

To whom it may concern,

Barbara Locklear has been a vital artist in our school and fifth grade classrooms for the past five years. She has an extensive and intimate knowledge about American Indians and is able to present the information to students through hands on experiences. In particular we have used her to create Native American beading. She teaches students about the different meanings of the colors of the beads and how vast the items are that can be beaded. The students then have to use the five-column grid in order to create a design and /or pattern which reinforce math and patterning skills. Teachers will also be able to work in coordinate grids with this lesson.

Mrs. Locklear then leads the students through the steps in creating their designs with beads.

My students have caught on quickly every year and have enjoyed creating their unique creations.

Mrs. Locklear is also terrific at adapting to what is needed per class. She worked with me and the other teachers on my team help create the most streamlined lesson possible. This allowed for some classes to be able to be taught Native American games also. I would highly recommend Mrs. Locklear and in fact I plan to schedule her to work with our Benton Heights students this year also.

Sincerely,

Becka Lorenz

Benton Heights Elementary School of the Arts

Fifth Grade Teacher