

12-1-2009

Literacy for Life

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Recommended Citation

Delaney, Sr. St. John and Gordon, staff, Caitlin, "Literacy for Life" (2009). *Cornerstone 2 Reports : Community Outreach and Empowerment Through Service Learning and Volunteerism*. Paper 12.
<http://digitalcommons.pace.edu/cornerstone2/12>

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Status Report

Literacy for Life

Cornerstone # 2

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Dec. 1, 2009

Mid-project Report

GOALS

- a. Enrich and implement the literacy skills of children from the age of 6 to 13
- b. Use technology for literacy instruction
- c. Promote and utilize thinkfinity sources
- d. Provide a nurturing environment for students and families
- e. Reach out to the community to determine needs to be served by the Center

Progress:

Twelve children ages five and six from the Elmsford School district specifically Dixon School have met each week at The Center for Literacy Enrichment on the White Plains Campus. Each week Sr. St. John Delany has met with parents to inform them of the progress with the program and specifically their children's individual progress. The program focuses on improving the student's literacy skills through the use of Visual Literacy techniques. Verizon's Thinkfinity website provides sources that are used in instruction each week for the children. In tracking student progress we were astounded to find great improvements in reading comprehension, listening skills, following directions, and overall reading and writing skills. Thus far, students have participated in lessons focusing on Claude Monet, Pablo Picasso, Vincent Van Gogh, and Thanksgiving just to name a few. The hope is that the scope of their general schema can be expanded by providing them with information through the use of visual literacy and traditional reading and writing techniques. 6 graduate level students have

volunteered on different occasions to help with the management and flow of the program. Additionally, faculty and staff from the university have also been affected by the grant, through presentations of the work being done, and explanations and examples of the materials and lessons taught through Literacy for Life.