Jessica Trelstad

Weekly Reflection

9/28/15-10/2/15

This week I got to take a look at the video captured of me teaching the class and focus deeper on my classroom management skills. One of the things I focused on, is what the students were doing while I was teaching. I found it amazing that I was so focused on delivering the content I was teaching, that I didn't even notice one of the students tugging on my pant leg as I was delivering the lesson. Many of the students were not engaged as I was talking. When I asked questions, it was the same five students raising their hands every time. A few of the students were sitting in places on the carpet that they could not possibly see what I was teaching on the whiteboard. This made me realize all of the little classroom management pieces that you don't realize are there until they are happening right in front of you. I understand that perfecting all of these problems will take time and experience, but it was very beneficial for me to become aware of them this week. The next lesson I teach, I plan to pay more attention to these classroom management pieces as well as the content being delivered.

A particular child has stood out to me this week. This child is at a pre-school reading level in first grade. She also struggles socially. She physically pokes at other kids and gets in their faces. It was my first experience working with such a prickly little person. She is very hard to work with in every aspect. I thought a lot about why this little person could be struggling so much. It became very clear to me that as a teacher, I need to make it a priority to not let these tough students go. It is important that as teachers we not ignore these little ones that are hard to work with. It can be exhausting and difficult, but they are the ones that need us the most. This is something I will definitely take with me when I have my own classroom.