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## Aldeane Comito Ries Elementary School

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# Aldeane Comito Ries Elementary School

## Social Problem/Issue Research

While I volunteered in a kindergarten classroom, the real problem is that Nevada doesn't spend enough money on preschools which leads to children coming into kindergarten without the proper level of knowledge (Takashi). Part of this problem is that students come into kindergarten with delays in language and vocabulary (Rogers). I addressed this issue by helping the students with their letters and encouraging them to read the signs that the kindergarten teacher at Ries Elementary School had up around the classroom. Nevada has also only recently implemented standards for preschool (Gwertz). However, this doesn't seem to make a difference as a lot of the students in the kindergarten classroom I volunteered in still had many students who were all at different levels in their education despite being taught together in the same classroom. I believe the issue can be fixed by implementing a program before or after school that helps students who didn't attend preschool catch up to their peers.



Gewertz, Catherine. "nevada." Education Week, vol. 21, no. 17, 2002, pp. 133.

Rogers, Sharon, and Nevada State Dept. of Education, Carson City. Public Support of Prekindergarten Education for School Readiness in Nevada., 2000.

Takahashi, Paul. "Nevada Lags on Preschool Spending, Enrollment, Report Finds." McClatchy - Tribune Business News, 2014.

## Service Learning Experience

Over the course of three months, I helped the kindergarten teacher in many ways. Some of those ways included taking charge of activities, helping watch the children during recess, and helping the students read and follow directions. Going to the elementary school more than once helped me build relationships with some of the students as well as it helped me learn how to run a classroom effectively. Learning how to run a classroom will help me a lot in my future teaching career. Going in, I was expecting that I would help the teacher with various activities throughout the day. These expectations were met as that's exactly what I did during my hours at the site.



## References

## Difference Making and Future

After volunteering at Ries Elementary School, I realized how big of an issue the lack of preschool education is. Before volunteering, I had no idea it was even an issue but after going to this site for three months, I've seen first-hand how bad this issue has gotten. This has helped me with my future career because I need to know about these issues if I want to be a good kindergarten teacher. I do believe that I've made a difference at this site, especially with the children as they seem to like me and listen to me. They also seem to be improving with their reading and their letters. This experience helps me in my future career as I want to be a kindergarten teacher and volunteering at this site has helped me tremendously with understanding how to run a classroom in way that the children enjoy as well as how to talk to children in a way that they will listen to you and respect you.

