**Lesson Plan Outline Computer Technology in the Classroom**

**Lesson Name:** Using Computers to Make Learning Fun.

**State Standard:** 4.1.08 Use active comprehension strategies to derive meaning while reading and to check for understanding after reading.

4.1.13 Develop and sustain a motivation for reading.

**Instructional Objectives:**

* TLW express their own personal reactions and opinions to a given literary selection by using their higher order thinking skills in response to teacher prompted questions.
* TLW demonstrate an appreciation and motivation for reading by accessing and using the school media center to actively integrate technology into literacy.

**Materials and Media:**

* Book: *The Indian in the Cupboard.*
* Each student will be assigned their own personal computer in the computer lab.
* Teacher Computer
* Overhead Projector
* Whiteboard
* Dry Erase markers
* Website: [www.abcya.com/word\_clouds.htm](http://www.abcya.com/word_clouds.htm)
* Students: Pencil and Paper

**Lesson**

* **Set (Introduction):** “Today we are going to review some important things that we have been discussing while reading *The Indian in the Cupboard.* To make this lesson a little more fun, we are going to head down to the computer lab. By using computers, we are allowing ourselves to be creative, while using a tool that is very important to our futures. While in the computer lab, we are going to review *The Indian in the Cupboard* by tapping into our higher order thinking skills. Please take a pencil and paper with you in case you need to make any notes, and follow me!”
* **Instruction (Body):** This lesson is to be taught as a during reading strategy.
* **Entire Lesson is Post Reading**
* Once in the computer lab, instruct the students to pull up the internet explorer browser. Once all screens are on the same page, direct students to the following website: <http://www.abcya.com/word_clouds.htm>
* Each of the previous processes are to be modeled on the overhead projector.
* Next, draw the students’ attention to the front of the room where the teacher will have the following 3 questions written on the whiteboard that the students are to answer.

1. List and describe in detail your two favorite characters from our story, then explain WHY these two characters are your favorite.
2. If you were in Omri’s shoes and could put ANY plastic toy into the cupboard, what would you put in and why?
3. How do you think that Omri’s magic cupboard will impact the lives of the toys he changes? Will they remember their encounters with Omri?

* Ask each student to write their responses to these questions inside the white text box on the abcya website. Demonstrate on the overhead if necessary.
* Once questions are answered, have students print their answers in order to receive or record for evaluation purposes. \*Make sure students name and date are on this screen!
* Once students have printed their answers, allow students to continue to the next page to create their word cloud.
* The word cloud jumbles their words and allows the student to change the color, font, size, and landscape of their text. This lets each student creatively express themselves.
* Once word cloud is complete, allow students to print again.

**Closure (Conclusion):** “Wasn’t this an exciting review?! We not only improved our comprehension of our story, but we were able to use the computers to make our learning creative and fun. Now, what I would like for you to do is turn to a neighbor and give them your answer to either question 1, 2, or 3. Using technology is such a great way to increase our learning and we will continue to use different aspects of technology throughout my stay here with you guys!”

**Assessment and Evaluation:** All students will be participating in holistic and individual assessment. The teacher will monitor participation and contributions. Group feedback, as well as their own individual responses and word clouds will help the teacher determine if:

* Students can navigate through different areas of a webpage to read and locate information.
* Students can recall and retell specific events within the literary reading.
* Students can use information from a text as well as their own schemata to respond to higher order thinking questions.
* Students enjoy and benefit from using technology to learn.

**Reflection of Candidate:**

Though the students thoroughly enjoyed getting to spend ample time on the computers, this lesson was full of kinks and mishaps. ABCya.com was not the original planned website to visit for my technology lesson. I feel this lesson plan would have worked much better and been more effective if the students were able to use Glogster.com to create a poster for their review. However, Glogster.com is blocked from Anderson County Schools. Using ABCya.com allowed the students to review by typing their answers into a dialog box, then printing. After their initial print the students were able to create word clouds, which they again enjoyed but, what not a very practical review tool. Once the word cloud was created, students could not go back and reread their responses, since the purpose of a word cloud is to jumble the words. Word clouds work great for spelling or vocabulary reviews, but not a very strong strategy for comprehension. In the future, I will not re-teach this lesson using this same process, but I will continue to use ABCya.com and word clouds for teaching other methods and or lessons.