Abstract

The ideas, reflections, and connections presented on the website <http://withamnlgl.weebly.com> convey the journey I took from teaching in Connecticut through the New Literacies and Global Learning K-12 Reading program in the College of Education at North Carolina State University. I came to the program with many passions and concerns regarding education, and through the NLGL Creative Synthesis process I solidified these into a compelling question that guided me. This question, *how can I use 21st century technologies to support the literacy development and global awareness of struggling readers in low-income schools,* merged three issues critical to my students from my teaching experience. Literacy skills in multiple forms of communication and media are essential and provide opportunities for me to expand the horizons of my students and deliver interventions and assistance as a reading specialist with my struggling students. The New Literacies and Global Learning program has prepared me to provide my future students with the 21st century skills and competencies necessary for life in a global society and success in a global economy. The K-12 Reading focus has given me content and pedagogical knowledge and the tools, resources, and skills I need to be successful in helping struggling readers of all ages and abilities unlock the doors to reading fluency, comprehension, motivation, and success. Having reached the culmination of the journey, the next steps are to put it into practice educating students and promoting literacy in all forms in my classroom and life.

Amanda Marie Witham

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