

NC DPI

Rosslyn Waddell from Barnes Elementary, Wilson County, Discussing Schoolnet

Waddell: Rosslyn Waddell

Waddell: Hello. My name is Rosslyn Waddell. I am a third grade teacher at B.O. Barnes Elementary.

The materials that I like to use from Schoolnet are the lesson plans, the unit plans, and the assessments. In the past, when I was lesson planning, I would go online and try to find the best lesson plan for that standard. Now, all I have to do is just go to Schoolnet, filter with the standards that I'm looking for, and there you have it. The resources are right there. The interactive games are there. If you need to give a spot-check assessment—sometimes I do—that's there, too.

The process for searching for materials is very simple. It's a quick process. All I do—first, I like to give a pretest. The pretest will tell me where my students are and what standards I need to spend more time on. Then, after I get the pretest, I look at the skill's analysis, and that pretty much leads me to the type of materials that I have to use in my instruction to achieve the goal that I am trying to accomplish.

I use the materials in my classroom in two different ways. When I give the post-test on a particular skill—now we're studying fractions, so in a few weeks I will administer a post-test. Once I administer the post-test, I will take a look at where my students fall. Schoolnet helps me group my students where their weaknesses lie, and I can also look at their strengths, for that matter.

When that is done, I have the materials handy on Schoolnet, and it gives me a wealth--like a treasure box--of ideas of how to address those weaknesses or enhance those strengths. Once that is done, I take a look at the whole group analysis to see if all my students have mastered that standard, and, if they didn't, what exactly happened during that lesson. What were the weaknesses, what were the strengths? And if there are some gaps, I—there that I need to close.

One I tip I have for teachers is to relax. DPI has done the hard part for us. They provided us with Schoolnet. We don't have to stay up all night and filter through the Internet, looking for lesson plans; all we have to do is just use Schoolnet.

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