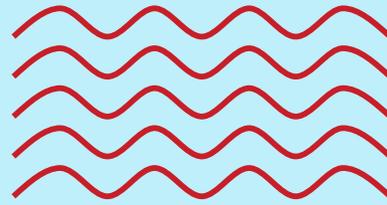


Air Mail

Par Avion

郭怡伶 Patricia



**My one-of-a-kind trip of
academic exchange in the
U.S.A.**

1. People to thank for

- ✉ Dr. Long, and Mr. Jerles
- ✉ All the officials concerned
- ✉ All the American teachers at schools
- ✉ All the host families
- ✉ My host family: Jim, Karen, and Dawn Nichols (and the three feline companions--Lily, Sisy, and Foxy)
- ✉ Driver Barbara
- ✉ Director Chen, John, Yu-Ching, and Wendy from Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Chicago
- ✉ Our leaders of the band: Principal Howard Hu, Handsome Chen, and Yvonne Li
- ✉ My companion teachers : you are the brightest.



2. Remedial tutoring

✉ **Prologue:** rising crime rate, take care of low-performing

1) **“Early literacy makes a different life.”**

2) **“Success Maker”**

--[What is Success Maker?](#)

--[by Stephen County Schools](#)

--Reflections:

**our government develops a similar software.

** develop a computerized remedial tutoring program of my own for my students.

3) **a pull-out program**

-- Judge Haynes Elementary School, remedial instructions are carried out from 8:00 ~ 8:30 on the low-performing students.

One week later, a post test is carried out on the said students.

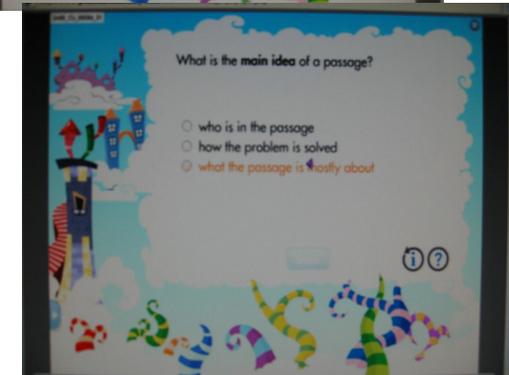
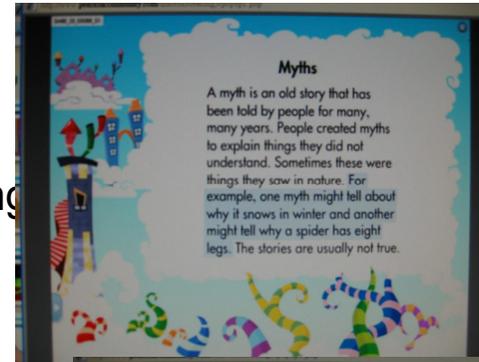
--one teacher shares with us the profile wherein she will record how the struggling students are doing.

-- ESL students

4) **peer teaching**

5) **Worksheets**

✉ **Suggestions:** 1) a compulsory course (on main subjects)
2) an officially-developed remedial software
3) decrease crime rate



3. Cultural acquisition 1

✉ Prologue: maybe trivial and old, but fresh and interesting to kids

1) school hours

--8:00 a.m. till around 2:00 p.m.

** after-school activities

--Reflections

**for teachers: allow more time to prepare for lessons

**for students: more time to develop different skills, build a balance between life and school.

2) No nap time

3) recess time

4) lunch time

-- “too much time at lunch table means more problems they bring up.”

5) Food

-- more meat and dairy products than vegetables.

-- school lunch (too high calories): ours is more nutritional!

--love cold food

--drinkable cold tap water



3. Cultural acquisition 2



6) Houses

- suburban areas: houses, spacious lawns,
- cities: Chicago (a blueprint for urban planning)
- slippers?
- cold weather: carpeted floor (not in one Amish people's house I visited), like the sun (me the joke), slanted roof

7) **Everything seems to be big, except...**

- public bathroom trash bin
- flushable tissue
- Reflections
- *use soluble tissue= eco-friendly



3. Cultural acquisition 3

8) Trash sorting and recycling

--Reflections: I'm proud of Taiwan.

9) School and classroom decorations

--adages

“This school is full of terrific kids.”

“Dream the impossible.”

“Why walk when you can fly?”

“Reading is the way to grow.”

“Even Einstein asks questions.”

“Nobody can make you feel inferior without your consent.” etc.

--hallway: “Expectation Street” “Motivation Way”

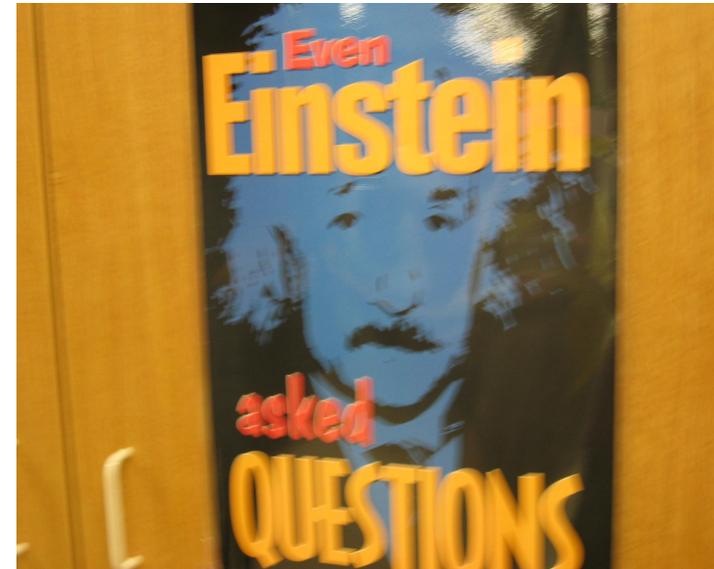
--classroom decorations



Suggestions

--help foster positive thinking.

--stimulate creativity.



3. Cultural acquisition 4

10) Amish people

--religious beliefs

--purpose of telling students

* simple life means happiness and beauty

* respect diverse kinds of peoples: new-immigrants, aboriginal people, foreigners

11) Cornhole



3. Cultural acquisition 5

✉ A gift in return

--diabolo

--shuttlecock

--a mandarin tongue twister

✉ The cultural observations

--honest report

--anything doubtful?



4. Reflections & Suggestions 1

1. The on-the-go schedule

- benefits
- drawbacks
- suggestions

2. People are nice

3. Some inspiring words

- “A good teacher genuinely likes kids.”
- “A good teacher should be good at at least one subject.”
- “It’s important to have many hands-on activities. You see the excitement.”
- “A good teacher should get prepared for lessons, be organized, have good time management.”

4. Students are ardent askers.

5. Environment issue

- trash sorting bins
- In Taiwan (proud of you)



4. Reflections & Suggestions 2



6. National flag seems to be everywhere.

--cultivating patriotism and sense of belongingness and cohesion.

--Reflections

**what I do?

**our government and schools

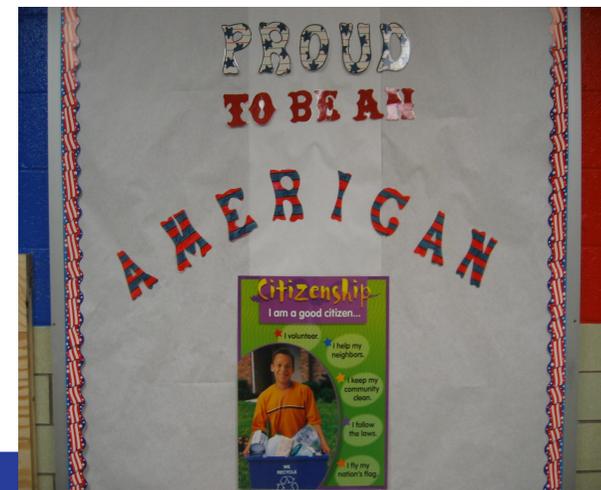
7. “Learning should be built on things students like.”

--essence of homework

8. Supporting the teachers

-- “Be helpful, not critical.”

-- teachers’ voice



4. Reflections & Suggestions 3

9. Chinese Fever

- sister schools in Mainland China
- our students' English

10. Melting pot or a bowl of salad

- benefits
- In Taiwan: new-immigrants,
- Reflections:

** “Foreign Culture or Language taught by new-immigrants parents

** a more diverse, energetic, and powerful society



4. Reflections & Suggestions

11. Making English
a second official language

12. AR test helps cultivate r

-- [What's AR test?](#)

--Benefits

--Suggestions

13. **Pay more attention to remedial instruction.**

-- a compulsory course (on main subjects)

-- an officially-developed remedial software

-- decrease crime rate



6. Conclusions

✉ “Do you teach what you are taught or what you learn”

--Live and learn.

✉ It takes a sound policy, administrative support and a good teacher to yield a promising student and a nation with dignity. How to make good use of others' strengths and better improve our status quo is the main point of this trip. As always, I hope we teachers' voice can be heard.

✉ [We are here](http://campanelli.sd54.org/category/principals-letter/)
<http://campanelli.sd54.org/category/principals-letter/>

