

## P-12 Impact on Student Learning: Artifact 1

### Reflection

The artifact that I chose to demonstrate the P-12 impact on student learning is a series of work samples from one student in third grade that reflect her work during a unit on community. The students were assigned a pen pal in a rural community and were told to write to their pen pal about their lives in an urban community. Each student was told to have three paragraphs; the first introducing the student to their pen pal, the second describing life in Chicago, and the third asking their pen pal questions. The students started this writing assignment with an organizer. The organizer was meant to help students get down their thoughts and also organize their thoughts before writing a coherent letter. The students completed their organizers and got started on their rough drafts. Writing the rough draft for their pen pal letters was much easier because students had the expectations of the letter laid out very clearly. They knew exactly how to write this letter and where their ideas should go. The rough drafts were an opportunity for students to focus on their grammar and sentence structure, but not worry about what needed to go into the letter. The final copy was the polished version of the hard work that each student put into his or her letters.

This project demonstrated to me the process that it takes in order for students to produce their best work. Writing requires various steps that will enable students to eventually learn the format of various writing styles. Students in the third grade are still working on grammar, sentence structure, spelling, formatting for letter writing, and the community focus of the letter. This assignment asked a lot of students and it needed to be broken down effectively. This project demonstrated the progression of student learning for each stage of writing.