TechnoSped & Communiversity: A Winning Combination

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Abstract

One major concern for special educators has been how to meet specific learning needs of special education students. Through a collaborative effort, a partnership was formed with Alcorn State University and Franklin Middle School in Meadville, Mississippi to explore how technology can best be used to enhance basic mathematics and language arts concepts in special education classroom.

Faculty and pre-service teachers at the university worked in partnership with a special education teacher and her class using the Technology in Special Education (*TECHNOSPED*) approach. This approach required pre-service teachers to establish e-mail Buddy Partnerships with the middle school students. The partnership allowed them to have on-line discussions and provide corrective feedback on students' writing through e-mail messages. The pre-service teachers were also required to use the Internet to search for materials to reinforce concepts taught in language arts and basic mathematics by the classroom teacher.

Rotating through learning centers, students worked through language arts, mathematics, and life skill activities with the aid of handheld computers, reading pens, and software on desktop computers.