clay
- Craft supplies for hands-on projects
- Snacks

Contact Lande Brady at bradyl2@gcsnc.com

Upcoming Events

December 2008

6	GCS ACT Frameworks Course 8:30 – 3:30
16	Professional Networking for all Lateral Entry teachers, 5 PM – 6:30 PM at Natty Greene's, Downtown Greensboro.
22	Teacher Workday: Prepare for January 5
23	Winter Break Begins

January 2008

5	First Day Back for Teachers and Students
10	GCS ACT Frameworks Course 8:30 –3:30
19	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
26	Protected Workday
27	Professional Networking for all Lateral Entry teachers, 5 PM – 6:30 PM at J. Butler's (near Hwy 68 and Wendover)
31	GCS ACT Frameworks Course 8:30 –3:30

Get Connected!

Save the date! Join us on **Tuesday evening, December 16**, from 5 to 6:30 PM for our next lateral entry professional networking event at **Natty Greene's Pub** in Downtown Greensboro.

Meet our GCS superintendent**, Mr. Mo Green,** at Natty Greene's! Additional special guests include representatives from the following areas of the Human Resources Department: Staffing, Administration, Mission Possible, Employment, Lateral Entry, Operations, and more!

Come enjoy a fun and relaxing evening together, visit with our special guests, talk to other lateral entry professionals, and share and receive great ideas and helpful information.

Are you a BT 2 or BT 3 in need of additional help and support? If so, we want to help!

Click on this link to request **ON-DEMAND SUPPORT:**

http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/ondemand.htm

Frequently Asked Questions

I am a BT3 and have one class left to take for my LE requirements. Can I wait until this summer to take that class?

You cannot wait. You must complete all of your required courses and pass the Praxis II test in your licensure area PRIOR TO JUNE 30th. There are no extensions on the date that is recorded both on your letter from NCDPI and on your temporary license from NCDPI.

I am so busy during the month of December with teaching, planning, grading, and keeping up with all of the special December events both at school and at home. Can I wait until early January to register for my classes?

December is a very busy month—and a short work month for GCS schools and colleges and universities. However, to secure your seat in the class (es) that you need, you really do need to register for the course(s) before winter break. Some colleges and universities close for winter break before GCS so you need to contact your college program advisor and/or a college admissions counselor to help you with your application and registration. Classes will fill so do take care of your class registration as soon as possible. Please do not wait until January to register for spring classes. By then, it may be too late.

I am following my RALC program of study. Are there certain classes I must take?

You must take only specific, approved courses listed on the RALC website that are aligned to your program of study. You may not substitute courses. For details on courses at different colleges and universities, visit this website:
http://www.ralc.ccs.k12.nc.us/4%20universities.htm

(*Continued from Page 1)*
Ms. Brady, McNeill continues, "is developing extraordinary lessons that are on target with the SCOS and making modifications without watering down the content. Her students are excited about learning and they are making strides with the science and the English in concert."

To teach about nonrenewable resources, Brady hid about 200 pennies around the room. Students had 30 seconds to 'mine' for pennies. They had to quickly record their day's findings back at their desk or risk a cave in. They repeated the mining and recording until they discovered there were no more pennies. The nonrenewable resource had been depleted. At that point they realized, "Oh, just like coal or oil!" Her students constructed solar-powered ovens out of cardboard and tin foil while learning about renewable resources. They discussed the angles of the reflected sunlight while students warmed their marshmallows using the sunlight.

Finally, with a school team effort, Brady's students were treated to a pizza party and movie in the media center after school during Spirit Week and then experienced, for the first time, the American tradition (and Page tradition) of football! Brady shares, "I am not sure when or how it happened, but my students have taught me just as much if not more than I could ever hope to teach them. The experiences they have had in their lives to get to the place they are now are simply astounding…I feel very lucky to be able to call them my students."

We wish you a very happy holiday season and a restful winter break!
--Amy, Tina, & Pamela

Contact Information

http://www.gcsnc.com/HR/lateral/index.htm

Amy Holcombe, Ph.D.
Executive Director,
Talent Development
(336) 335-3294 x5016
holcoma@gcsnc.com

Tina Johnson, M.A.
Specialist,
Lateral Entry
(336) 378.8823 x 1
johnsot2@gcsnc.com

Pamela Herndon, M.Ed.
Specialist,
Lateral Entry
(336) 378.8823 x 2
herndop@gcsnc.com

Lateral Entry Resource and Advising Center
Office of Lateral Entry Specialists
712 N. Eugene Street
Warehouse