Project Summary

I volunteered in a 4th grade classroom during end of level testing. End of level testing is a very stressful time for both students and teachers. The tests are the criteria used to evaluate how the teacher and the school are performing. This is also a stressful time for students because they spend more time cramming material and less time doing fun learning activities. By volunteering I was able to increase the amount of one on one tutoring needed to help students learn essential concepts that they would be tested on.

Project Highlights

I had many great experiences during my service learning project.

- I am an Education major and I was able to cement in my mind that teaching is the right career for me. I loved working with the students and seeing the joy in their eyes when they finally understood a concept.
- I receive many presents from the students, such as pictures, handwritten storybooks, art projects, and erasers.
- Elementary student say some of the funniest things. One of the girls told me that she really like my shoes and she wanted to know if she could have them when I grew out of them.

Even though I had a few rough moments, I realize by completing this project that working with students is very rewarding for me.

From My Journal

“All of the students who got less than 70% on the test had to retake it. I took all of the students who had to retake the test into the empty classroom next door…. It was a lot harder to keep the students from talking during the test than I thought it would be.”