Team Building/ Cooperative Games Reflection

Kines 266

Beth Berger

Due: 10/4/2010

I really enjoyed the team building or cooperative games each of the groups taught. I thought it was a great way to get to know everyone in our class, as well as getting our feet wet as teachers. I felt that through this experience we all got to know each other very well, within our groups and working as teams both days through the other groups’ activities.

When we were first were broken down into groups and had to pick activities and make a lesson plan I felt pretty overwhelmed. The fact that we had so much control of what our lesson was and had little to no experience with this type of situation was quite stressful. It was only comforting to know that everyone else was in our same spot. As we met as a group and started figuring out what our lesson would consist of, I began to feel comfortable with the idea that we would be teaching a lesson to our peers. We worked very well as a group and all of us contributed to make our lesson successful. Without the comfort of my group I do not think I would have felt so good about the lesson.

After our lesson, I feel I learned a lot about myself and teaching in general. I was shocked at how long a 40-minute lesson was. Our group had two different activities and it was still a little too short for the entire time. I was happy that we did have two activities because other groups had one and it became quite monotonous. It was difficult to plan out because we had not done the activities ourselves making it hard to judge how long they would take. Our first activity was meant to take longer than it did, so we had to alter our second activity to last majority of the time. The activities were quite hard to judge because the lessons were made for elementary school age kids and we had juniors in college. As much as everyone tried to think like an elementary school student, it was quite difficult because they would still figure out the games much earlier than they were supposed to.

I feel that one of our strengths in our lesson was that we had two different activities, which gave us flexibility in our timing so we did not have to really stretch things out like the other groups. One of the challenges we faced was that we did not really converse on who was saying what. We really did not have any professional experience with anyone in our group, so we did not know each other’s personalities in this type of circumstance. We faced a few issues in who was to say what and when we were going to transition from one activity to the other. Other than that, I feel that we did fairly well as a group and the knowledge of these type of issues will come with time and experience in the field. Overall, I feel that my group, as well as the other groups, did a very nice job in our first lesson planning.