

#### Illinois Wesleyan University Digital Commons @ IWU

John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference

2011, 22nd Annual JWP Conference

Apr 9th, 9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

#### Implementation of Student-Centered Learning in the Elementary Classroom

Beth Izzo
Illinois Wesleyan University
Robin Leavitt, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc Part of the Education Commons

Beth Izzo and Robin Leavitt, Faculty Advisor, "Implementation of Student-Centered Learning in the Elementary Classroom" (April 9, 2011). *John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference*. Paper 18. http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc/2011/ESposters/18

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu. ©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.

# Student-Centered Learning in the Elementary Classroom

Beth Izzo Educational Studies, Illinois Wesleyan University

## What is Student Centered Learning?

Student-Centered learning is most often defined as a form of active learning where students are engaged and involved in what they are studying.

### Methodology:

Implemented lessons in subject areas of math, science, and social studies which involved

- Hands-on learning activities
- Collabrative interaction among students

Data was drawn from lesson plans, student work, recorded observations.

#### Research Questions:

What are effective ways to meet the needs of these students in classroom lessons?

How can I implement student-centered activities in a way that students still obtain all the information that would be presented to them in a traditional teacher-centered lesson?

What are students' reactions to learning that is centered around their needs?











# Why Student-Centered Learning? Research-Based Benefits:

Improved retention rates

Motivation

Self-efficacy

Teaches skills relevant in today's society

Helped close the achievement gap by bringing up scores in minority schools

#### Findings:

Teacher takes on role of facilitator rather than expert

Students engaged and interested → fewer behavioral problems

make connections from school to everyday life

Enjoyable for teacher and students

Memorable classroom experiences

Students take ownership in their learning

Teacher must be efficient with time