

LIFECENTER21 - CASE STUDY

**Audubon Middle School
3300 S. 39th Street
Milwaukee, WI 53215**

Program: LifeCenter21

Teacher: Lorri Reinhardt

Grades: 6-8

Enrollment: 970

Course Title: Exploring Life Skills

Year of Installation: 2000

Lorri Reinhardt, the Family and Consumer Sciences teacher at Audubon Middle School reflects on her teaching experiences in the LifeCenter21 lab...

"As I reflect on three and a half years of living with the LifeCenter21 lab, so many positive highlights come to mind. My classroom has drastically changed and so have I. I believe that I had a right understanding of this program from the start when I decided to let go of my traditional teaching methods and open up to a new, exciting way of reaching out to the challenges of middle school learners.

I've enjoyed working with sixth through eighth graders for thirty three years. Students naturally respond positively to computers because they feel so comfortable with them.

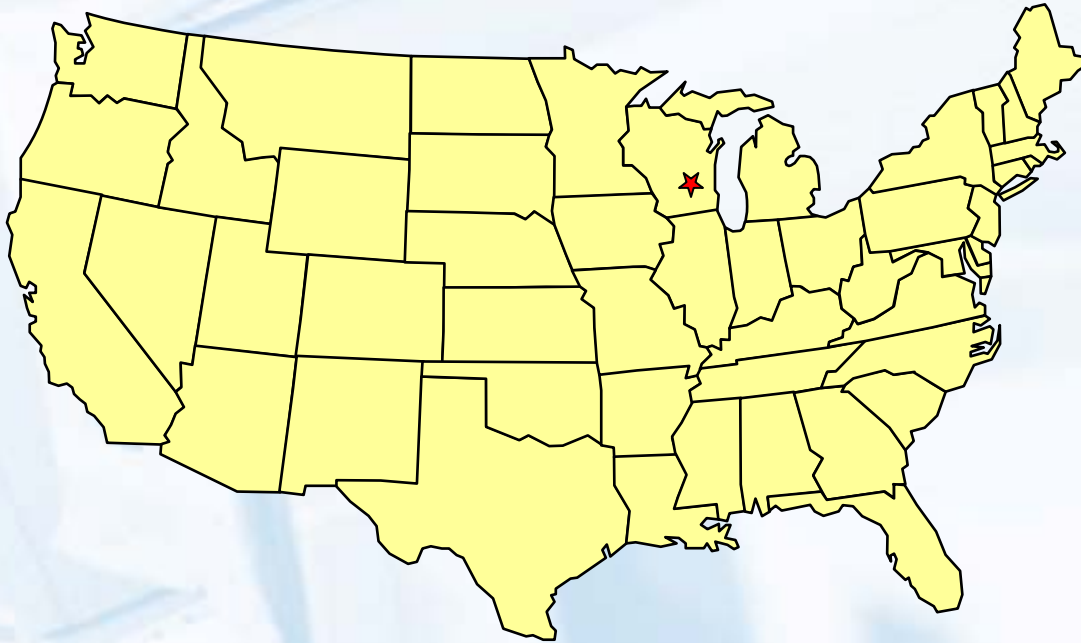
During open houses, I enjoy having the students give demonstrations and explain how they work in the lab. I hold an open house once a year during the school day for parents and staff to see the lab in action. We offer bottled water, soda and an assortment of pre-packaged snacks and granola bars for those who stop in. There is also a door prize drawing for those who write comments to us about what they learned during their visit. The prize is a basket of assorted office supplies. I read all the comments to the classes the following day.

The biggest change I've made recently is that I try to take more time to have students read things to me, i.e.: their journal entries, pre-writings, etc. When they hear what they have written, they will realize their mistakes in grammar, spelling, etc. and are more willing to change it.

Parents always comment on how lucky we are to have such a program and how different things are since they were in school. We must change to meet the new learning styles of today's children and one way to do this is to work with an innovative program like this. I am so lucky to have had the full support of my school and confidence by our computer expert to be able to handle this program. My hope is that it will save 'Home Economics' and the important concepts it teaches about everyday life."



ADDITIONAL CASE STUDY INFORMATION



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