

What skills have you learned from the P2P program, and how does this help you going forward in your future career goals?

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I joined the P2P program last semester as a buddy. I joined because I wanted to teach younger children English because when I was younger, I had a lot of trouble with English. I also wanted to learn how to take responsibility with others' learning and how to manage my classes. I felt like this would be a helpful opportunity for my future, so I chose to do it.

The most important skill I have learned from P2P is taking full responsibility for my student's learning. I keep him in check constantly by asking him pop questions in the middle of our lesson and consecutively asking him if he understands everything so far. Learning for one hour straight could be hard for a young kid though, so I like to make the class fun by asking questions that are subjective to my student so he becomes interested. I also choose fun prompts for his short essays like "what would you like to invent?" or "have you ever had an imaginary friend?". My student seems to have more fun and stay invested more often when he is talking about himself or something that has happened to him. Another skill I learned is to stay patient and offer them affirmative feedback for accomplishing a task, instead of becoming irritated when children require more time to finish an activity or make mistakes. I guide the students in enhancing their performance for future attempts and provide help if necessary.

Another very important skill I have learned from the P2P program so far is how to manage my class. This skill is very beneficial to my future because I could use this skill when I could potentially tutor younger kids in college. I have set up a planner on google sheets showing what I will teach my student on that day. Right now, I am using a pattern where I work on his essay and grammar skills for one week and reading comprehension for the other. It also functions as a log, as I check the weeks that I have completed. I also plan extra material and prepare the workbooks on my desk the day before the class takes place. This way, if I suddenly come home one minute before the class begins, I will not need to worry about preparing. I also set standard rules in my class. My student's camera has to show above his neck at least, he cannot talk while I am talking, and he has to give one-hundred percent of his energy into the class during the one hour we are together. Overall, these are the skills I learned while participating in the P2P program so far. I learned how to take full responsibility for my student's learning by checking his knowledge constantly throughout class and making the class fun. I also learned how to manage my class such as keeping a planner reminding me what to teach my students on a certain day and preparing the material for the class beforehand.