

ABSTRACT

THE ROLE OF CRITICAL LITERACY IN A FIRST GRADE CLASSROOM

Questioning, thinking, and considering the way things were, are, and what they can be is the heart of critical literacy. This study examined the significance of teaching critical literacy to 19 first grade students. A 3-week course of study concentrating on critical literacy instruction was evaluated and described in detail. Information was gathered by way of field notes, researcher's log, student interviews, student journals, and audio taped recordings of classroom lessons. Results supported previous findings that first grade students can take a critical stance during reading, which allows for multiple perspectives and a deeper awareness of the literature as well as the world in which they live.

Denise Renee White
May 2005