

SEM Newsletter

Orchard Elementary

Fall 2018

Buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo buffalo buffalo Buffalo buffalo.

Ask your students about the different definitions of buffalo and how it can be used to complete a sentence.



Meet the Teacher

My name is Shauna Hardy and this is my third year as the SEM Teacher Assistant for Orchard Elementary. I have my Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Weber State University. I am married and have three kids, two of which are students at Orchard and one at South Davis Junior High. The best part of being an SEM teacher is that I get to learn along with your students. I love working at Orchard Elementary and I look forward to learning with your students this year.

SEM Hours

Tuesday 8:45 am - 2:30 pm

Wednesday 8:45 am - 2:30 pm

Thursday 8:45 am - 12:00 pm

Contact Information

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2nd Grade

The second graders have been working on a Tomorrow's Alphabet book. We discussed how different things can change into other things over time. SKILLS: Critical Thinking, Writing

3rd Grade

The third graders are reading portions the biography of Helen Keller. They have been completing activities each week that help them better understand how it would be to be deaf and blind. SKILLS: Reading Comprehension, Problem Solving

4th Grade

In fourth grade, we have been studying history mysteries. We discussed the disappearance of Amelia Earhart and followed her stops as she traveled around the world. We also discussed theories about what happened to her.

SKILLS: Social Studies, Geography, Critical Thinking



5th Grade

The fifth graders learned about limerick poems. They wrote their own limericks and made stop motion videos based upon their poems.

SKILLS: Critical Thinking, Creative Writing, Technology

6th Grade

The sixth grade students are studying The Mysteries of Harris Burdick. They are writing their own stories based upon his mysterious drawings.

SKILLS: Creative Writing, Critical Thinking

What is SEM?

SEM stands for Schoolwide Enrichment Model. SEM provides an enriched curriculum designed to challenge high ability learners within their neighborhood elementary school.

Children are identified to participate by a rubric of data and teacher recommendations. These students have demonstrated high performance or potential for accomplishment that requires a differentiated and challenging education program to meet their needs. SEM is designed to provide a variety of enrichment and extension activities in which students participate on a part-time basis, usually between 30-45 minutes a week.

The SEM program is directed at the school level by teacher-assistants. These assistants participate in an initial in-depth district training and then meet monthly for training directed by the SEM supervisor. Teacher-assistants work with the classroom teacher and School Enrichment Team to offer challenging learning opportunities for students. The teacher-assistant works in conjunction with the traditional classroom teacher to enrich the students' learning by adding depth, rigor and complexity to the Davis Essential Skills and Knowledge (DESK) standards.