

I teach. I was made to teach. It is my inherent nature to want to scaffold a lesson for others. Others don't always want a lesson scaffold for them. They would prefer to get the information they have asked for and move on. My position at Highland is a 2nd Grade Classroom Teacher. I'm not a media integration specialist; I'm not available throughout the day to receive calls for troubleshooting and questions.

Many colleagues have stopped by my room in the morning, after school and sometimes emailed me over the weekend. I have not been asked by my colleagues to lead them through this *great project* they would like to get off the ground. I have made it known that it is certainly an option for them and I haven't heard a request for such a service. Now, as a second year teacher and a relatively young working professional, I don't feel it is my position to push my interests and expertise on others quite yet. I'll get there.

I have taken this year to organize my thoughts and troubleshoot my own ideas in the classroom. I've always known that technology is important for children and they should have exposure for exposure's sake. For some of the clientele in my district, they're only going to get the exposure while at school.

I have walked through the classroom door and decided to try something new with technology, I've walked into the computer lab with my kids and decided the same old applications just aren't working for my students and they should move on to something more engaging and worthwhile. These ideas have only helped increase my understanding of what children are capable of and what they might need a bit more scaffolding for. For my future coaching sessions, this will lend itself nicely because I will have experience to fall back on instead of relying on *what I think should happen*.

One of the things I lack as a young teacher is experience. I carry with me all of these great ideas I've been informed are fabulous tools and will work wonderfully in the classroom but I've never been able to try them. I have taken it upon myself to implement some of these ideas with the use of my own tools and resources, as a dry run, a way to iron out any kinks or scrap the idea all together. At this point in my career I don't feel I can request certain resources until I know if they're worth it.

Overall, I think this has been a great year for self-coaching and being able to bring myself full circle on this journey as a technology integrator, mentor and user. I have been able to rely on the support and guidance of my peer network through this cohort and that serves as a great tool. I haven't even necessarily relied on the feedback of this cohort this year but just knowing they are there to use as a resource is a great encouragement.