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Spring 2020

## Written Reflections and Discussion Forums-- Math for Elementary School Teachers (Q2S-EP: Math 301AQBR and Math 301BQBR )

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### Recommended Citation

Creswell, Stephanie, "Written Reflections and Discussion Forums-- Math for Elementary School Teachers (Q2S-EP: Math 301AQBR and Math 301BQBR )" (2020). *Q2S Enhancing Pedagogy*. 141.

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**Q2S-EP: Math 301AQBR and Math 301BQBR**  
**Written Reflections and Discussion Forums**

**Name:**

Stephanie A. Creswell

**Date:**

Spring 2020

**Document Type:**

Assignment

**Abstract:**

Preparing for the transition from quarters to semesters, instructors of the mathematics sequence for future elementary teachers (Math 301ABC, Math 308 and their semester equivalents 3011, 3012 and 3013) applied research about best practices for online learning in mathematics to the quarter bridge courses Math 301AQBR and 301BQBR that each include 0.5 units of online activities. Successful activities piloted in the quarter bridge courses may be implemented in the 3011-3012-3013 semester sequence and their associated lab courses 3011L-3012L-3013L. This paper focuses on written reflections and group discussion forums associated with the class textbook *Powerful Problem Solving* by Max Ray.

**Project Results:**

Written Reflection: Throughout the class, students are assigned chapters to read from the textbook *Powerful Problem Solving* by Max Ray. After students read a chapter, we assign a reflection prompt created by Dr. Shawn L. McMurrin. [Powerful Problem Solving \(Ray\) Reflection Prompts](#).

Discussion Forum: After students complete the written reflection, each student is instructed to upload their reflection on their assigned group discussion forum created on BlackBoard. Each group consists of 3-4 students. Once their written reflection is uploaded, each group member is responsible for reading all other group member's written reflection and responding with a minimum of one insightful comment.

Grading: The following rubrics were used to grade the written reflections and discussion forums.

Name		PPS (Ray) Written Reflection Rubric				
Description						
Rubric Detail						
Criteria	Levels of Achievement					
	Beginning	Developing	Approaching	Meeting	Exceeding	
Personal Reflection	<b>1 Points</b> Responded to 20% of the reflection prompt.	<b>2 Points</b> Responded to 40% of the reflection prompt.	<b>3 Points</b> Responded to 60% of the reflection prompt.	<b>4 Points</b> Responded to 80% of the reflection prompt.	<b>5 Points</b> Responded to 100% of the reflection prompt.	

Name PPS (Ray) Discussion Rubric

Description

Rubric Detail

Criteria	Levels of Achievement				
	Beginning	Developing	Approaching	Meeting	Exceeding
Discussion Comments	<b>1 Points</b> Comments were basic and did not meet the quantity expectation	<b>2 Points</b> Comments were basic and met the quantity expectation or Comments were good and did not meet the quantity expectation	<b>3 Points</b> Comments were good and met the quantity expectation or Comments were insightful and did not meet the quantity expectation	<b>4 Points</b> Comments were insightful and met the quantity expectation	<b>5 Points</b> Comments were insightful and went above the quantity expectation

Example: Below is an example assignment for the first two chapters in the textbook, followed by one group's thread to their discussion forum.

<b>Powerful Problem Solving (Ray)</b>	
<b>Read:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chapter 1</li><li>• Chapter 2</li></ul>	<b>T 4/14 (10:00 AM)</b>
<b>Reflect:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Based on the reading from <b>chapter two</b>, answer each prompt in 2-3 sentences (you can write more if you want to). In your response, please refer to the specific passage or passages that prompted your response. Include something that the passage said as well as the page number.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ I notice...</li><li>○ I liked...</li><li>○ I wonder...</li><li>○ I learned...</li></ul></li></ul>	<b>T 4/21 (10:00 AM)</b>
<b>Post:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post your reflection from <b>Ch 2</b> on your group's discussion board <b>Powerful Problem Solving (Ray) Ch 2 Reflection Group Discussion</b>.</li></ul>	<b>F 4/24 (EOD)</b>
<b>Discuss:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• On your group's discussion board <b>Powerful Problem Solving (Ray) Ch 2 Reflection Group Discussion</b>, read each group member's reflection.</li><li>• Make a minimum of <b>one</b> comment on <b>each</b> group member's reflection. These comments will be graded on the <b>quality</b> of your comment. For example, "I like your reflection" is not an acceptable comment.</li></ul>	<b>T 4/28 (10:00 AM)</b>

6 days ago



Ch2 Reflection: [redacted]

Math 301 Ch. 2 Reflection.docx (12.552 KB)

Reply

2 days ago



RE: Ch2 Reflection: [redacted]

I like that you took an example of how older students can contact the teacher/professor for help about homework questions via email, Facebook, or Twitter and came up with a awesome idea to incorporate that into your own classroom with younger students. I think the Remind Me app is great but I especially think the small board with post it notes where students can post questions every day about their homework is awesome! It gives those students who are possibly shy or just afraid to speak up a chance to anonymously get the homework help they need. I honestly would have appreciated the post it note idea as a student myself and I think that I might borrow your idea when I become a teacher as well, so thank you.

1 day ago



RE: Ch2 Reflection: [redacted]

Hi [redacted], and I definitely agree that communication on social media such as Twitter, Facebook, won't really work for children who are K-8. And I loved your idea where you will have a small board where students will be able to post their homework questions.