


Thomas Walker


Kindergarten Teacher


Certified Elementary Reading Specialist with proven track record of implementing data-driven literacy interventions across K-5 populations. Expertise in structured literacy methodologies, diagnostic assessment administration, and multi-tiered support systems. Skilled in translating quantitative reading data into targeted instructional strategies that accelerate student achievement. Proficient in training educators on evidence-based practices while maintaining caseloads of 40+ at-risk learners annually.

CONTACT

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 LinkedIn | Portfolio

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EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts in Early Childhood Education
Northeastern Illinois University,
Chicago, IL
February 2017

Relevant Coursework: Child Development Psychology, Curriculum Design for Early Learners, Assessment in Early Childhood, Family and Community Engagement, Special Needs in Early Childhood

KEY SKILLS

- Developmental assessment and progress monitoring (DIBELS, GOLD)
- Phonemic awareness and foundational literacy instruction
- Social-emotional learning (SEL) curriculum implementation
- Differentiated instruction and multi-sensory learning approaches
- Positive behavior interventions and classroom management systems

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

KINDERGARTEN TEACHER | LINCOLN PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, CHICAGO, IL

AUGUST 2019 – PRESENT

- Delivered comprehensive curriculum to 22-student classroom, achieving 20% improvement in kindergarten readiness assessments through personalized instruction and targeted intervention strategies
- Implemented differentiated learning centers serving 95+ students weekly, incorporating hands-on manipulatives and technology integration that enhanced fine motor development by 15%
- Collaborated with 40+ families throughout academic year via conferences, progress reports, and home learning packets, resulting in 85% parent participation rate in school activities
- Over 4-year tenure, integrated social-emotional learning curriculum reducing classroom behavioral incidents by 30% while improving peer interaction and conflict resolution skills

PRESCHOOL TEACHER | SPROUT EARLY LEARNING CENTER, CHICAGO, IL
SEPTEMBER 2016 – JUNE 2019

- Facilitated early childhood programming for 16-child classroom ages 3-5, focusing on school readiness skills that prepared 90% of students for successful kindergarten transition
- Across 3-year tenure, developed individualized learning plans for 45+ preschoolers, incorporating developmental milestones and family input to support diverse learning needs
- Conducted quarterly parent conferences and home visits with 25+ families annually, strengthening home-school partnerships and reinforcing learning objectives
- Implemented emergent curriculum and project-based learning activities, resulting in measurable improvements in pre-literacy and numeracy skill development

CERTIFICATIONS

- Illinois Professional Educator License (Birth–Grade 3), Illinois State Board of Education, February 2016
- First Aid and CPR Certified, American Red Cross, May 2020
- Social-Emotional Learning Specialist Certificate, Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), February 2021