**Planning Questions:**

 How do you write a typical lesson plan?

**I start off with my standards, underline the important parts of the standards, research the meaning, then plan for literacy first. Whole group lessons, then from there I plan my reading groups. (5 of them) From there I plan my spelling, then go into math.
Writing is always the last thing I plan.**

 In what ways do you plan to accommodate individual differences in the classroom?

Small group instruction, 1 on 1 instruction, some students get earphones to block the noise out, sometimes I fold their worksheets to focus on 1 instead of 10 questions. Seating arrangements, talking slowly and clearly. Make a lot of models, pictures, hang them up so they can refer back to them.

**Instructional Questions:**

 What are some of your instructional challenges as a teacher?

Too many kids, not enough time. Too much to teach, not enough time.

 What do you consider essential characteristics for successful teaching?

Knowing your kids, and being “with it”. Hear what this kid is doing, and watching the other kid, know how to react quickly with certain situations so that the class is not chaotic. Pinpoint behavior problems, and ones who are struggling. Mostly KNOW YOUR KIDS and their backgrounds.

 How often do your students receive social studies/science instruction?

Twice a week for science, and every day for social studies (Tuesdays Thursdays)

 Are you satisfied with the amount of time that you currently allot for social studies/science instruction? Explain.

NO. NOT ENOUGH TIME!

 What does reading instruction look like in your classroom (e.g. readers workshop, basals, etc.)?

Basals, readers workshop, articles, magazines, internet. I do all of it. Sometimes they’ll read an article from the internet and answer questions. Make it well rounded.

**Classroom Management Questions:**

 What motivation tactics do you use to ensure a desire to learn?

One thing I do for kids who don’t like to learn is show them their grades. Lots of praise, its hard sometimes because students don’t have support at ho me. We have salsa parties, ice cream parties, extrinsic gifts. They love competitions too.

 Tell me about the classroom community. What are the class rules? Tell me about the consequences for negative behavior.

They create the classroom rules, and sign it like a constitution. Respect each other, work hard and don’t interrupt\. Step outside and pull yourself together. There aren’t any real behavioral problems.

 Tell me about the pacing of lessons and interaction in the classroom- use of time- and other aspects of time…wait time, and time using teacher talk and student talk. What works well with your students?

We run out of time constantly. Mostly because of the student interaction. They are so inquisitive and talkative. They have big discussions, debates, good discussion with vocabulary. I allow it. I had to end it, because its good for my ESL students to learn, they come out, its always positive. Such good energy. The kids are proud of talking up, excited to share their thoughts and ideas.
Always give them time to answer. Give them time to figure it out. Don’t jump in there and do it for them. As a teacher you want to help them and save them, but the best way to do that is to let them wait. 30 seconds POR LOMENOS. It’s rewarding when they find the answer themselves.

I feel like this teacher has a lot of insight and tips to provide to me. She wants to help ensure that I will have success as a future teacher. Some of her answers to the questions helped me think a little differently about classroom management and lesson planning. I appreciate all help and advice she has given me.